

Consultation Response from: KC Environmental Health (Pollution & Noise Control)
2023/91812 - railway line and associated land between, Huddersfield and Westtown (Dewsbury), within the Order Limits of The Network Rail (Huddersfield to Westtown (Dewsbury), Improvements Order 2022
Discharge of conditions 5, 6, 7, 10, 12 and 16 of the Deemed Planning Permission granted by the Department for Transport in relation to The Network Rail (Huddersfield to Westtown (Dewsbury) Improvements Order 2022, Stage 4 of the Development
Date Responded:
9th January 2023
Responding Officer:
NH
Responding Ref:
WK/202336482
Condition 10 – Contaminated Land

To satisfy the relevant requirements of Condition 10 parts (b) in relation to Stage 4 of the development the applicant has provided a document titled, 'Remediation Statement – Huddersfield Station' authored by Network Rail, dated October 2023 (ref: 151667-TSA-00-TRU-REP-W-EN-0012432). The report includes geotechnical information, which is outside the remit of Environmental Health, this consultation response therefore only relates to the land contamination aspects of the report.

The document acknowledges that remediation is necessary for Huddersfield Station. This includes but is not limited to gas mitigation measures and the validation of soils for re-use. The report proposes probing and grouting works prior to construction to reduce the likelihood of mine gas ingress. Nonetheless, ground gas protection measures are proposed for this part of the development. Specifically, Network Rail have classified the lift motor rooms as Type C structures and subway extension and lift pits as Type D buildings following BS8485:2015+A1:2019. The report then proposes a combination of either water proofing, a gas resistant membrane and/or ventilation measures to provide the necessary protection in these areas of the station.

We understand that an attenuation water tank is to be constructed and the risk from gas accumulation in the tank has been identified. In Section 4.3.7 of the report, Network Rail explain that they consider it unlikely to be entered except for maintenance purposes. They also state the tank and associated pipework are unlikely to be airtight, limiting the likelihood of accumulation. However, the report then reads:

'The risk of gas accumulation posed to the attenuation tank and drainage system should be considered during design and has therefore not been considered when establishing specific gas protection measures requirements'

Details in relation to the testing of site won and imported materials are provided in Section 4.5 of the report. Whilst it is not anticipated that excavated material will be reused within the site, Network Rail state that all imported materials will meet the Schemes earthworks specification. Verification proposals for all remedial works are given in Section 5 of the report.

Comments

Having read the document, we request clarification on the proposals for gas protection measures for the attenuation tank and associated drainage pipework proposals as the document appears contradictory. Environmental Health intend to discuss this further in the monthly working group meetings with Network Rail.

Recommendations

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We acknowledge the submission of the document titled, 'Remediation Statement – Huddersfield Station' authored by Network Rail, dated October 2023 (ref: 151667-TSA-00-TRU-REP-W-EN-0012432). However, we request clarification in relation to the proposals. Therefore, we recommend that Condition 10b remains until further notice.