

Houghton, Michelle

From: Norton, Tristan <Tristan.Norton@hants.gov.uk>
Sent: 19 October 2021 16:08
To: Donophy, Selina
Cc: Havant Planning and Development Mailbox New
Subject: APP/21/00809 Hermitage Park, Harts Farm Way, Havant 21.0915

CAUTION: This email came from outside of the council - only open links and attachments that you're expecting.

Dear Selina,

APP/21/00809 | Proposed Gas fuelled Capacity Mechanism embedded generation plant to support the National Grid. A resubmission of previously approved applications (APP/17/00511 as amended by APP/18/01281) in order to secure a further three years to commence development following transfer of ownership of the site. | Hermitage Park, Harts Farm Way, Havant 21.0915

Thank you for consulting me on this application. Thank you for your patience.

The existing site is essentially devoid of vegetation and I do not have concerns in relation to on-site ecological matters. The submitted Air Quality Assessment was judged to be acceptable and the scheme is essentially identical to that previously submitted. As highlighted by Natural England in their response dated 6 September 2021, the air quality dispersion modelling predicts an exceedance of the 1% threshold on parts of the northern edge of the Solent Maritime SAC and Chichester & Langstone Harbours SPA/Ramsar (including the underlying Langstone Harbour SSSI). The modelling is based upon a 'worst-case' scenario of almost continuous operation – this does not reflect the actual operating system to be used and modelling is therefore precautionary. The background NOx levels are already in exceedance.

The project's exceedance will potentially affect c.16ha of intertidal habitat. This represents between 0.14% and 0.28% of the European designated sites. Intertidal habitats, including saltmarsh, are subject to tidal incursion twice each day and this is anticipated to wash away and disperse any deposited nitrogen such that effects on individual vegetation communities is considered highly unlikely. Given the limited area potentially affected it is considered that the proposals would not result in impacts sufficient to undermine to European sites' conservation objectives and site integrity.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

**Senior Ecologist
Ecology Team**

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Coronavirus (Covid-19)

Hampshire County Council's response to the Covid-19 is available here (<https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/coronavirus>).

In line with Government advice to reduce non-essential travel and work from home where possible, Ecology officers are now working remotely. Whilst we will endeavour to conduct our services in a timely manner and to meet statutory timescales where we can, there may be some impact to the services we deliver. We will ensure that we keep all applicants / interested parties informed of any further impacts to our services should they arise. The Council's response also means that no non-essential site visits or face to face meetings will be undertaken until further notice. Essential and contractual surveys may continue take place where there is no risk to the surveyor or the public, and in line with Government advice. This will be reviewed on an on-going basis.



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Specialist Environment Services provides data, advice and assessments for ecology, heritage and landscape.

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