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Our Ref: TEF 3463/OLO 109383/ARQ PR018

ANNING

mono

30 NOV 2016

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Chief Planning Officer
Ribble Valley Borough Council
Council Offices
Church Walk
Clitheroe
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BB7 2RA

ATTENTION OF

DIRECTOR OF
COMMUNITY SERVICES

30 NOV 2016

FAO

28 November 2016

Dear Sirs

**PROPOSED BASE STATION INSTALLATION AT SITE TEF 3463 AT LAND SITUATE AT LONGRIDGE
TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, CRUMPAX AVENUE, LONGRIDGE, PRESTON, LANCASHIRE, PR3 3JQ**

This is a full planning application, and notice in accordance with the electronic communications code under the Telecommunications Act 1984 Schedule 2 as amended by the Communications Act 2003, for permission for the development of:

The installation of a single pole mounted Omni antenna atop the existing 17.50 metre high lattice tower, together with ground based radio equipment housing and ancillary development at land situate at Longridge Telephone Exchange, Crumpax Avenue, Longridge, Preston, Lancashire, PR3 3JQ (E360250 N437660)

CTIL and Telefonica UK Limited have recently been approached by Arqiva, who are seeking to install new telecommunications apparatus at the application site, required for the rollout of the new Smart Metering communications network.

Arqiva were appointed by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (now forming part of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy) to develop the required communications infrastructure network to enable Smart Metering across the north of England and Scotland.

This application is submitted for and on behalf of CTIL and Telefonica UK Limited and comprises the following:

- Planning application form and certificates
- Planning drawings – P/003463/GEN/101, P/003463/GEN/103 and P/003463/GEN/105
- Prescribed fee – a cheque in the sum of £385.00 made payable to Ribble Valley Borough Council
- Planning Statement
- ICNIRP Declaration & Clarification statement

This application has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Best Practice on Mobile Network Development (July 2013).

The enclosed application is identified as the most suitable site option and design that balances operational need with local planning policies and national planning policy guidance.

We are committed to maintaining a positive relationship with all Local Planning Authorities and we would be happy to provide any additional information in relation to this application.

We look forward to receiving your acknowledgement and decision in due course.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Scholfield'.

James Scholfield

Mono Consultants Limited for and on behalf of CTIL and Telefonica UK Limited

Mobile: 07989 478263

E-mail: james.scholfield@monoconsultants.com

Enc.

Land situate at Longridge Telephone Exchange, Crumpax Avenue, Longridge, Preston, PR3 3JQ

Planning Statement

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Location and Context

The application site relates to an existing telecommunications installation located to the rear of Longridge Telephone Exchange, off Crumpax Avenue to the north west of the town of Longridge. The surrounding land uses are of mixed character with a number of commercial properties to the south and west with residential dwellings to the north and east.

The existing installation comprises a freestanding 17.50 metre high lattice tower supporting an array of telecommunications apparatus. The tower is located on a large concrete pad which also accommodates a number of ground based equipment cabinets and supporting ancillary apparatus.

The installation, in its current guise, was approved by Ribble Valley Borough Council in September 1997 (ref. 3/1997/029N) and currently provides expansive telecommunications coverage across the town of Longridge and its environs for the mobile network operator, Telefonica UK Limited and also the public safety communications provider, Airwave Solutions Limited.

Background to the Proposal

The current owners of the installation, CTIL and Telefonica UK Limited, have recently been approached by Arqiva to install new telecommunications apparatus at the site, as part of the rollout of the Government's new Smart Metering network. Arqiva have been appointed by the Department of Energy & Climate Change (now forming part of the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy) to develop the required communications infrastructure network to enable Smart Metering across the north of England and Scotland.

The Smart Metering programme is being rolled out, between 2014 and 2020, and is a key part of the Government's initiative to cut greenhouse gas emissions, decarbonise the economy and support the creation of new "green" jobs and technologies.

Like all electronic communications networks, it will need to be supported by an infrastructure of operational sites with antennas and other apparatus required to provide radio coverage to the local area. As the Smart Meter network must be able to communicate with meters that are typically found within the heart of a property, then these sites must be developed in locations that can provide the requisite levels of coverage.

Siting and Design

Given Arqiva's specific technical and coverage propagation requirements and also those relating to the separation of active antennas, it is proposed to install a new steel pole which will support Arqiva's required Omni antenna above the antenna arrays sited at the top of the existing lattice tower. It is considered that this particularly low key design solution is preferable to a wholesale extension or redevelopment of the structure.

It is argued that Arqiva's proposed antenna (together with its supporting steelwork) will represent a fairly modest addition to a site which has been long established in telecommunications use, and is therefore unlikely to have any discernible additional impact on either the host structure or indeed its wider urban setting.

At the base of the lattice tower, Arqiva also propose to install a series of small scale equipment cabinets which will house the required technical radio equipment and ancillary power connections. These cabinets are comparable in size and scale to the existing complement of ground based equipment and will have little additional impact on the site, if any.

Planning Policy Context

Following the adoption of its Core Strategy in December 2014, Ribble Valley no longer has a specific telecommunications policy and therefore relies on the thrust of national policy contained within the NPPF, under Section 5, which supports the need for *"advanced, high quality communications infrastructure"* in its quest for *"sustainable economic growth"*. The document also emphasises that *"high speed communications play a vital role in enhancing the provision of local community facilities and services"* and highlights that *"local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks"*.

Moreover, the aim of local planning authorities should be to *"keep the numbers of radio and telecommunications masts and the sites for such installations to a minimum, consistent with the efficient operation of the network"*. It also reiterates the need to consider the *"use of existing masts"* where appropriate.

Notwithstanding the limited impact of the proposed development, it is argued that its overriding principles are also consistent with the thrust of telecommunications policy advocated by the NPPF.

Health Concerns

The NPPF provides a clear statement that local planning authorities should *"not determine health safeguards if the proposal meets international commission guidelines for public exposure"*. As part of this application for planning permission, an ICNIRP certificate has been submitted which confirms the proposal is in full compliance with the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields, both individually and cumulatively.

Conclusion

The proposal seeks to modify an established telecommunications installation in order to fulfil Arqiva's obligations to Government, associated with the important rollout of the new Smart Metering network across the north of England.

It is argued that these modest additions will not materially increase the impact of the existing installation and will lead to significant benefits to the local community and indeed the wider borough as a whole. It is considered that the proposal accords fully with the requirements of the NPPF and Ribble Valley's adopted Core Strategy. We therefore request that planning permission be granted accordingly.



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Chief Planning Officer
Ribble Valley Borough Council
Council Offices
Church Walk
Clitheroe
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28 November 2016

Dear Sirs

CLARIFICATION OF THE DECLARATION OF ICNIRP COMPLIANCE ISSUED AS PART OF THE APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ENCLOSED FOR TEF 3463 AT LAND SITUATE AT LONGRIDGE TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, CRUMPAX AVENUE, LONGRIDGE, PRESTON, LANCASHIRE, PR3 3JQ

I refer to the Declaration of Conformity with ICNIRP Public Exposure Guidelines ("ICNIRP Declaration"), sent with this application in relation to the proposed telecommunications installation as detailed above.

The "ICNIRP Declaration" certifies that the site is designed to be in full compliance with the requirements of the radio frequency (RF) guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation (ICNIRP) for public exposure as expressed in the EU Council recommendation of July 1999.

This ICNIRP declaration takes into account the cumulative effect of the emissions from the proposed installation and all radio base stations present at, or near, the proposed location.

The radio emission compliance calculation is based upon the maximum possible cumulative values.

All operators of radio transmitters are under a legal obligation to operate those transmitters in accordance with the conditions of their licence. Operation of the transmitter in accordance with the conditions of the licence fulfils the legal obligations in respect of interference to other radio systems, other electrical equipment, instrumentation or air traffic systems. The conditions of the licence are mandated by Ofcom, an agency of national government, who are responsible for the regulation of the civilian radio spectrum. The remit of Ofcom also includes investigation and remedy of any reported significant interference.

The telecommunications infrastructure the subject of this application accords with all relevant legislation and as such will not cause significant and irremediable interference with other electrical equipment, air traffic services or instrumentation operated in the national interest. If you have any further enquiries concerning the "ICNIRP Declaration" certificate or anything else in this letter, then please contact the CTIL EMF UNIT on 01753 564306.

Yours faithfully

PROJECT MANAGER



Our Ref: TEF 3463/OLO 109383/ARQ PR018

Declaration of Conformity with ICNIRP Public Exposure Guidelines
("ICNIRP Declaration")

Telefonica UK Limited
260 Bath Road
Slough
Berkshire
SL1 4DX

Declares that the proposed equipment and installation as detailed in the enclosed application for planning permission at;

Land situate at Longridge Telephone Exchange
Crumpax Avenue
Longridge
Preston
Lancashire
PR3 3JQ

E360250 N437660

is designed to be in full compliance with the requirements of the radio frequency (RF) public exposure guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation (ICNIRP), as expressed in the EU Council recommendation of 12 July 1999* on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields (0Hz to 300 GHz).

Ref. *1999/519/E

Date: 28 November 2016

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Scholfield'.

Name:

James Scholfield

Position:

Planning Consultant