

From:



Subject:

RE: S35 variation for Southern Water's HWTWRP

Date:

25 October 2024 09:09:14

Dear [REDACTED] and colleagues,

Thank you for your email below sent on 18 October 2024 and for Martin Woolhead's letter of the same date that was attached.

You have asked us to confirm, for the avoidance of doubt, that to our knowledge no application for any consent or authorisation mentioned in section 33(1) or (2) of the Planning Act 2008 has been made by any other authority or party in relation to any part of the Principal Development, as defined in the existing Direction as proposed to be varied and which was set out in Appendix 1 to our qualifying request letter. You have said that the reason for seeking this further information is that from previous communications with us earlier in 2024, you believe that we may be aware of a planning application made by another body, expected to be decided in October 2024, that may relate, in part, to the Principal Development.

The application you are referring to is a planning application made by Portsmouth Water in June 2024 to Havant Borough Council to permit a different configuration of pipelines to fill and draw down water from Havant Thicket reservoir currently under construction by Portsmouth Water, from the configuration given planning permission in 2021. The application contains this summary of the permission sought:

"APP/24/00405 | Hybrid application seeking: 1) Full permission for development of new pipelines to transfer water from Bedhampton Springs to fill the reservoir in the winter and draw it off to treat and supply when needed in the summer, comprising: construction of two predominantly underground pipes in tunnels linking the reservoir with the existing pumping station at Bedhampton with associated infrastructure including: emergency drawdown discharge structure at Hermitage Stream; construction of eight access shafts; upgrades to existing culverts close to shafts five, six and eight to manage flood risk; washout and air valve chambers (typically below ground), new plant at Bedhampton Pumping Station, modifications to Bedhampton 2 operational building and permanent diversion of Footpath 34 at Bedhampton Pumping Station. 2) Outline application for an associated underground cross-connection chamber and above ground kiosk at the reservoir site with vehicular accesses for maintenance. An Environmental Statement has been submitted with the application under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. | Pipeline from the reservoir to the north of Middle Park Way to Bedhampton Pumping Station, Meyrick Road, Havant."

It will be noted from this that the application is not for and does not relate to the Principal Development but is for and relates only to Portsmouth Water's Havant Thicket reservoir project. The infrastructure proposed by Portsmouth Water would not and could not perform any function related to the Principal Development unless and until the entirety of the Principal Development is given development consent and the connection to and use of that infrastructure is included as part of the development consent.

This position is no different in principle to the current planning permissions for Havant Thicket reservoir. As referenced above, the outline application for the related filling and draw down single pipeline (APP/20/00991), and the hybrid planning application for the reservoir itself (APP/20/00990), were both approved on 15 October 2021, some six months before the current Direction was given in 2022.

I can therefore confirm again, on behalf of Southern Water, that no application for any consent or authorisation mentioned in section 33(1) or (2) of the Planning Act 2008 has been made in relation to the Principal Development.

I trust this sets out the position clearly.

Regards

██████████
Planning & Consenting Lead
Water for Life - Hampshire

M. ██████████
southernwater.co.uk



From: ██████████

Sent: Friday, October 18, 2024 2:43 PM

To: ██████████

Cc: ██████████

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Subject: S35 variation for Southern Water's HWTWRP

Dear ██████ and Team,

You submitted a request for the Secretary of State to vary an existing direction under Section 35 (Planning Act 2008) in respect of the Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project on 27 September 2024. We previously wrote to ask for some further information on 11 October 2024 with a response received from you 14 October 2024.

We are writing to request some further additional information; the details are set out in the attached letter.

In following the procedure as set out in section 35A(4) of the Act, if the information requested is provided within 14 days of the date of this letter, the Secretary of State will provide a response to the Request within 28 days beginning with the day the requested information is received.

Kind regards

██████████

██████████ | **He/Him| Head of Water Infrastructure Planning & Delivery Unit**
Water Sector Delivery | Floods & Water Directorate | Department for
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

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