

18 April 2024

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Raymond Chun Hei Chan
Planning Officer
Place Directorate
North Somerset Council

Our ref PP-12989046

Dear Ray,

MetroWest Phase 1b

Application to discharge Requirement 15 of the Portishead Branch Line (MetroWest Phase 1) Order 2022 for Stages 1A, 1B, 4 and 6

Arup is writing on behalf of VolkerFitzpatrick Ltd (VFL) to request the discharge of Requirement 15 for Stages 1A, 1B, 4 and 6, pertaining to Work Nos. 7D, 10A, 12A, 17, 20B and 25 of the Portishead Branch Line (MetroWest Phase 1) Order 2022 ('the DCO').

Requirement 15 must be discharged in accordance with Schedule 2 of the DCO prior to the commencement of a stage of the works. Further information is provided below.

Background

The MetroWest Phase 1b project aims to reconnect Bristol and Portishead by rail, providing the capability to introduce an hourly or hourly plus passenger service from Bristol Temple Meads to Pill and Portishead. Development Consent was granted for the above works by the Department for Transport on 14th November 2022 following consideration by the Secretary of State for Transport and the Planning Inspectorate.

The commission includes the discharge of Requirements related to the implementation of the DCO.

Legislative Framework

The DCO is governed by primary legislation under the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and is therefore considered and determined separately from the traditional planning applications submitted under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended).

The DCO includes an extensive number of legal and legislative provisions which enables a developer to implement the project. The authorised development is outlined at Schedule 1 of the DCO.

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Schedule 2 of the DCO includes a number of Requirements. Some of these require further information to be submitted for approval to the relevant authority (principally the relevant planning authority or the relevant highway authority), before the authorised development can commence, this includes Requirement 15.

Requirement 15

The wording for Requirement 15 is set out in full below.

“External lighting and control of artificial light emissions during construction

15.—(1) A stage of the works (or such part of that stage as may be agreed with the relevant planning authority) must not commence until written details of any temporary external lighting to be installed in connection with the construction of that stage, including measures to prevent light spillage, have been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority; and any approved means of lighting must be installed in accordance with the approved details and retained for the duration of the construction period.

(2) Any means of construction lighting approved under sub-paragraph (1) must be removed on completion of the relevant stage.”

Relevant stages of the authorised development

The wording for Stages 1A, 1B, 4 and 6 is set out in full below.

“Stage 1A comprises Work Nos. 7D, 8, 10, 10A, 12A, 13A, 15, 16, 16A, 17 and 17A being haul roads south of Work No. 1, cycle path diversions and compounds at Sheepway together with any use of neighbouring Order land as a temporary compound, a temporary construction compound north of the A369 at Portbury; construction haul roads; a permanent access from A369 at Portbury, temporary vehicle turning circle east of The Drove and north of the A369 Portbury Hundred, a temporary construction compound under the M5 Special Road Avonmouth Bridge; a temporary construction compound and haul road at Lodway.

Stage 1B comprises Work Nos. 20, 20B, 23 and 24A and being demolition of garages at Avon Road, Pill, temporary diversion of bridleway to the west of Avon Road, Pill, temporary compound beneath Pill Viaduct, and a temporary construction compound at Chapel Pill Lane, Ham Green together with any use of neighbouring Order land as a temporary compound.

Stage 4 comprises Work Nos. 1B, 1C, 19, 20A, 21, 21A and 22 being works to the existing railway and to construct a railway between Portbury Junction and Pill Junction, installation of signalling equipment on the Bristol Port Company’s railway, works to replace an underbridge to the north of Avon Road, Pill; Pill Station; car park at Pill Station and permanent maintenance compound and road rail access point;

Stage 6 comprises Work No. 25 being the reconstruction of Quarry Bridge No. 2 and the associated temporary compound in the Avon Gorge, together with the minor works to the railway between Pill Tunnel and Clifton Overbridge.”

Relevant Work Nos.

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The wording for Work Nos. 7D, 10A, 12A, 17, 20B and 25 is set out in full below.

“Work No. 7D – temporary construction compound, of 2,876 square metres in area, shown on sheet 1 of the works plans, to the south of Tansy Lane, Portishead and to the north of Work No. 1;

Work No. 10A – temporary construction compound of 2,179 square metres in area shown on sheet 2 of the works plans, to the north-west of the highway of Sheepway opposite Shipway Gate Farm, Portbury;

Work No. 12A – temporary construction compound of 113,467 square metres in area, shown on sheets 2, 2B and 3 of the works plans, to the north of the A369 classified road known as Portbury Hundred and to the south of the disused Portishead Branch Line railway;

Work No. 17 – temporary construction compound of 89,293 square metres in area shown on sheets 5 and 6 of the works plans, at Lodway Farm, Pill, together with access to the highway of the Breaches, Easton in Gordano;

Work No. 20B – demolition of existing garages and temporary construction compound of 1,990 square metres in area, as shown on sheet 6 of the works plans, at Avon Road, Pill;

Work No. 25 – reconstruction of accommodation bridge known as Quarry Bridge No. 2, temporary construction compound and temporary ramp for construction access to the Parson Street to Royal Portbury Dock railway, shown on sheet 12 of the works plans.”

Schedule 1 Part 1 other authorised works

The wording for other authorised works part (c) is set out in full below.

“embankments, aprons, abutments, shafts, foundations, retaining walls and structures, drainage, wing walls, fences, acoustic fences, catch fences, paths, access steps and culverts;”

This application

This application has been submitted for approval to North Somerset Council as the relevant planning authority for the authorised development.

The application has been submitted via the Planning Portal (PP-12989046) and the required planning application fee of £215 (including the service charge) has been paid.

This discharge of Requirements application is supported with the following plans and technical documents:

Document / Plan Title	Document / Plan Number	Revision	Work No.
TEMPORARY COMPOUND THE PORTBURY HUNDRED	140569-VLF-WST-POD-DRG-ESE-001001	P01	12A
TEMPORARY COMPOUND LODWAY FARM	140569-VLF-WST-POD-DRG-ESE-001002	P01	17
TEMPORARY COMPOUND AVON ROAD UNDERBRIDGE	140569-VLF-WST-POD-DRG-ESE-001003	P01	20B
TEMPORARY COMPOUND MONMOUTH ROAD	140569-VLF-WST-POD-DRG-ESE-001004	P01	N/A – this is an existing compound

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Document / Plan Title	Document / Plan Number	Revision	Work No.
TEMPORARY COMPOUND PORTISHEAD PHASE 1	140569-VLF-WST-POD-DRG-ESE-001006	P01	7D
TEMPORARY COMPOUND QUARRY UNDERBRIDGE NO.2	140569-VLF-WST-POD-DRG-ESE-001008	P01	25
TEMPORARY COMPOUND SHEEPWAY	140569-VLF-WST-POD-DRG-ESE-001009	P01	10A
TEMPORARY COMPOUND AVON ROAD PRE-BLOCKADE	140569-VLF-WST-POD-DRG-ESE-001010	P01	20B
Temporary Lighting pursuant to Requirement 15 for Stages 1A, 1B, 4, and 6	N/A	P01	N/A

I trust you have all the necessary information to validate and consider this application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries or require any further information.

Yours sincerely

Nick Doyle
Principal Planner

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