



**Cyfoeth  
Naturiol  
Cymru  
Natural  
Resources  
Wales**

Ein cyf/Our ref: **CAS-47458-P3P8**  
Eich cyf/Your ref: **2017/01203/FUL**

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Development Control  
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15January 2018

Annwyl Syr/Madam / Dear Sir/Madam,

**THE CHANGE OF USE OF LAND AS AN EXTENSION TO THE EXISTING WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS SITE AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN ADVANCED ANAEROBIC DIGESTION (AAD) PLANT, TOGETHER WITH ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING AND MITIGATION MEASURES AND THE FORMATION OF TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION COMPOUNDS AT COG MOORS WASTEWATER TREATMENT WORKS, CARDIFF ROAD, DINAS POWYS.**

Thank you for consulting us on the above application, which we received on the 17 November 2017.

We provided pre-application advice to this application our response dated 28 September 2017 (our reference CAS-39593-V5Q0). We have reviewed the submitted pre-application consultation report supporting the application and additional information relating to Bats and Dormice.

**We continue to have significant concerns with the proposed development as submitted. We recommend that you should only grant planning permission if the scheme can meet the following requirements. We would object if the scheme does not meet these requirements.**

Requirement: Further information is required (increased replacement dormice habitat) to demonstrate that the proposal will not be detrimental to the maintenance of the favourable conservation status of European Protected Species present on site.

*In addition to the requirement above, we have comments in relation to Air Quality and Flood Risk which are outlined below.*

## **European Protected Species**

We have reviewed the following documents submitted as part of the application:

- Cog Moors WWTW-Proposed Advanced Anaerobic Digestion (AAD) Plant. Bat Tree Roost Assessment Report' by Arcadis dated November 2017;
- Cog Moors WWTW Plant Dormouse Licence Method Statement by Arcadis dated December 2017;
- Cog Moors WWTW Proposed Advanced Anaerobic Digestion (AAD) Plant Dormouse Survey Report by Arcadis dated November 2017;
- Cog Moors WWTW Proposed Advanced Anaerobic Digestion (AAD) Plant Habitat Management Plan by Arcadis dated November 2017.
- Drawing 4798-S—202-MMB-06-LP-N1-G1-01001 entitled 'South Sludge Strategy. Phase 1 Habitat Map (Rev P2)' by Mott Macdonald Bentley dated 2/11/16;
- Drawing 4798\_S\_202-HYD-XX-XX-DR-NX-00005 entitled 'Cog Moors WWTW Phase 1 Habitat Survey (Rev 01) by J.Player dated 19/6/17.

### Dormice

We have reviewed the submitted dormouse survey report, dormouse (EPS) licence method statement and habitat management plan. We note that surveys for dormice confirmed the presence of dormice in woodland at the eastern end of the application site, in the area of the Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) in addition to previous records for the species to the north of the application site.

We note that the application proposes vegetation clearance across the site. We have significant concerns regarding the extent of the propose vegetation clearance against the amount of mitigation proposed. We understand that the extent of suitable dormouse habitat to be lost is 1.16ha, however, the proposed compensation habitat is only 0.28ha of replacement woodland planting. We also note the proposal to also improve retained woodland on site as part of the mitigation. However, the extent of the woodland referred to being managed, at 0.1ha, is insufficient to mitigate for the habitat loss at this site.

We therefore advise replacement habitat provisions for dormice are increased, and that these are sited to maintain and enhance connectivity to suitable dormouse habitat in the wider landscape, including along the north-eastern boundary of the site.

### Bats

We welcome the submission of the bat tree roost assessment report. We note the results of tree climbing surveys, with T18 downgraded to being considered to have negligible potential to support roosting bats, and T16 being considered to have low potential and the

scheme design modified to ensure its retention. We therefore have no further comments regarding bats.

## **Flood Risk**

As noted above we previously provided pre-application advice to this application where we did not object in relation to flood risk.

The proposal involves the erection of less vulnerable development located partially within Zone C2, as defined by the Development Advice Map (DAM) referred to in Technical Advice Note 15: Development and Flood Risk (TAN15) (July 2004). Our Flood Map information, which is updated on a quarterly basis, confirms the site to be partially within the fluvial 1% (1 in 100 year) and 0.1% (1 in 1000 year) and tidal 0.5% (1 in 200 year) and 0.1% (1 in 1000 year) annual probability flood outlines.

We note from the submitted Flood Consequences Assessment (FCA) Technical Note prepared by Arcadis dated 7 November 2017 that no permanent development is proposed within the flood outlines however, there is a temporary construction compound and car park to the west of the site which is at risk of flooding. Further to this we note:

- The temporary construction compound and car park to the west of the site is at risk of flooding during the 1% (1 in 100 year) event and 0.1% (1 in 1000 year) flood event;
- During the 1% (1 in 100 year) event with 20% climate change the predicted flood levels are 6.84m AOD;
- During the 0.1% event the predicted levels are 7.45mAOD

It is proposed to raise the cabins within the area at risk 300mm above the flood level of 6.84m AOD giving a finished floor level of 7.14m AOD. This would allow the flood waters to convey underneath. The velocity of floodwaters in this area would be 0.36m/s, together with the depth 300mm this equates to a moderate flood hazard. During the 0.1% (1 in 1000 year) event the cabins could flood to a depth of 310 mm if levels are raised to 7.14m AOD this is therefore within the tolerable limits of A1.15.

A small section of the western end of the carpark associated with the temporary compound, could potentially flood to 300mm during the 1% (1 in 100 year) event with a 20% climate change event. It could also flood to a maximum depth of 600 mm during a 0.1% (1 in 1000 year) event.

As outlined in the FCA technical note we understand this is the preferred option. In this instance given the type of development; the level of predicted risk, and the temporary nature associated with it, we have no objection to the application as submitted, from a flood risk perspective, subject to the developer being made aware of the potential flood risks.

As it is for your Authority to determine whether the risks and consequences of flooding can be managed in accordance with TAN15, we recommend that you consider consulting other professional advisors on the acceptability of the developer's proposals, on matters that we

cannot advise you on such as emergency plans, procedures and measures to address structural damage that may result from flooding. Please note, we do not normally comment on or approve the adequacy of flood emergency response and procedures accompanying development proposals, as we do not carry out these roles during a flood. Our involvement during a flood emergency would be limited to delivering flood warnings to occupants/users.

## **Air Quality**

We previously provided pre-application advice in relation to Air Quality where we advised the critical load used for Cog Moors was too low and should be 20kgN/ha/yr. We note that the submitted report 'Air Quality Assessment' prepared by Arcadis dated November 2017 has been revised following our advice.

The results indicate that the emissions of nitrogen oxides (annual and 24hr), nitrogen deposition and acid deposition will not be significant at the designated sites that were within the relevant screening distance.

## **Other Matters**

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters that are included on our checklist Natural Resources Wales and Planning Consultations (March 2015) which is published on our website at this link (<https://naturalresources.wales/media/5271/150302-natural-resources-wales-and-planning-consultations-final-eng.pdf>). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests, including environmental interests of local importance. The applicant should be advised that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure that they secure all other permits/consents relevant to their development.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yn gywir / Yours faithfully

**Lindy Marshall**

Ymgynghorydd Cynllunio Datblygu/ Development Planning Advisor  
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales