

Job No. 39055
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FaberMaunsell - Edin-Ravelston
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FAO Dr Brian Cuthbert

Our Ref: JD/ND/PrePlan/Renfrew
Your Ref:

If telephoning ask for:
June Dawson

13 July 2005

Dear Sir

GLASGOW AIRPORT RAIL LINK: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Thank you for your letter received on 20 June 2005 inviting comments on the above document.

The content of the document has been briefly reviewed and would appear to cover the detail requested from the scoping exercise. The use of PPG notes in the preparation of the Code of Construction Practice and Environmental Management System are welcomed and, provided this method of working is followed by site staff, should help to reduce the risks of pollution.

I would, however, suggest that the following points require further attention.

The project involves a significant number of piling operations which have the potential to adversely affect both shallow and deep groundwater. The section on Geology Soils & Contamination considers this matter but appears to indicate that the associated adverse risks are low as the quality of groundwater is likely to be poor due to previous industrial activity in the area. It is considered that this argument should be backed by monitoring results which establish the quality of the groundwaters concerned. Best practice should be adhered to during any piling activity to ensure that no preferential groundwater flow paths are created which could allow migration of contaminants via the groundwater pathway.

The report deals with various aspects of land contamination and promotes consultation with SEPA but it should be noted that the Local Authority is the lead regulator on land contamination issues and, as such, initial contact should be made through them, especially as there may be receptors other than controlled waters e.g. site workers and the general public.

While it is understood that work on developing the fuel tank farm is in its early stages, there are a number of points which require further detail. For example, the report indicates that the site is to have a 2m high bund wall but does not indicate what volume of liquid will be retained. The bund should provide 25% of the total volume stored or 110% of the largest tank, whichever is greater (see SEPA PPG Note 2). If the wall referred to is a boundary wall, the report should demonstrate that access to and from the area will not compromise its effectiveness for containment. In addition, it should be demonstrated that surface water collecting within the bunded area does not compromise the effectiveness of the bund. Given the sensitivity of the adjacent Paisley Moss Local Nature Reserve, it is considered that the report should also investigate the possibility of obtaining a sewer connection for surface water from this area.

Cont'd/...



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Again, with regard to the adjacent Local Nature Reserve, the report does not appear to establish if the construction fuel tank farm will affect the base water supply to the moss and this matter should be explored further.

It should be noted that these comments are in relation to the draft environmental statement only. I trust they are of some assistance.

Yours faithfully

June Dawson

June Dawson
Senior Planning Liaison Officer