

Flood risk appraisal for new development pro-forma.

1. Development description and location

1a. What type of development is proposed and where will it be located?

A remote temporary compound and material store area required to enable up-stream works in more sensitive landscape areas.

The objective of the proposed scheme is to support works to intakes that are required to ensure a greater volume of water passes down river during times of low flow through the Whitendale water course. The locations of the river works further upstream are very constrained and do not provide an opportunity to locate such a main compound area adjoining them. Therefore placing the larger parking and temporary workers compound at Foot Holme will minimise potential land take and other impacts on the works areas upstream adjacent to SSSI and SPA.

The application site comprises an area of open land adjacent to the River Dunsop and United Utilities' existing Foot Holme Pumping Station building. The site is located approximately 3km North of Dunsop Bridge at Grid Reference 365256, 453013.

The open compound is approximately half a hectare in size and so following the EA Standing Advice and advisory comments, the following text has been set out to demonstrate that requirement for a further, detailed Flood Risk Assessment is not necessary.

1b. What is the vulnerability classification?

Less Vulnerable

1c. Is the proposed development consistent with the Local Development Documents?

The proposal is in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and will need to be considered by Ribble Valley Borough Council Planning Committee.

1d. Please provide evidence that the Sequential Test or Exception Test has been applied in the selection of this site for this development type.

The proposed development cannot pass the Sequential Test since it cannot be moved to a different site as there is need to locate the compound in an accessible mid point location away from other sensitive land uses and its use it to consolidate and reduce materials and traffic movements.

Therefore the Exception Test needs to be passed. The Exception test has 3 conditions. These are:-

- 1) The development must provide wider sustainability benefits to the community that outweigh the flood risk.
- 2) The development must be carried out on developable or previously developed land or demonstrated that it cannot be located elsewhere
- 3) A FRA must be carried out which demonstrates that the development is safe and does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.

These conditions are each examined in turn below:

- 1) The Environment Agency has reviewed water abstraction licenses under section 52 of the Water Resources Act 1991. This has resulted in changes being proposed to many license conditions to help restore a more sustainable abstraction rate.

United Utilities has a requirement to implement a sustainable abstraction regime under the EA's Environmental Programme to restore flow to areas of the Ribble catchment, in particular the Rivers

Brennand & Whitendale. The development is required to ensure continuity of water flow in Whitendale for benefits including long term ecological improvements. There is therefore a special circumstance for this works and thus this compound and it is for a reasonable benefit to the wider community as well as ecological and recreational benefits.

2) The proposed development is to be located on land previously used for the same use. It cannot be located elsewhere as there is a need to provide a remote resource to consolidate the upstream works materials and vehicle movements.

3) The storage areas and cabins are not inhabited in any way other than working hours use and are low in vulnerability or will be flood resilient (e.g. cabins are temporary and could even flood with limited impact unlike a permanent home. Floor levels will not be reduce from they are now. This FRA therefore demonstrates that the development is suitable to be located in the proposed area.

2. Definition of the flood hazard

2a. What sources of flooding could affect the site? (See NPPF Technical Appendices)

Whitendale River (upstream) / River Dunsop.

2b. For each identified source, describe how flooding would occur, with reference to any historic records wherever these are available.

Embankment overflow.

2c. What are the existing surface water drainage arrangements for the site?

Surface water to the local watercourse.

3. Probability

3a. Which flood zone is the site within?

The site lies within Flood Zone 2 and some Zone 3 – (detail of mapping is low).

3b. If there is a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment covering this site, what does it show?

The 2010 Ribble Valley SFRA Level 1 repeats the Environment Agency website mapping information and considers the area to be fully Zone 3 although mapping quality is difficult to define at this scale. There is no further site specific information for the scale of this proposal available.

3c. What is the probability of the site flooding, taking account of the SFRA and any further site-specific assessment?

The SFRA states that “LPAs must consult EA on all proposals, apart from minor development, within Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3 and on developments of over 1 hectare in Flood Zone 1”. In this instance, the above description and planning application statement demonstrates why this is a minor (and temporary) development. Therefore whilst there may be a risk of flooding, in all reasonable senses this is not an at risk development or one that would cause flood risk elsewhere of any notable amount or for a particularly long time.

3d. What are the existing rates and volumes of run-off generated by the site?

N/A for small kiosk site.

4. Climate Change

4a. How is flood risk at the site likely to be affected by climate change?

No additional flood risk identified with significance to this temporary compound storage area.

5. Detailed development proposals

5a. Please provide details of the development layout, referring to the relevant drawings.

Please refer to the attached planning application drawings.

5b. Where appropriate, demonstrate how land-uses most sensitive to flood damage have been placed in areas within the site that are at least risk of flooding.

All cabins are to be stored furthest from the River Dunsop.

6. Flood risk management measures

6a. How will the site be protected from flooding, including the potential impacts of climate change, over the development's lifetime?

N/A

7. Off site impacts

7a. How will you ensure that your proposed development and the measures to protect your site from flooding will not increase flooding elsewhere?

NA - Minor scale and floodable design will not cause notable effect elsewhere.

7b. How will you prevent run-off from the proposed development from causing an impact elsewhere?

NA - Minor scale (0.5 ha) will not cause notable effect elsewhere.

8. Residual risks

8a. What flood-related risks will remain after you've implemented the measures to protect the site from flooding?

N/A

8b. How, and by whom, will these risks be managed over the lifetime of this development?

United Utilities