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Our Ref:

JTM/1856/AMB/L/2023 12 08

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Project No:

JTM/1856

Dear Mr Lakhan

**Application APP/20/0990 - Havant Thicket Reservoir
Application to Havant Borough Council for approval of a Non Material Amendment**

Further to our previous discussions and pre-application advice please find enclosed with this letter an application for approval of a Non Material Amendment (NMA). The application is submitted on behalf of Portsmouth Water by Future Water, the contractor appointed for the construction of the reservoir. This submission follows the withdrawal of the previously submitted NMA application.

The application is submitted through the Planning Portal (reference PP- 12617135) and the application comprises:

- This Covering Letter
- Non Material Amendment Application Form
- Illustrative Plan 1 – Strategy Plan
- Illustrative Plan 2 – Sections through embankment
- Illustrative Plan 3 – Strategy Plan with embankment changes as overlay
- Technical Note – Environmental Statement of Conformity
- The application fee (£293) paid through Planning Portal

A duplicate application has been submitted to East Hampshire District Council.

Background to the Non Material Amendment

As part of the preparation of Future Water's detailed design for Havant Thicket Reservoir (HTR), reserved matters approval and planning conditions discharge needs to be secured from the relevant LPAs for the various phases of construction.

Future Water's detailed design is based on the outline design work undertaken by Portsmouth Water to secure the hybrid planning permission. The more detailed engineering and design work undertaken by Future Water includes some design evolution, and it is this that is the subject of this non material amendment, as described below.



Main reservoir embankment earthworks

As part of the detailed design of the main reservoir embankment, the design has evolved from that approved as part of the hybrid planning permission, both as a result of knowledge and experience gained from further intrusive investigations on site, the construction of the trial earth embankment, and from more detailed engineering design work. The detailed design and construction methodologies have also been reviewed to ensure safe working areas for construction, whilst ensuring sufficient stand-off space from retained Ancient Woodland.

The consequence of the above, is that the detailed design for the main reservoir embankment will propose a change from the outline design in a number of respects. The changes relate to the southernmost embankment, as summarised as follows:

Revised southern embankment position :

- o southern (external) toe moved further north near to the retained Ancient Woodland (away from the woodland by up to 45m – maintaining minimum 25m separation from the ancient woodland), and extended south in the south-west corner (to the west of the culvert and control house location)
- o northern (internal) toe moved further north as a consequence of the above by a variable distance
- o crest moved further north by up to 45m and extended in length to approximately 2,830m

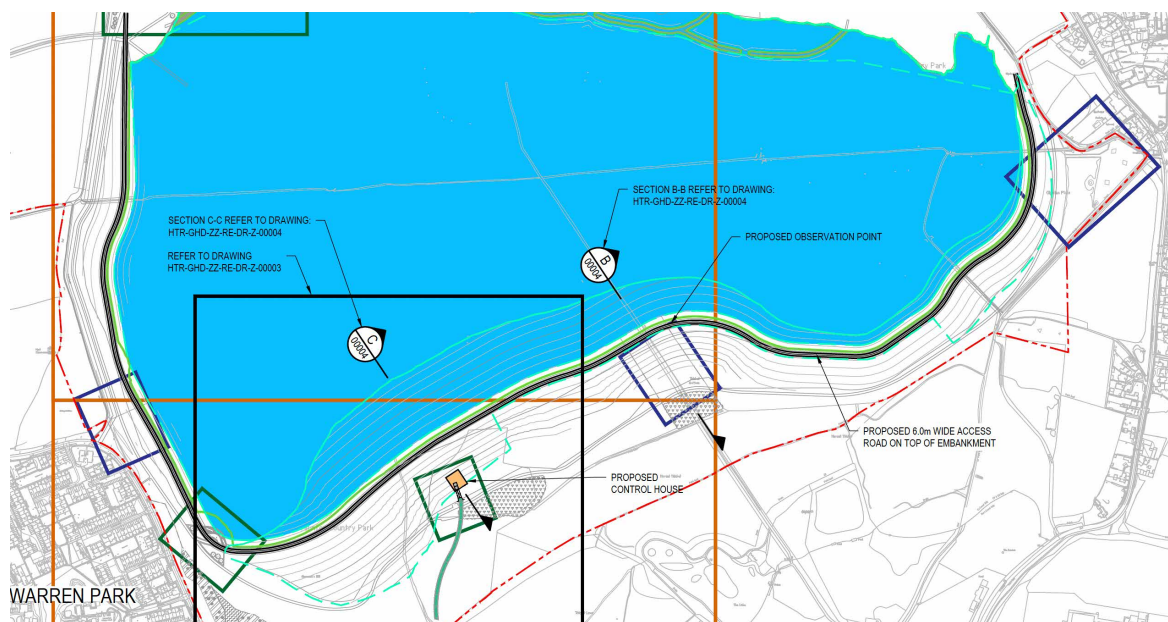
Slight increases to excavation and embankment earthworks volume, and small reduction in reservoir capacity but minimum capacity maintained at above 8,700 Million litres

The embankment profile / gradients (both internal and external faces) remain as per the Hybrid permission (1:5 to 1:7 slopes)

In addition, as a result of the proposed earthworks embankment changes, other consequential changes will arise, with the location of the Culvert, Valve Tower, Control House, Avenue Staircase and Viewing Platform moved to the north (by virtue of the embankment moving north).

The Figure below provides an illustrative update to the Planning Strategy Key Plan approved as part of the Hybrid permission, with the extract focused on the southernmost embankment to illustrate the design evolutions identified above.

Extract from Illustrative Planning Strategy Key Plan to show design evolutions



A full copy of the updated Planning Strategy Key Plan is available as separate Illustrative Plan 1 enclosed with this letter. **Illustrative** Plan 2 provides illustrative cross sections through the embankment. Illustrative Plan 3 provides the updated Planning Strategy Key Plan but with an overlay added to show the originally approved (Hybrid Planning Permission) embankment, and the embankment proposed in this NMA application.

Assessment of the non material amendments

A review against the matters approved under the Hybrid permission has been undertaken, as set out in the table below.

Hybrid Permission	Design evolution proposals
Reservoir capacity	
Minimum required total capacity 8,700 Million litres	Total capacity reduced but minimum capacity maintained at above 8,700 Million litres. Top Water Level maintained at 39.5m AOD.
Maximum capacity: at least 9,600 Million litres, up to a Top Water Level (TWL) of 39.5m AOD	
Embankment	
Maximum height 20m	No change
Crest level 40.5 AOD	No change
Length 2,770m	Increased to 2,830m
Inside slope: to range from 1:5 to 1:7	No change
Outside slope: majority 1:7 with local variations to 1:5 at Round Wood and the Avenue Woodland (see below)	No change
Outer toe (edge): +/- 2m horizontal range (north to south)	Embankment moved by up to 45m to the north, and protective distance (minimum 25m) to retained Ancient Woodland maintained
Crest line position: 0-37m horizontal range (to north) to accommodate any potential future need for reducing the outer face slope from 1:5 to 1:7	Embankment moved by up to 45m
Embankment adjacent to Staunton Country Park	
Toe (edge) of the embankment is fixed at a minimum of 25m from the edge of woodland along the southern boundary of the site (known as Hammond's Lands Copse)	No change - minimum 25m from woodland maintained
Length of embankment at 1:5 is approximately 185m along this stretch and 390m of embankment with slope varying from 1:5 to 1:7.	No change
Staircase detail along alignment of The Avenue joining pedestrian access from Staunton Country Park with viewing area at the crest	Staircase detail same. Staircase location changed (moved north due to embankment moving north)

From the above, the main reservoir embankment design evolution proposes changes to the precise details of various matters, some fixed and some outline. The scale of the changes is limited when seen in the overall context of the reservoir development as a whole.

On the basis of the work undertaken to date, Future Water is confident that it is unlikely that the detailed design would give rise to new or materially different significant effects on the environment from those previously assessed as the changes remain within the worst case assessed in the original Environmental Statement.

Whilst there will be further and more detailed assessments of the environmental effects of the detailed design, as part of the application for approval of the Reserved Matters and applications to discharge planning conditions for the reservoir phases, a technical note is submitted as part of this NMA application which provides an Environmental Statement of Conformity.

This technical note demonstrates that the embankment design evolution proposed in this NMA application remains within the worst case assessed in the Hybrid Planning Permission Environmental Statement and it is unlikely that the detailed design would give rise to new or materially different significant effects on the environment from those previously assessed.

Confirmation of the Non Material Amendment sought

On behalf of Portsmouth Water, Future Water formally request the approval of the local planning authority for a non material amendment to the Hybrid Planning Commission comprising:

- Revised southern embankment position:
 - southern (external) toe moved further north near to the retained Ancient Woodland (away from the woodland by up to 45m – maintaining minimum 25m separation from the ancient woodland), and extended south in the south-west corner (to the west of the culvert and control house location)
 - northern (internal) toe moved further north as a consequence of the above by a variable distance
 - crest moved further north by up to 45m and extended in length to approximately 2,830m
- Slight increases to excavation and embankment earthworks volume, and small reduction in reservoir capacity but minimum capacity maintained at above 8,700 Million litres
- The embankment profile / gradients (both internal and external faces) remain as per the Hybrid permission (1:5 to 1:7 slopes)

The details of the changes will be incorporated within the Reserved Matters submissions for the phases of the reservoir development.

I would be grateful for the local planning authority's approval of the non material amendment application at the earliest opportunity.

If you have any queries on the application or require any additional information, please contact me on 07919 486420 or a.blaxland@adamshendry.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Andy Blaxland
Director

Cc: *Portsmouth Water*
Atkins
Future Water JV