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Please ask for: Lawrence Osborne.

Date: 5th August 2025.

Our ref: PL/2025/01460/EIASCR

Dear Mr Griffin,

Screening Opinion Under Part 2 of the Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended)

Site: Oldbury Distribution Service Reservoir to the Meriden Distribution Service Reservoir.

Proposed Development: Screening Opinion under Regulation 6(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended) relating to a 16.6km below ground water pipeline from the Oldbury Distribution Service Reservoir to the Meriden Distribution Service Reservoir.

I refer to your request, received on 25th July 2025, for a screening opinion regarding the above proposed development. This screening opinion request was supported by:

Supporting Documents

- EIA Screening Request – 24th July 2025.
- Section1 Preliminary Ecological Assessment – reference 10408.002.
- Section 2, 3 and 4 Preliminary Ecological Assessment – reference 0408007.
- Technical Note: Ecology - reference 10408.010.
- Birchley Hays Wood NVC Survey report – reference 10408.004.
- Ground Level Tree Assessment Report – reference 10408.04.001.
- Protected Species Report: Badgers - reference 10408.03.001.
- Tree Constraints Plans – reference D10408.01.001-029.
- Tree Survey Datasheets – reference X10408.01.001.
- Tree Works Plan – Coleshill Road Crossing – reference D10408.01.100.
- Technical Note: Arboriculture – reference 10408.01001.
- Archaeology Desk Based Assessment – reference 292850.2.
- Archaeology Technical Note – reference 293850.03
- Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report – reference 293851.04.
- Mine Entry Appraisal & Coal Mining Risk Assessment – reference ST21059.0001.
- Coal Mining Risk Assessment Technical Note.
- Local Geological Sites Technical Note.

- Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group Letter.

Supporting Plans

- EIA Plan (Sheet 1 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0601.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 2 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0602.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 3 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0603.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 4 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0604.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 5 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0605.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 6 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0606.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 7 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0607.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 8 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0608.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 9 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0609.
- EIA Plan (Sheet 10 of 10) – reference NUMBER A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-EN-0610.
- Oldbury to Meriden Route Overview with LPA Boundaries – reference number A8W14240-STW-XX-XX-D-C-0002.

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, as local planning authority, have considered all the material submitted with your request in relation to the element with Solihull Metropolitan Borough, and have screened the proposal in accordance with the relevant criteria and thresholds set out in the Regulations and related guidance.

As set out in the Assessment at Appendix 1, the development is Schedule 2 development as defined within the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended), but it is unlikely to have significant environmental impacts.

It is therefore not EIA development and an Environmental Impact Assessment would therefore not be required.

Yours sincerely

L.E. Osborne

Lawrence Osborne

Team Leader – Major Projects Delivery
Economy and Infrastructure Directorate

Appendix 1 - Assessment

ASSESSMENT

This request is submitted under Regulation 5 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("the EIA Regulations") for a screening opinion as to whether an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) would be required.

The proposed development the subject of the screening opinion is for a 16.6km below ground water pipeline from the Oldbury Distribution Service Reservoir to the Meriden Distribution Service Reservoir.

Schedule 1

The proposals do not fall under Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations where the submission of an EIA is a mandatory requirement.

Schedule 2

The proposed development falls within Part 10 (I) of Schedule 2 'installation of long distance aqueducts' as the area of the works exceeds 1 hectare. It is therefore necessary to consider whether the development is likely to have any significant environmental effects.

Schedule 3

The screening opinion request is supported by and EIA Screening Request dated July 2025 which, amongst other things, provides an assessment of the proposed development against the provisions of Schedule 3 of the Regulations. Based upon the information submitted and having regard to the characteristics of development, location of development and types and characteristics of the potential impact; Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council, as Local Planning Authority, has determined that the environmental impacts are unlikely to be significant or would give rise to any effects of an unusually complex nature as to constitute 'EIA development' as defined in the Regulations. Accordingly, an EIA would therefore not be required.