

Aylesbury Vale District Council  
Development Control  
The Gateway Gatehouse Road  
AYLESBURY  
Buckinghamshire  
HP19 8FF

**Our ref:** WA/2024/131141/02-L01  
**Your ref:** 23/03875/APP  
**Date:** 05 June 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

**Development Of A Battery Energy Storage System (Bess), Connected Directly To The National Grid, With Associated Infrastructure Including Access, Drainage And Landscaping.**

**Rookery Farm, Granborough, Bucks MK18 3NJ**

Thank you for reconsulting us on this application, on 9 May 2024. Further to our previous response (letter with reference WA/2024/131141/01-L01, dated 7 March 2024), further information has been provided, which we have reviewed:

- Letter 'Response to Environment Agency Objections' (RPS, 10 April 2024).

**Environment Agency Position**

We **maintain our objections** as set out within our previous letter WA/2024/131141/01-L01 dated 7 March 2024.

With regards to objections 1 and 2 it is stated within the RPS letter that *Penstocks will be installed at the site to allow containment of potentially contaminated water.*

This suggests that the default is that the penstocks will be open. As we understand that the site is to be unmanned, how will they be closed (bearing in mind that there may be no-one on site at the start of a fire, and it may be raining)?

We also require further details regarding the proposed lining and attenuation blanket.

With regards to objection 3, the RPS letter provides no further information or assessment of the flood risk to the site. We maintain our position that the use of broadscale indicative flood modelling is inappropriate to determine the flood risk to this development.

Please reconsult us on any further information provided.

### **Advice to Applicant - Other Consents**

As you are aware we also have a regulatory role in issuing legally required consents, permits or licences for various activities. We have not assessed whether consent will be required under our regulatory role and therefore this letter does not indicate that permission will be given by the Environment Agency as a regulatory body.

The applicant should contact 03708 506 506 or consult our website to establish if consent will be required for the works they are proposing. Please see <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/business/topics/permitting/default.aspx>

This includes any proposal to undertake work in, over, under, or within 8 metres of the top of the bank of a designated Main River, called a Flood Risk Activity permit.

### **Final comments**

Thank you again for consulting us on this application. Our comments are based on the best available data and the information as presented to us.

If you are minded to approve the application contrary to our objection, please contact us to explain why material considerations outweigh our objection. This will allow us to make further representations. Should our objection be removed, it is likely we will recommend the inclusion of condition(s) on any subsequent approval.

In accordance with the planning practice guidance (determining a planning application, paragraph 019), please notify us by email within two weeks of a decision being made or application withdrawn. Please provide us with a URL of the decision notice, or an electronic copy of the decision notice or outcome.

Should you require any additional information, or wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below.

Yours faithfully

**Sarah Warriss-Simmons**  
**Planning Advisor**

Direct dial 0203 025 9855

Direct e-mail [Planning\\_THM@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Planning_THM@environment-agency.gov.uk)