

Date: 14 March 2014
Our ref: 113664
Your ref: 14/00042/DISC



Linda Griffiths
Cherwell District Council

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Ms Griffiths

**Planning consultation: Partial discharge of condition 16 of TWA/10/APP/01
Location: Oxford To Bicester Rail Link, Buckingham Road, Bicester**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 20 February 2014.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Advice under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Natural England has reviewed the document for the partial discharge of condition 16 of the above planning permission, which requires a method statement for works which are close to Wendlebury Meads and Mansmoor Closes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The measures in the document are broadly satisfactory, however, before the condition can be discharged the following issues need to be addressed:

- It is not clear from the document submitted where any new drains planned to flow through the storage area or along the haulage road (or temporary drains that they install) will flow. It is important that any drainage avoids flowing into the SSSI. This needs to be made clear in the document. A drainage map to show where the drains will flow would also be appreciated.
- It is likely that the contractors working on site will encounter snakes. A method statement for this eventuality needs to be added to the section on protected species.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Olivia Euesden on 0300 060 4924. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

Olivia Euesden
Land Use Operations, Winchester