



Liz Chippendale
Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council
Development Management
PO Box B93
Huddersfield
West Yorkshire
HD1 2JR

Our ref: RA/2025/148651/01-L01
Your ref: 2025/92010

Date: 28 August 2025

Dear Liz

DISCHARGE OF CONDITION 5 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 5 OF THE DEVELOPMENT RAILWAY LINE AND ASSOCIATED LAND BETWEEN HUDDERSFIELD AND WESTTOWN (DEWSBURY), WITHIN THE ORDER LIMITS OF THE NETWORK RAIL (HUDDERSFIELD TO WESTTOWN (DEWSBURY))

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on the above application that we received by email on 07 August 2025.

Document/s reviewed:

- Condition 5b(x): Environmental Design Plan (Land Contamination and Hydrogeology) – Stage 5 Appendix B - Piling Risk Assessment (OLE) Addendum – OLE foundations in Mirfield area (Document reference: 151667-TSA-00-TRU-REP-W-EN-001806, dated July 2025).

We also recognise that a formal response was previously provided as part of a formal application to Discharge other aspects of Condition 5, along with Conditions 6, 10 and 13 (LPA ref: 2023/44/92357/W and Env Agency ref: RA/2024/147365/02). For clarity, this formal reply refers to ONLY Condition 5 (b(x)).

Environment Agency
Lateral 8 City Walk, LEEDS, LS11 9AT.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
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Environment Agency position

We are satisfied that Planning Condition 5b(x) can be discharged, subject to the details provided in the above document and the information sources referenced therein, plus the assumptions we highlight in our below reply.

Advice to the LPA - Groundwater

Regarding groundwater levels, we note the following:

"4.6.1 Groundwater strikes were recorded during the ground investigation at 0.90m bgl in BH4792, 0.80m bgl in BH4882A and 4.50m bgl in BH4378, no other groundwater strikes were recorded. Hence, it is likely that the proposed piling works on-site might interact with highly localised water perched within the embankment fill.

4.6.2 Groundwater levels were recorded between 4.02 m bgl to 5.78 m bgl, at locations BH4783, BH4792 and BH5864."

Reviewing the documents, we understand the above to mean the encountered groundwater is localised perched groundwater and not part of the water table.

Advice to the LPA – Piling Methodology

Regarding the piling methodology, we note:

"5.1.1 Piling activity to support the OLE masts is currently proposed to include six concrete auger piles (1000 mm diameter) to a maximum depth of 4.10 m bgl and ten CHS piles (610 mm diameter) to a maximum depth of 4.50 m bgl."

"6.1.1 The piling risk assessment has been completed in general accordance with the methodology and framework set out in the CLAIRE March 2025."

"7.2.3 Should the proposed depths or techniques of piling be changed then this assessment will be reviewed."

We have reviewed "Table 6-1: Summary of pollution / risk scenarios for piling activities under current site condition" and are broadly satisfied with the mitigation measures as described.

Advice to the LPA – Geology

Finally, regarding geology, we note:

"4.2.6 Superficial deposits were recorded beneath the site at two locations. Gravel was encountered at BH4372 (from 7.00 – 7.45 m bgl). In BH4038 silt, sand and clay layers were recorded from 3.70 to 7.00 m bgl, which might be Made Ground (as other boreholes through the embankment and on the former railway sidings to the south did not record natural deposits at such a shallow depth)."

We also note in the conceptual model provided on "Figure 4-2- Geological cross section (with CHS pile length/locations)" that the pile installation appears to be restricted to the Ballast Made Ground.

Please let me know if you need any clarification before you determine the application.

Environment Agency
Lateral 8 City Walk, LEEDS, LS11 9AT.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..

Yours sincerely

Mr. Neil Wallace
Planning Specialist

Direct e-mail: Neil.Wallace@environment-agency.gov.uk

Direct team email: sp-yorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk

Environment Agency
Lateral 8 City Walk, LEEDS, LS11 9AT.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency
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