

Regulation Committee

Thursday 5 September 2019

10.00 am Council Chamber, Shire Hall



To: The Members of the Regulation Committee

Cllr J Parham (Chair), Cllr N Hewitt-Cooper (Vice-Chair), Cllr M Caswell, Cllr J Clarke, Cllr S Coles, Cllr M Keating, Cllr A Kendall and Cllr N Taylor

Issued By Scott Wooldridge, Strategic Manager - Governance and Risk - 28 August 2019

For further information about the meeting, please contact Michael Bryant on 01823 359048 or mbryant@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda **including public speaking at the meeting.**

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

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AGENDA

Item Regulation Committee - 10.00 am Thursday 5 September 2019

Item 5 – Hinkley Point A

Points of Clarification For Members

Further to our conversation on-site, we have provided below some brief comments and points of clarification in respect of the committee report.

- Paragraph 4.2: refers to *"the skips and a range of redundant items"*. We are concerned this statement may mislead Members or the public since it is only the skips that would be imported and not "a range" of redundant items.
- Paragraph 4.8: refers to the use of ISO containers for the transportation of the waste. However, we would be grateful if it could be made clear that the containers are licensed for the transport of this type of radioactive waste and that the waste is packaged, the vehicle includes internal shielding as required, the containers are leak tested, the waste is held in place, and there are limits on external dose rates. The transport process is governed by separate legislation.
- Paragraph 7.16: sets out Planning Policy's comments. We'd like to emphasise Policy DM9 states that planning permission for the treatment and/or interim storage of radioactive waste at HPA will be granted within the licensed area subject to the policy criteria being met. The proposals satisfy the specific policy criteria (and all other policies that are applicable) and no objections have been raised by statutory consultees. Therefore, planning permission should be granted.
- Paragraph 8.5.7: refers to emergency arrangements for the transport of radioactive waste. Can it be clarified that there are emergency arrangements with 24 hour cover, arrangements which are practised, and are overseen by the Office for Nuclear Regulation. That there are appropriate arrangements in place should be made known to Members and the public.
- Paragraph 8.7.4: states that there were 3 public consultation events. There were in fact 8 drop-in events (3 events pre-submission and 5 events postsubmission). These events were publicised in advance and held at a variety of locations. These were voluntary on the part of Magnox and not required by legislation.
- Section 9: We'd like to reiterate that the EA, ONR and NE do not object to the proposals. In fact, the EA have accepted that the proposals represent the Best Available Technique (BAT). It is a legal requirement for Magnox to apply the Best Available Technique.
- General Comment – please could it be clarified that the application documentation assesses the worst-case scenario in terms of the number of vehicle movements required to complete the importation and the average daily movements. In reality, the impacts would be less. The over-estimated traffic numbers are considered to be acceptable by statutory consultees and therefore actual traffic would be acceptable also.

Mike Southall MRTPI, Avison Young



Information Sheet - Section 73 Applications at Hinkley Point A (HPA)

The Proposal

Planning permission is sought to move 110 Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) pond skips from the Magnox sites at Oldbury, Sizewell A and Dungeness A sites to HPA.

The skips themselves are the waste. There is no more waste inside the skips.



Figure 1: Skips before Size Reduced



Figure 2: Empty Croft Container for the Transport of Skips

The concrete boxes would be delivered one or two per HGV. Taking the worst-case scenario, the maximum number of vehicle deliveries to HPA would be around 45 deliveries (around 90 vehicle movements).

The deliveries would be over at least a three month period, giving an average of less than one delivery per weekday.

The ILW skips would be transported to HPA in "baskets". The baskets will be loaded into licensed containers for transport.

In total around 90 baskets would be imported to HPA, containing around 110 size-reduced skips.

This equates to around 14 HGV deliveries of size-reduced skips.



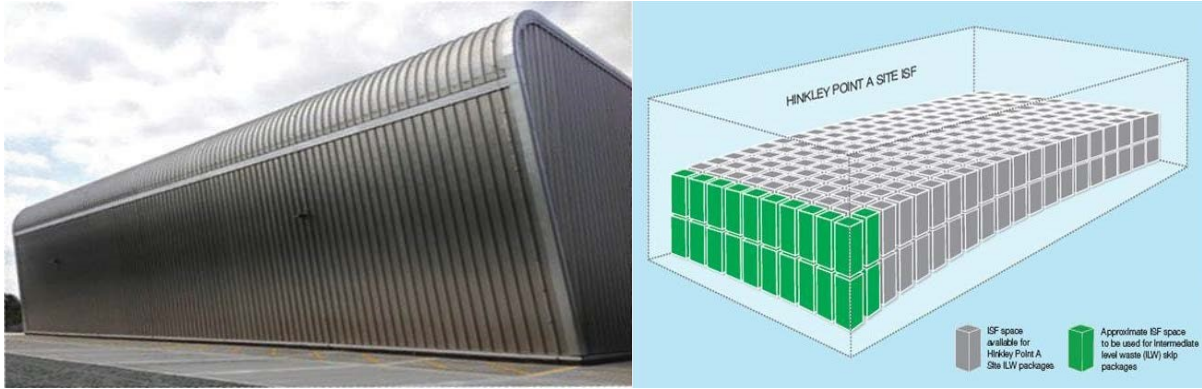
Figure 3: Empty Concrete Box Transport

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One Kingsway, Cardiff CF10 3AN
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The Applications

Two Section 73 applications have been submitted to Somerset County Council, as follows:

- One application relates to the use of an already permitted Encapsulation Plant.
- One application relates to the use of an already permitted Interim Storage Facility (ISF).



Figures 4 & 5: Interim Storage Facility & Capacity

Both facilities are required for HPA's own waste. The ISF is complete and the Encapsulation Plant is nearing completion.

Around 22 additional packages will be created for storage in the HPA ISF. This equates to approximately 5% of the store's total physical capacity. Less than 1% is added to the store's total radioactivity.

Why Hinkley Point A

HPA is the only site with all of the facilities required for the receipt, encapsulation and storage of the ILW skips.

Using concrete boxes and sharing HPA's ISF will avoid the need to build encapsulation plants and ISFs at Oldbury, Dungeness A and Sizewell A sites.

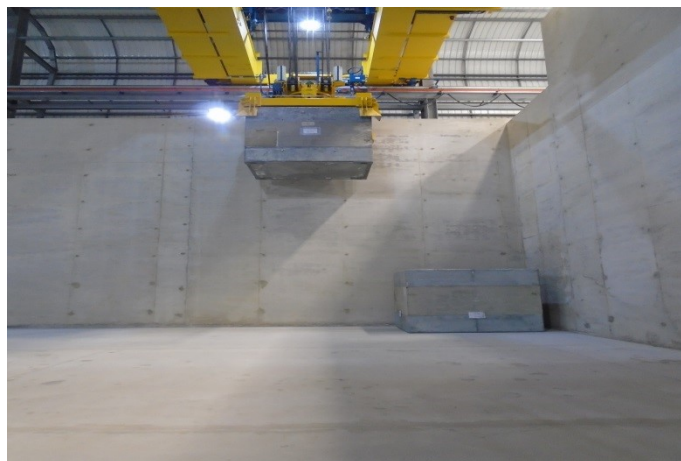


Figure 6: Overhead Crane Lifting a Concrete Box in the ISF

Dear Mr Grubb,

Application No: SCC/3637/2019

Section 73 application to vary Planning Conditions 1 and 4 of Planning Permission 4/25/14/0017 to extend the permission from 31 December 2019 to 31 December 2024 and to extend the period for the implementation of the required restoration scheme from 31 December 2020 to 31 December 2025.

Land adjacent to Allerford Road, Norton Fitzwarren, Taunton, Somerset (GR: 318778 – 125685)

I write with regard to Mr Paul Hickson's letter to me of 8 July with Notification of Planning Application No. SCC/3637/2019.

Once again I strongly object to this Planning Application in identical terms to my objections in 2012 and 2014 for the reasons below:

In 2012, Somerset County Council granted permission for operation of this site until December 2014, but with certain conditions including use of silencers on plant and a Dust Control and Mitigation Scheme. In 2014, SCC granted "Temporary" permission until 2019 with the same conditions. Two of these conditions were as follows.

1. "Time Limit (Temporary Permission)

The use of the land together with the crushing, sorting and storage of waste stone and ballast shall cease on or before 31 December 2014.

Reason: The development proposed is not regarded as acceptable in the longer term, due to its impact on the visual amenities and landscape character of this open countryside location and its position within a functional flood plain of the River Tone. However, a temporary use is permitted in order to allow the completion of works permitted by planning permission no's 25/2005/005 and 25/09/0006, associated with the adjacent West Somerset Railway.

3. Operating/working Hours

Operations shall not take place except between 08.00 and 18.00 hours on Mondays to Fridays. There shall be no site operations on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank/Public Holidays.

Reason: To minimise the intrusive effects of off-site noise impacts and to protect the amenities of local residents."

Despite the above conditions imposed, not only was a "Temporary" extension granted in 2014 for operation of the site until December 2019, but also permission was given to amend operating hours from 08.00 to 18.00 Monday to Friday, and to include Saturdays 07.30 to 18.00 hrs. Also, despite the other conditions imposed of silencers on plant and a Dust Control and Mitigation Scheme, there has been no reduction in noise from the site, and certainly no reduction of the clouds of dust drifting over us. You can taste it in the air.

Once again, an extension is being sought until 2024. This is not acceptable to the residents of Norton Fitzwarren, especially those living near the site and on the West side of Station Road opposite the site. Also, may I refer you to the letters in every weekly issue of the Somerset County Gazette's Postbag between 11 June and 30 July? In particular, one resident responded to my published letter saying he had not been informed by SCC of this proposed extension, therefore was unable to object. He asked SCC to respond and explain why, but SCC failed to respond. Many residents did not object, because they knew nothing of the Planning application for a further 5 year extension. It appears that SCC is failing to write to residents living near the site. If one looks at the planning documents publically available on the SCC Planning Application Search webpage, the Neighbourhood Notification List contains only 10 properties. This is outrageous. On this occasion, I hope SCC will write to each and every resident of Norton Fitzwarren giving them the opportunity to object to this further extension.

Therefore, I strongly object to this application. **Temporary** should mean temporary for the very reasons stated by SCC as mentioned above.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Rollason

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