

From: Norton, Tristan [Tristan.Norton@hants.gov.uk]
Sent: 08 July 2014 09:29
To: David Eaves
Cc: Planning and Development Shared Mailbox; Havant Auto-Reply
Subject: APP/14/00450 Installation of generator compound Land at Harts Farm, Harts Farm Way.
PO9 1HS 14.0742

Dear David,

**APP/14/00450 Installation of generator compound Land at Harts Farm, Harts Farm Way.
PO9 1HS 14.0742**

Thank you for consulting me on this application. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding to you. In summary, I consider that ecological information is required prior to further determination of this application.

The application is not accompanied by any ecological information and therefore I have undertaken my own, non-exhaustive desk-based assessment using online mapping, GIS and data held by the Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC). The proposals entail the siting of the generator compound within land that is currently covered by mature trees and other woody vegetation: this alone should trigger the applicant to undertake at least a Phase 1 ecological assessment. Any works within woodland habitats are highly likely to result in impacts to a range of legally-protected species such as roosting bats or nesting birds, with the possibility of species such as badgers and common reptiles also occurring locally: none of these species have been accounted for within this application. The potential presence of some or all of these species is likely to require the applicant to commission detailed Phase 2 ecological surveys in order that any impacts can be fully understood.

NPPF and Circular 06/2005 require that planning decisions are based on full, up to date information and, in line with Natural England's standing advice, full protected species information must be available before a decision can be made. Following this guidance, provision of this information should not be deferred as a condition of any planning permission. Without full information at the point of determination it is not possible for the LPA to ensure that any impacts are known and acceptable, to engage with the Habitats Regulations, and to be able to secure any necessary mitigation. In line with NPPF, Circular 06/2005 and the Natural England Standing Advice, I would recommend that this information is required prior to further consideration of this application.

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

Kind regards,

Tristan

Tristan Norton

Senior Ecologist

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Please note that this advice is given in accordance with the Service Level Agreement that has been signed between Hampshire County Council and your Council. These comments are expressed as a professional view provided to Havant Borough Council and should not, therefore, be interpreted as those of Hampshire County Council.

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