



North Lincolnshire Council
Church Square House
30-40 High Street
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NL

September 03rd 2020

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Anglian Water Services Limited
Reference Number: WAT-07265

Screening Opinion Request: Installation of a new water pipeline between Sawcliffe Reservoir on Winterton Road to Normanby Road

Anglian Water would like to request a formal Screening Opinion under Regulation 6(6) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England) Regulations 2017.

This screening request is supported by, and should be read in conjunction with, the following documents and drawings:

Document	Reference
EIA Screening Opinion Letter	This document
Ecological Appraisal	Report dated July 2020
Arboricultural Impact Assessment	-BS5837_Report_-_WAT-07265 dated March 2020
Planning Drawings	WAT-07265-SCUNTHMA-SS-PLG-001 1P
Planning Drawings	WAT-07265-SCUNTHMA-SS-PLG-002 1P
Planning Drawings	WAT-07265-SCUNTHMA-SS-PLG-003 1P
Planning Drawings	WAT-07265-SCUNTHMA-SS-PLG-004 1P
Planning Drawings	WAT-07265-SCUNTHMA-SS-PLG-005 1P

Description of the Works

The proposed development consists of the installation of a 3.6km water pipeline from Sawcliffe Reservoir located adjacent to Winterton Road and to Normanby Road within the industrial estate.

Please see the enclosed plans for details of the water main route or inset google image.

Need for the Scheme

**Anglian Water
Services Limited
Enabling Team**
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Our ref: WAT - 07256



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No. 2366656.

an AWG Company

Anglian Water has a long term strategy, (Strategic Direction Statement, 2010 – 2035 and updated for 2020-2045) for delivering service, reliability and value for money to its customers. The strategy identifies a number of challenges that the region faces in the future. In line with the above strategy one of Anglian Water's key priorities is to increase the resilience and reliability of its existing sewer network, and to reinforce this to accommodate new growth.

The pipeline is needed to serve the required growth in the region of 155 properties and commercial supply to the Sawcliffe Scunthorpe North District Zone.

Review of EIA screening criteria

The proposed development falls under the permitted development rights afforded to Anglian Water Services Limited under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) Schedule 2, Part 13, Class A (a) "*development not above ground level required in connection with the supply of water or for conserving, redistributing or augmenting water resources, or for the conveyance of water treatment sludge*" subject to written confirmation being received from the Council that the proposal does not constitute EIA development.

The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, state that a development may require planning permission supported by an environmental statement if it is Schedule 1 development or Schedule 2 development within the meaning of the Regulations.

Schedule 1 development relates to very substantial projects, often of regional or national significance, with widespread impacts. These are subject to mandatory EIA. The scheme does not fall within this Schedule.

Schedule 2 identifies a wide variety of different types of development which may have more than local significance. If a proposed project is listed in the first column in Schedule 2 and exceeds the relevant applicable threshold or criteria set out in the second column the proposal needs to be screened by the local planning authority to determine whether significant effects on the environment are likely and hence whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is required.

The types of development described in column 1 include the '*installation of long-distance aqueducts*' (Part 10(I)). Column 2 specifies a working area exceeding 1 hectare.

The proposed water main is considered to constitute a long - distance aqueduct in view of its length (3.6km) and the working area which would exceed the relevant applicable threshold. As such the project is classed as Schedule 2 development.

The Government is clear that only a very small proportion of Schedule 2 development will require an Environmental Impact Assessment. To aid local planning authorities in determining whether a project is likely to have significant environmental effects, it has produced a set of indicative thresholds and criteria.

For long distance aqueducts this sets out that pipelines over 5km long have more potential to be EIA development albeit this is very unlikely where the pipeline is laid wholly beneath a road or installed solely by the means of tunnelling. The guidance goes on to state that for underground pipelines the key issue to consider is the potential disruption to the surrounding ecosystem during construction.

However the Government is clear that it should not be presumed that developments above the indicative thresholds should always be subject to assessment, or that those below the threshold could never give rise to significant effects. Each development needs to be

considered on its merits in a balanced way, having regard to any information provided by the applicant.

Regulation 5(4) requires the local planning authority to take into the account the criteria set out in Schedule 3 of the EIA Regulations, as they relevant to the development, namely:-

- the characteristics of the development;-
- the location of the development;
- Types and characteristics of the potential impact.

The proposed project is assessed as follows:

1) Characteristics of the development

As set out above, the proposed development consists of the installation of a 3.6km pipeline

As shown on the submitted plans, the development will comprise a mix of directional drilling and open cut techniques.

Where open cut techniques are used top soil will be stripped and stored along the route. The maximum working area will be approximately 20 metres in width (including the top soil and pipe storage) as shown on the plans.

Temporary compounds will also be established for the duration of the works. The compound and working areas will be removed and the ground re-instated back to its original condition upon completion of the works.

The excavated material will be reused to backfill the trenches. No further waste will be generated.

Traffic management measures will include 2-way lights on Normanby Road for the length of section within the highway and the crossing at Winterton Road.

It is not considered that the development will have any significant cumulative impact in view of its nature and the duration of the works, even if other approved development is taking place in the vicinity at the same time.

The development will not give rise to any pollution or nuisances once complete. Any minor impacts resulting during the construction period will be controlled and mitigated via construction management techniques. The development will not result in any significant traffic impacts during the construction period. Once complete there will be no additional traffic movements.

The development is not likely to result in any greater risk of accidents. Traffic movements on the surrounding road network will be limited to deliveries with the majority of the works taking place in fields.

Anglian Water applies rigorous safety measures and there will be no access to the construction area unless appropriate safety training has been undertaken and essential personal protective equipment is worn. Qualified contractors will undertake the works in accordance with their working method statement.

Given the nature of the development, its location and the health and safety measures which will be put in place it is not considered that there would be any risk to human health.

2) Location of development

The new main will be laid east of the railway primarily within agricultural land before it crosses the railway. After the railway it follows the path of a dirt track until it meets Normanby Road. It continues along Normanby Road to its termination point.

The proposed development is not located within any of the 'habitats' specified under Schedule 3(2)c of the EIA Regulations. Neither is it located within a 'sensitive' area or an area of significant landscape, historical, cultural or archaeological significance.

3) Types and characteristics of the potential impacts

The following section describes the potential impacts, and key issues considered during the design and construction of the proposed works, and the methods to mitigate any potential impacts. The potential significant effects of development must be considered in relation to criteria set out under the two sections above.

Arboriculture

The Arboricultural Appraisal carried out by Ecological Services Limited (ESL) identifies the location of the existing trees and the potential for impact upon them. Trees will not be impacted as directional drilling will be used to avoid impact and the works will be within the highway.

A 10m section of hedgerow at chainage 500m will be removed to facilitate pipe laying.

Ecology

To assess the potential impacts on habitats and species present in and around the proposed works footprint an Ecological Assessment has been carried out by ESL (Ecological Services) Ltd. The findings of the assessment are summarised below.

Impact Upon Protected Sites

Works will take place within close proximity to Conesby Quarry LNR and LWS. Works will remain within the track road so no adverse impact is anticipated.

Impact Upon Protected Species

The site has also been assessed for protected species with the potential for great crested newts, nesting birds, badgers, water voles, brown hare, hedgehogs and bats identified.

Great Created Newts-

No ponds will be lost or damaged as a result of the scheme. However, taking into consideration the arable nature of the pipeline and the size of the GCN population appropriate mitigation measures can be put in place. It is not considered that there would be any significant impact upon GCN and the development would not require the submission of an EIA on this basis.

Badgers-

No badger activity was detected during the survey. A site walkover will be carried out 4 weeks prior to the start of construction.

Breeding Birds- There is the potential for ground works to impact upon nesting birds. Works will only take place during the nesting season following a search by a suitably qualified ecologist to avoid damaging or destroying any nests.

Archaeology

There are no scheduled monuments within the route of the water main. The County Archaeologist has been contacted in relation to the scheme. No concerns have been raised.

Flood Risk

The Environment Agency flood maps show that the pipeline route lines in Flood Zone 1. The pipeline will, however, be located wholly below ground and the risk of causing flooding elsewhere is not therefore a consideration.

Noise

There is the potential for noise and vibration whilst the water main is installed. These impacts will be localised and temporary in nature given the linear nature of the development. The majority of the works will also be located away from residential properties. Impacts will, however, be controlled so far as reasonably practicable, so that sensitive receptors are protected from excessive noise and vibration. Recommendations for the control of noise and vibration on construction sites are set out in BS 5228.

Once the water main is installed there will be no noise impacts.

Dust

Handling or storing of fine materials will be planned to avoid dust generation with dust suppression used if necessary. This will consist of wind breaks, netting screens or semi-permeable fences. Vehicles containing arising's will be sheeted during dry/windy periods. A bowser (of grey water) will be available for damping down any dust. Any impacts will be localised and short term given the time frame for carrying out the development.

Once the development is complete there will be no further dust generation.

Pollution

Before construction starts, a Construction Environmental Management Plan will be produced and implemented by the Principal Contractor. This will include identification of areas for storage of plant along the route of the working area. All site staff and operatives will be trained to identify the project environmental risks and be made aware of how to respond appropriately. This will be carried out through induction training and toolbox talks.

Traffic Impacts

During construction, the number of vehicles movements per day will be relatively low. The working areas will be accessed using existing farm tracks and roads. Large HGV excavators (3-4) working on different areas will be required to strip the top soil and excavate the trench for the new main. Associated with this will be a number of pipe deliveries (10 to 15 in total). Sections of pipe will be delivered to and stored along the route of the water main. Vans will also deliver contractors to their working areas. It is anticipated that there will be 3 vans per day over the construction period.

There will be some temporary, localised traffic disruption as a result of temporary 2-way traffic lights but the impact will not be significant.

Once the water main has been installed and is operational, there will be no further traffic movements associated with the development.

Overall Conclusions

Although the development falls within Schedule 2 by virtue of its size, it is considered that the scheme is local in scale and will not have any unusually complex and/or potentially hazardous

environmental impacts on the land even when considered in combination with other committed or proposed developments. As such the proposals would not give rise to 'significant effects on the environment' as defined in the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment (England) Regulations 2017.

In light of this it is my professional opinion that the proposed water main pipeline is permitted development under Part 13 Class A (a) of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 and does not require the submission of a planning application supported by an Environmental Statement.

As previously advised I request a Screening Opinion for the above proposals under Regulation 6(6) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England) Regulations 2017.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Faithfully

Karen Sheridan
Town and Country Planner