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Chemicals, Explosives
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Nicholas Harney

Head of Unit and Chief Inspector of
Explosives
David Brown

Date: 30/01/2026

Reference: XI/1811/116/8E

Dear Sir/Madam,

REQUESTS FOR ADVICE IN RESPECT OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF HSE LICENSED EXPLOSIVES SITE

PLANNING REF: 25/0983

PROPOSAL: Change of use of existing industrial building (Use Class B2) to data centre (Use Class B8) including recladding of external elevations, installation of associated plant and equipment, and ancillary works

LOCATION: Liberty Steel, Corporation Road, Newport, NP19 4XE

Thank you for your email of 21/01/2026 regarding the above planning application.

Given the nature and the location of this type of development HSE would not expect there to be a significant impact on the outcomes of the original casualty survey.

As the proposed development falls outside of SD2, but within SD3, of the nearby licensed explosive port. Provided that the proposed changes to the existing development do not constitute as "Vulnerable" HSE has no comment to make.

"Vulnerable building" means a building or structure of vulnerable construction, that is to say:

- (a) building of more than three storeys above ground or 12m in height constructed with continuous non-load bearing curtain walling with individual glazed or frangible panels larger than 1.5m² and extending over more than 50% or 120m² of the surface of any elevation;
- (b) a building of more than three storeys above ground or 12m in height with solid walls and individual glass panes or frangible panels larger than 1.5m² and extending over at least 50% of any elevation;
- (c) a building of more than 400m² plan area with continuous or individual glazing panes larger than 1.5m² extending over at least 50% or 120m² of the plan area; or
- (d) any other structure that, in consequence of an event such as an explosion, may be susceptible to disproportionate damage such as progressive collapse.

This advice is provided in relation to the proximity of the development to an HSE licensed explosives site. If the development is also in the proximity of any other major hazards site or pipelines then advice should be sought through HSE's WebApp in the first instance - <https://pa.hsl.gov.uk/> If you require further advice on this matter, please e-mail explosives.planning@hse.gov.uk

Yours faithfully
pp. Agata Janicka

Nicholas Harney

For and on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive