



Planning Statement

Anglian Water Services Limited

Planning application for the erection of a glass reinforced kiosk to house electrical control equipment at

Broadholme Water Recycling Centre, Ditchford Lane, Irthlingborough,
Northamptonshire, NN9 5RE.

SEW-10394

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1. Introduction

This Planning Statement supports a planning application for the erection of a glass reinforced plastic (GRP) kiosk to house electrical equipment at Broadholme Water recycling Centre (WRC).

The current quality consent limits for all Waste Recycling Centres are being reviewed, (as required under the Water Framework Directive (WFD)), to prevent deterioration or achieve 'good status' of all watercourses. The Environment Agency (EA) have looked at WRC's with treatment capacity and made an assessment on the risk of Water Quality (WQ) deteriorating if this headroom was taken up by growth.

"No deterioration" takes a broad based approach to water quality standards. Receiving waters do not currently have to show that there is deterioration but that there is a significant risk that deterioration will occur because of an increase in the volume of effluent discharge.

Broadholme WRC has been identified by the EA under "no deterioration" and requires additional measures to address the tightening of ammonia levels in order to sufficiently treat all required flow, meet discharge consents and maintain the quality of receiving water bodies. The existing process units at Broadholme WRC are not capable of consistently treating the incoming flow to the improved standard, therefore alternative options have been considered. These include; optimisation of the existing plant and the installation of a new kiosk to house electrical equipment. An application for a similar kiosk was submitted and approved December 2016 (16/00050/WASFUL), however it was determined that another kiosk to house electrical control equipment was required.

1.1. Proposed Development

The Site

The proposed development is located within the southern part of the site within the operational boundary of Broadholme WRC. The proposed kiosk will be positioned on existing hardstanding beneath an existing dutch barn.

The WRC is long established and is located south of Irthlingborough and has an existing access off Ditchford Road. The WRC comprises of tanks and processes required for the treatment of sewage. The River Nene runs along the southern boundary of the site separating the site from the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits. The A45 is further south. The rest of the surrounding area is predominantly farmland and pasture.

The Proposal

The proposed kiosk will be constructed from Glass Reinforced Plastic (GRP) and will be finished in holly green and has a footprint of 38.6m².

Details of the proposed development are shown on drawing reference: SEW-10394-BROAST-PLG-0004 and 0005 and 0006 which accompany this planning application.

The kiosk will sit on existing concrete underneath an existing dutch barn.

The kiosk will be constructed off site and delivered by lorry and will require a small number of delivery vehicles for a limited duration during construction.

2. Planning Policy

2.1. National Planning Policy Framework

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (March 2012) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and is a material planning consideration in the determination of this planning application.

The main policies/statements set out in the NPPF which are relevant to this proposal are as follows (summarised):

Good Design

Chapter 7 "Requiring good design" states that, "Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, is indivisible from good planning, and should contribute positively to making places better for people". Proposals that demonstrate this in developing the design of any proposed development should be looked upon favourably.

Flooding and Climate Change

When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure flood risk is not increased elsewhere and only consider development appropriate in areas at risk of flooding where it can be demonstrated that development is appropriately flood resilient and resistant.

The Natural Environment

Chapter 11, Paragraph 109, Conserving and enhancing the natural environment states that 'the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;
- recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;
- minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;
- preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and
- remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change

Planning decisions should be based on providing resilience to the impacts of climate change, and supporting the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.

Infrastructure

Paragraph 162 - Local planning authorities should work with other authorities and providers to:

- assess the quality and capacity of infrastructure for transport, water supply, wastewater and its treatment, energy (including heat), telecommunications, utilities, waste, health, social care, education, flood risk and coastal change management, and its ability to meet forecast demands; and

Decision Taking

Paragraphs 186 and 187 - Local planning authorities should approach decision-taking in a positive way to foster the delivery of sustainable development and

should look for solutions rather than problems, and decision-takers at every level should seek to approve applications for sustainable development where possible. Local planning authorities should work proactively with the applicant to secure developments that improve the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area.

Paragraph 215 states that due weight should be given to relevant policies in the existing plans according to their degree of consistency with this Framework (the closer the policies in the plan to the policies in the Framework the greater the weight that may be given).

National Planning Policy for Waste

The National Planning Policy for Waste (2014) sets out the waste planning policies and should be read in conjunction with the NPPF and builds on the Government's Waste Management Plan for England. The Waste Management Plan "sets out the Government's ambition to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management and states this will be achieved through;

- "delivery of sustainable development and resource efficiency, including provision of modern infrastructure, local employment opportunities and wider climate change benefits, by driving waste management up the waste hierarchy;
- Helping to secure the re-use, recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment; and
- Ensuring the design and layout of new residential and commercial development and infrastructure (such as safe reliable transport links) complements sustainable waste management, including the provision of appropriate storage and segregation facilities high quality collections of waste."

The National Planning Policy for Waste reiterates the principles of sustainable waste management and waste hierarchy and states that in considering planning applications for new or enhanced waste management facilities, waste planning authorities should consider the likely impact of the development on the local environment and amenity.

Appendix B sets out the locational criteria which must be considered in relation to the suitability of proposed sites. Of particular relevance to this application are the issues relating to protection of water resources, visual intrusion, traffic and access, air emissions (including dust) noise and vibration and potential land-use conflict.

Local Planning Policy

Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires decisions to be made in accordance with the statutory development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Statutory Development Plan, for the purposes of this application is the Northamptonshire County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan (adopted October 2014). The following policies are considered relevant to this application.

Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

The Minerals and Waste Local Plan (MWLP) sets out the strategy, policies and locations for minerals and waste development in the county to 2031.

Policy 11: Northamptonshire's waste management capacity – aims to provide a sustainable waste management network to support growth and net self-sufficiency within Northamptonshire.

Policy 18: Strategy for waste disposal – aims to provide adequate sewage and waste water infrastructure prior to development taking place in order to avoid unacceptable impacts on the environment, such as sewage flooding residential or commercial properties, or the pollution of land and watercourses.

Policy 22: Addressing the impact of proposed minerals and waste development - aims to protect and minimise the impact of the development on the local environment.

Policy 30: Sustainable design and use of resources - seeks to utilise the efficient use of resources in both construction operation of new developments.

3. Planning Considerations

3.1. Sustainable Statement

The individual unit has been manufactured away from site in the factory and then transported to site for final placing. This philosophy results in safer working practices and will lessen the time spent on site for construction, reducing the potential impact of the construction phase in terms of time, dust and noise. This also reduces the embodied carbon making it a more sustainable option.

3.2. Flood Risk and Surface Water Runoff

The site is not within a flood zone and therefore a flood risk assessment has not been included with this application. The proposed kiosk will be located on existing hardstanding and therefore will not increase runoff from the site.

4. Conclusion

The proposed development is necessary to ensure continued compliance of the final effluent discharge at Broadholme WRC, and ensure there is no deterioration of the receiving watercourse. It is considered that the proposed development is in accordance with all relevant planning policy.