



Tier Environmental Ltd

Chadwick House, Warrington Road,
Birchwood, Warrington WA3 6AE
01925 818388

TE1163-TE-00-XX-GE-LT-013-V01

FAO Ms Blythin

Environment Agency
Environment Agency Head Office,
Horizon House,
Bristol,
BS1 5AH

24 January 2024

**TIER RESPONSE TO ENVIRONMENT AGENCY RESPONSE DATED 20th DECEMBER 2023 –
23/01949/REM**

Dear India,

Tier Environmental has produced this letter as a response to the correspondence received from the Environment Agency dated 20th December 2023 and the aim is to support planning application No. 23/01949/REM. The comments from the Environment Agency have been reproduced below for ease.

The works and remediation proposals to reduce infiltration at the site in order to reduce the risk appear to be a pragmatic approach to the development, and we have no issues with this so long as the full-time supervision from a suitably qualified environmental scientist is in place as per the proposals. Tier can confirm that full time supervision from a suitably qualified environmental scientist will take place throughout the earthworks.

The Environment Agency do not comment on geotechnical concerns; however it should be noted that the spoil when deposited was a sludge and although it has drained now to a more solid consistency if this material was to become waterlogged again there are significant geotechnical risks involved around slope stability. The remedial actions will protect against this, and we have no issues with the actions but the advice of a specialist geotechnical engineer should be sought for assurance on this potential issue. A slope stability assessment for this slope has been undertaken.

We have concerns around the limits proposed for action, 2 orders of magnitude above the EQS is wholly unacceptable threshold for action, we would expect to be informed at the earliest opportunity. We would also expect visible impact at the brook to be a significant driver of action. Whilst iron levels are not expected to cause significant issues from the data, it is apparent that Iron levels are a problem in this area hence the name of Fox's bank brook

due to ochre staining in the area. Whilst it is not expected to be an issue presently it should be included as a contingency measure, in any case manganese levels can discolour freshwater rivers at levels close to the levels encountered. Tier can confirm that as part of the watching brief the brook will be assessed daily for any visual sign of ochre or sediment impacts.

We would suggest that the threshold trigger should be a single order of magnitude and rising trend, over the short duration of the works, or any visual evidence of impact to the brook. This would give us an early opportunity to be involved in the response. We would expect to be informed at this stage for further action to be agreed. Tier agrees that a single order of magnitude above the SSAC derived for the site, alongside any visual evidence of impact to the brook, are acceptable trigger levels. If these levels are exceeded, the measures described in previous correspondence will be implemented.

For and on behalf of

TIER ENVIRONMENTAL LTD

Alex Preston

Principal Geo-Environmental Engineer

Tier Environmental Ltd