

Gen Collins
Wiltshire Council
(Sent via email)

Our reference: WX-2025-139349/03
Your reference: PL/2025/07349

Date: 30 March 2026

Dear Gen,

Variation of condition 3 (Layout changes), condition 14 (Changes to noise condition) and conditions 4, 5 and 7 (Minor wording changes) relating to application PL/2021/08690

STUDLEY FARM, BATH ROAD, ATWORTH, MELKSHAM, SN12 8JN

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on the above application. We have reviewed the following email from 'Sol Environment dated 20th February 2026'.

Environment Agency Condition 1& 2

We accept that the timing for both conditions can be altered however we would request that the following wording is use;

Condition 1 - Surface Water Drainage

*The **prior to installation of battery energy storage system units on the site** a scheme to dispose of surface water for the battery storage areas in the event of a fire has been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority. The scheme should include but not necessarily be limited to the following pollution protection measures:*

- The final drainage designs should demonstrate that in the event of a battery fire, the drainage system can be automatically sealed to prevent any discharge of surface water to the environment and that all firefighting effluent can be retained on site.*
- The drainage system should have sufficient capacity to manage the firefighting effluent volumes expected as well as any surface water generated from an extreme rainfall event.*
- The drainage system should be designed to be resilient to the potential impacts from a sustained battery fire.*

The scheme shall be implemented and maintained as approved.

Reason

To ensure that any potentially contaminated effluent in the event of a pollution incident does not pose an unacceptable risk to the water environment in line with the National Planning Policy Framework.

Condition 2 – Emergency pollution control method statement

The **prior to installation of battery energy storage system units on the site** a detailed remediation plan following a battery fire incident has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The scheme shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- *How and where contaminated surface water, materials and drainage infrastructure will be sampled, managed and remediated/replaced following a potential battery fire incident to ensure no contamination enters the environment if/when normal operation resumes.*
- *A verification plan providing details of the information that will be collected and provided to the local planning authority, in order to demonstrate that the works set out in the remediation strategy are complete.*

The scheme shall be implemented as approved in the event of a fire incident and any subsequent amendments shall be agreed in writing with the local planning authority.

Reason

To ensure that the any potentially contaminated effluent does not pose an unacceptable risk to the water environment in line with paragraph 180 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Environment Agency Condition 4

We understand why the contractor may feel no need for a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP). However, we still require further information to address our concerns as the reviewed email and the signed posted documents in the email do not address all our concerns. Therefore, we would either require a CEMP is submitted including all necessary points or we would need the current documents provide to be updated to consider all points, included things that have yet to be finalised, for example oil interceptors, control, storage and removal of spoil and waste etc

With the above in mind, we suggest the following wording;

Condition 4 - Construction Environmental Management Plan

*No development shall take place until a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), incorporating pollution prevention measures, **or updated documentation** has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved statement shall be adhered to throughout the construction period. The CEMP shall include as a minimum the following;*

- *a scheme to treat and remove suspended solids from surface water run-off during construction*
- *wheel washing facilities and appropriate disposal of effluent*
- *the use and routing of heavy plant, vehicles and machinery*
- *oils/chemicals and materials storage including refueling*
- *the location and pollution prevention for storage areas and compounds*
- *the control, storage and removal of spoil and waste.*
- *Are oil interceptors required*

- *What happens in the event of an environmental emergency (response to pollution (silt, oil, chemicals etc.), monitoring etc.)*
- *what will happen with wastewater from the construction site*

Reason

To prevent pollution of the water environment in line with paragraph 187 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

Please note that the site would also need to apply for a permit to discharge as a separate matter. This would be for any site run off or dewatering activity. This would include the wheel wash for site vehicles at the construction site. Heavy rainfall can create real issues with suspended solids and any discharge from the site would need to be authorised under a permit.

Environment Agency Condition 5

As water vole are a mobile species there is still a possibility that since 2024 numbers have increased or animals have moved into the area, therefore, to be compliant with the Wildlife & Countryside Act there should be a pre-works check to ensure no impacts on water vole. We do however note that the Construction Ecology Management Plan recommendation pre-commencement inspection for water voles. Therefore, provided that the Construction Ecology Management Plan, dated 9th June 2025 is complied with, we have no requirement for a further condition.

Note to LPA

Should you require any additional information, or have any queries regarding our response please get in touch

Yours sincerely,

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