

25 January 2012

Our Reference – 28245 GR004L
Your Reference – CB/11/04077

Lisa Newlands
Principal Planning Officer
Central Bedfordshire Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands
Stefford
Bedfordshire
SG17 5TQ

Dear Lisa Newlands

CORRESPONDENCE ON APPLICATION CB/11/04077

With regard to your recent correspondence with my colleague Emma Marsden on the above planning application, please find below AMEC's responses to the issues raised.

1. Proposed turbine installation date of March 2012

The proposed date for turbine installation was March 2012 and, whilst this deadline may no longer be met, it is still the applicant's intention to commence works as soon as they practically can. This date was chosen by the applicant due to the availability of the Feed in Tariff at set rates up to this point, these rates relate to operational income as opposed to providing funding for construction. After this date the rates involved are expected to drop.

Whilst reduced rates will not make the project unfeasible from a financial perspective it will mean that different financial considerations need to be taken into account in determining the turbine model and size to be installed, hence the importance of having a flexible permission granting a turbine 'up to' 120.5m in height.

The applicant is aware that there are likely to be conditions to discharge on any planning permission granted, including the need to agree the access route with Bedfordshire Highways through the preparation of a Construction Traffic Management Plan, and that construction cannot start until all the relevant conditions have been satisfied. It should also be noted that in respect of discharging conditions for the existing planning permission (CB/10/01359) the applicant is currently preparing a Construction Traffic Management Plan.

2. Candidate Turbine

The applicant has not yet reached a final decision on the candidate turbine to be installed. Procurement of a turbine is not likely to start in earnest until planning permission is granted. AMEC and the applicant are aware that larger turbines do have long procurement timescales, but this is not the case for all turbine models, and this will be a factor in

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determining the turbine model and size to be installed.

3. Sub-station

At the time of the original application negotiations with the Distribution Network Operator had only just commenced and the requirement for a sub-station had not been clarified. Our approach would have been to submit a separate application for any sub-station building if and when this was found to be required. Due to the timing of the revised application we now know a sub-station will be required by the Distribution Network Operator and have therefore included it with the application.

The EfW plant will not be able to use this sub-station as it will require a grid connection of a substantially greater scale than that of the turbine.

4. Cranfield Airfield

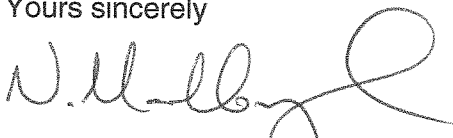
We understand that Cranfield Airfield's objections to a turbine 'up to' 120.5m in height are based on a radar system that they are intending to install at the airfield at some point in the future. However, it is our understanding that their proposals are not well advanced. It is considered that development cannot be precluded by potential future proposals where there is little certainty over what type of radar may be developed, if this will actually happen and, if it does, when and where this might occur. We believe that due to the timings involved there objection is unreasonable and it should be the Airfield's responsibility to account for any turbine in their future development of a radar system.

Furthermore since the existing permission will still allow for the 120.5m turbine to be constructed, allowing a turbine 'up to' 120.5m in height to be installed will not have any greater impact on their proposed radar system.

With regard to their comments on the existing planning permission (CB/10/01359) we understand from the Committee Report on your website that they were consulted but had not responded at the time of the recommendation. It therefore appears that they were notified of the original application and it is their responsibility to respond within the appropriate timescale. In addition, the Airfield were certainly aware of the proposals as AMEC (then Entec) undertook pre-application consultations with them and this is detailed in our Planning Statement.

I trust this letter contains sufficient information for your requirements, but if you do need anything further please get in touch with either myself or Emma Marsden.

Yours sincerely



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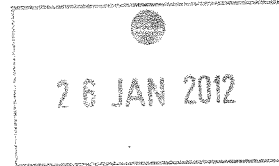
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