



PA/2023/1607 Natural England Response

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 09/04/25, which was received by Natural England on the same date.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Insufficient information provided

There is insufficient information to enable Natural England to provide a substantive response to this consultation as required under the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015. Please provide the information listed below and re-consult Natural England. Please note that you are required to provide a further 21 day consultation period, once this information is received by Natural England, for us to respond.

THE CONSERVATION OF HABITATS AND SPECIES REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED)

Internationally designated sites

The application site is within or in close proximity to a European designated site (also commonly referred to as Natura 2000 sites), and therefore has the potential to affect its interest features. European sites are afforded protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, as amended (the 'Habitats Regulations'). The application site is in close proximity to the Humber Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) which are European sites. The site is also listed as the Humber Estuary Ramsar site and notified at a national level as Humber Estuary Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Please see the subsequent sections of this letter for our advice relating to SSSI features.

In considering the European site interest, Natural England advises that you, as a competent authority under the provisions of the Habitats Regulations, should have regard for any potential impacts that a plan or project may have. The Conservation objectives for each European site explain how the site should be restored and/or maintained and may be helpful in assessing what, if any, potential impacts a plan or project may have.

There is currently insufficient information regarding the potential impacts that the proposal will have on the Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar. We advise that you to complete a Habitats Regulation Assessment which includes the following;

- An assessment of all available bird survey data for the site: including 2022, 2023, and 2024 survey data.
- An assessment of potential direct and indirect impacts to land functionally linked to the Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar.
- An assessment of potential visual/noise impacts on birds associated with the Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar sites during construction and operation.
- An assessment of potential recreational disturbance impacts which may arise from the proposed development.

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 (AS AMENDED)

Sites of Special Scientific Interest

No assessment has been provided of the potential impacts the proposal will have on the Humber Estuary SSSI. Our advice regarding the potential impacts upon the Humber Estuary SSSI coincide with our advice regarding the potential impacts upon the Humber Estuary SPA / SAC / Ramsar as detailed above.

Please note that if your authority is minded to grant planning permission contrary to the advice in this letter, you are required under Section 28I (6) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to notify Natural England of the permission, the terms on which it is proposed to grant it and how, if at all, your authority has taken account of Natural England's advice. You must also allow a further period of 21 days before the operation can commence.

Please note that we are not seeking further information on other aspects of the natural environment, although we may make comments on other issues in our final response.

On receipt of the information requested, we will aim to provide a full response within 21 days of receipt. Please be aware that if the information requested is not supplied, Natural England may need to consider objecting to the proposal on the basis of potential harm to the above designated site.

Please consult us again once the information requested above has been provided.

Yours sincerely,

Louis Jones

Higher Officer
Terrestrial Sustainable Development
Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Area Team

www.gov.uk/natural-england



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