

Date: 26 March 2020
Our ref: 312932, Case 14764
Your ref: R/2019/0767/OOM



Mr A. Miller
Development Management
Corporate Directorate for Growth, Enterprise and Environment
Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
Redcar and Cleveland House
Kirkleatham St
Redcar
TS10 1RT

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Miller

Planning consultation: Outline application for the construction of an Energy Recovery facility (ERF) and associated development

Location: Grangetown Prairie, Land to the East of John Boyle Road and West of Tees Dock Road, Grangetown

I write in relation to the information on the above received from Dorian Latham at JBA Consulting dated 07 March 2020 which was received by Natural England on the same day.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

SUMMARY OF NATURAL ENGLAND'S ADVICE

NO OBJECTION

Based on the plans submitted, Natural England considers that the proposed development will not have significant adverse impacts on designated sites and has no objection.

Natural England's further advice on designated sites/landscapes and advice on other natural environment issues is set out below.

European sites – Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site

Based on the plans submitted, Natural England considers that the proposed development will not have likely significant effects on the Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site and has no objection to the proposed development.

Natural England notes that the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) has not been produced by your authority, but by the applicant. As competent authority, it is your responsibility to produce the HRA. We provide the advice enclosed on the assumption that your authority intends to adopt this HRA to fulfil your duty as competent authority. Natural England is a statutory consultee on the appropriate assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process.

The appropriate assessment concludes that the proposal will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any of the sites in question. Having considered the assessment, and the further justification for the conclusion provided in Dorian Latham's email of 26th March 2020, Natural England advises that we concur with the assessment conclusions.

- While the air quality assessment suggests that the process contribution deposition on designated sites from the proposal will exceed 1% of the recommended levels this should be taken in the context of reducing contributions elsewhere on the estuary, and available information on current deposition levels taken as an average across a 3 year period (2015-17) which will not fully account for falling contributions.

Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast Site of Special Scientific Interest

Based on the plans submitted, Natural England considers that the proposed development will not damage or destroy the interest features for which the site has been notified and has no objection.

It should be noted that the advice provided here is made with the caveat that a further assessment of designated site impacts, including an updated Habitats Regulations Assessment will be required when an application for full planning permission is submitted, and we reserve the right to modify our position at that point, when further detail is available.

Natural England has previously provided advice regarding the consideration of protected species and other natural environment issues in our previous letter of 20th January 2020, and while this advice is not repeated here for brevity it remains a material consideration when assessing this application.

Should the proposal change, please consult us again.

If you have any queries relating to the advice in this letter please contact me on 0208 0265533 or andrew.whitehead@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Whitehead
Northumbria Area Team