

# BUCKINGHAM & RIVER OUZEL INTERNAL DRAINAGE BOARD

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02 September 2024

Buckinghamshire Council  
The Gateway  
Gatehouse Road  
Aylesbury  
Bucks  
HP19 8FF

## BY E-MAIL ONLY

For the attention of **Zenab Hearn**

Dear Sir/Madam

<b>Planning Application Number:</b>	<b>23/03875/APP</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>Rookery Farm Granborough Buckinghamshire MK18 3NJ</b>
<b>Proposal:</b>	<b>Development of a battery energy storage system (BESS), connected directly to the national Grid with associated infrastructure including access, drainage and landscaping</b>
<b>Grid Reference:</b>	<b>475607 225176</b>

The watercourse on the boundary of or passing through the proposed development sites are under the statutory control of the Board. In accordance with the Board's byelaws, no development shall take place within 9 metres of bank top, without the Board's prior consent. Development includes planting, fencing and landscaping. Consent as stated above is a legal requirement under the Land Drainage Act. This legislation is separate from planning law and not superseded by it.

The 9-metre byelaw strip is required by the Board for access with and operation of maintenance plant & equipment. It is also used for the spread and levelling of arisings when clearing a watercourse, which is part of the Board's periodic maintenance routine. It is inappropriate to develop within this strip such that maintenance is obstructed. Proposals within the strip are thus unlikely to receive the consent of the Board.

The Board notes the Applicant intends to dispose of surface water will into watercourses controlled by the Board. To discharge surface water in this way, the applicant must seek consent from the Board as above. The applicant has provided no indication of how they intend to dispose of storm water from the development. We thus recommend that planning permission is withheld until a suitable drainage strategy is clearly presented.

Please direct any reply to Rachel Hughes at the Board's offices.

Yours faithfully

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