

Date: 08 March 2023
Our ref: 422089 (Marl Hill)
Your ref: 3/2021/0661



Nicola Hopkins
Ribble Valley Borough Council

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Nicola

Planning consultation: Proposed works for and use of replacement section of aqueduct, including earthworks and ancillary infrastructure including: new valve house buildings within fenced compounds with permanent vehicular access provision. With the installation of tunnel shafts; open cut connection areas at either end of the replacement section within temporary construction compounds, to include site accesses, storage areas, plant and machinery, and drainage infrastructure. In addition, a temporary haul route with bridge over the River Ribble (as one of two options for vehicular access to the temporary construction compound); a series of local highway works together with a temporary satellite park and ride facility and a vehicle marshalling area.

Location: From land northwest of New Laithe Farm off the B6478 Slaidburn Road; and land north of Cross Lane, near Sandy Ford Brook, off the B6478 Slaidburn Road; with highway mitigation works at various locations from Pimlico Link Road, Clitheroe to Slaidburn Road, north of Waddington, via Chatburn Road, Ribble Lane and Grindleton Road; a haul route from land south of West Bradford Bridge to West Bradford Road, west of Healings Farm, West Bradford; a vehicle marshalling facility on land at the Ribblesdale Cement Works, West Bradford Road, Clitheroe and a park and ride facility at the existing Ribblesdale Cement Works car park west of West Bradford Road.

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 17 February 2023.

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.

We note that this consultation relates to additional bat surveys that have been completed (July to September 2022) and submitted to support this application. Natural England has produced [standing advice](#)¹ to help planning authorities understand the impact of particular developments on protected species. We advise you to refer to this advice. Natural England will only provide bespoke advice on protected species where they form part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest or in exceptional circumstances.

In reviewing this consultation and in consideration of Natural England's previous advice on this application we note that no further information has been submitted to fully address our previous comments and that there are matters remaining where we advised that further information is required, with particular concerns regarding the Forest of Bowland AONB.

However it is Natural England's understanding that a number of conditions are proposed to be attached to the permission which would address all of the outstanding details required. Whilst

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals>

Natural England consider that for a full planning application the relevant detail should be provided prior to permission being granted, we understand that consultation with the AONB Partnership has taken place and that they are satisfied with this approach. Therefore it is the view of Natural England that providing appropriate conditions are placed on the permission and that Natural England is consulted regarding the discharge of any relevant conditions then we have no objection to this application.

We ask that you refer to our previous response dated 27 May 2022 (our ref. 387595) for our detailed advice.

If you have any queries relating to the advice in this letter please contact me.

Should the proposal change, please consult us again.

Yours sincerely

Angela Leigh
Senior Adviser
Cheshire to Lancashire Area Team