

RE: 25/1079



Harris, Matthew (Ecology Officer)

To  Ostler, Marnie (Planning Officer)

Retention Policy 7 Year Delete (7 years)

Expires 04/01/2033



12:31

Hello Marnie, my only concerns with this application would be the impacts upon the Gwent Levels SSSI, and upon the species which are features of the nearby Severn Estuary SAC/SPA/Ramsar site.

In terms of the SSSI, I support the comments made by NRW in their response of 5th January, and the safeguards they propose in terms of contamination of the reens should be secured by condition.

The site is far enough away from the Severn Estuary for it to be unlikely for there to be any significant impact in terms of habitat loss, direct disturbance or pollution. The only conceivable impact would be upon mobile features of the Severn Estuary SPA, specifically wetland birds, which may use the fields adjacent to the proposed development site as functionally-linked habitat.

In terms of the proposed use of the site, the ongoing use would not change so there would be no additional disturbance caused by operation of the facility, above and beyond what is already taking place. For the construction, this takes the form of installation of 3.3m high pre-cast concrete panels, so any disturbance would be minor, temporary and short-term in nature. In addition, this construction should be seen in the context of the existing operational landfill project (99/0621) which separates this site from the Estuary foreshore.

Therefore I am satisfied that the proposed development would be unlikely to have a significant effect upon the features of the Severn Estuary, so an Appropriate Assessment is not needed.

Matt