

Date: 17th June 2008
Our ref:
Your ref: 08/00954/COMIND



Mr Gary Lugg
Planning & Trading Standards
West Berkshire District Council
Council Offices
Market Street
Newbury
Berkshire
RG14 5LD



Government Office
Room 107
Coley Park
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 6DT

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Dear Mr Lugg

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT.

PROPOSAL: New conventional manufacturing rationalisation facility, plus associated landscaping including sustainable drainage features. Disabled car parking, plus 20 cycle parking spaces, plus associated construction related infrastructure.

SITE: Atomic Weapons Establishment, Burghfield, Reading, Berks.

Thank you for your letter dated 27th May 2008 requesting Natural England's comments on the above proposal.

It is Natural England's advice that the proposed plans are not near any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). We therefore have no objection to the proposal going ahead.

Should the site be close to a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC), we recommend that you seek the views of an ecologist/Local Wildlife Trust prior to determining this application to ensure that the proposals accord with the SINC-related policies in the County Structure Plan and the Local Plan.

We do not have any records of protected species occurring on the land, this does not mean that there are none present, merely that we do not know of them, and any developer should be aware that the presence of bats, badgers, Great Crested newts, dormice, Natterjack Toads, Sand Lizards, Smooth Snakes and water voles or any other protected species, if discovered, would have to be taken into account during the planning process.

We agree with your comments on ecology.

Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Lyn Williams'.

Mrs Lyn Williams

Western Area Government Team, South East Region

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