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Sent: 21 November 2025 15:01:13 UTC+00:00
To: "Sullivan Archer" <Sullivan.Archer@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk>
Cc: "Planning Folder New" <PlanningFolderNew@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk>
Subject: 25/00960/EAS | Request for a screening opinion for the installation of a 9.4km below-ground water pipeline Hallgate to Elm Farm | North Of Roecliffe Road Hallgates To Elm Farm
Categories: Yasmin

Dear Sullivan,

25/00960/EAS | Request for a screening opinion for the installation of a 9.4km below-ground water pipeline Hallgate to Elm Farm | North Of Roecliffe Road Hallgates To Elm Farm

Thank you for your consultation on the above Screening Opinion, please accept my apologies for not being able to respond sooner. We would recommend that the historic environment should be taken into consideration as part of the screening process.

The submitted desk-based assessment (Wessex Archaeology DBA Ref.: 294341.02), as informed by the results of the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER), has identified several areas across the Hinckley & Bosworth section of the proposed route where there is a known archaeological potential for significant Iron Age and Romano-British buried remains to be present. Given that much of this landscape has not been subject to previous archaeological investigation, the potential for remains within the remainder of the route cannot currently be confidently anticipated. The proposed route generally passes through agricultural fields, occasionally crossing roads and hedgerows, as such the majority of the route does not appear to have undergone significant previous ground disturbance and any buried archaeological remains that are present are likely to be relatively well-preserved and close to the ground surface. We would therefore recommend that there is a potential for significant buried archaeological remains to be present within the application area and this should be considered further as part of the screening process.

The DBA states that no detailed designs were available at the time of writing, noting that the methodology is anticipated to comprise a cut/fill method and include the stripping of a working easement in addition to the excavation of a trench for the pipeline (1.3.1). The submitted EIA Analysis and Screening Proforma notes that the pipeline route itself will have an internal diameter of 1m and will be implemented via a 1.8m wide and 2.5m deep open-cut excavation technique. The document also notes that the proposals will include a working area of 40m in width and we would anticipate further impacts to be introduced through construction-related activities such as storage/laydown areas, compounds and directional drilling entry/exit points. We would therefore welcome any further information the applicant can provide that could further detail the specific impacts proposed by the scheme.

As present we do not have a good understanding of the impact of the proposals on the archaeological resource, we would therefore recommend that the applicant undertakes further evaluation by appropriate techniques including geophysical survey and trial trenching, to identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance, and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development. Further design, civil engineering or archaeological work may then be necessary to achieve this. This information should be submitted to the planning authority before any decision on the

planning application is taken, so that an informed decision can be made, and the application refused or modified in the light of the results as appropriate. Without the information that such an Assessment would provide, it would be difficult in our view for the planning authority to assess the archaeological impact of the proposals.

Please do feel free to get in touch if you have any further queries.

Kind Regards,

William

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