

Newport Council
Civic Centre
Newport
South Wales
NP20 4UR

Chemicals, Explosives, Microbiological
Hazards Division – Explosives
Inspectorate

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Date: 28 July 2025

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Head of Explosives – Dr David Brown

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/>

Reference: XI/1811/116/8E

Dear Ms Joanne Davidson

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

PLANNING REF: 25/0407

**PROPOSAL: REMOVAL OF STORED PULVERISED FUEL ASH (PFA) AND THE INSTALLATION OF A
NEW BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEM (BESS) WITH ALL ASSOCIATED
DRAINAGE, INFRASTRUCTURE, ENGINEERING AND ASSOCIATED UTILITIES
CONNECTIONS**

**LOCATION: LAND AT USKMOUTH POWER STATION WEST NASH ROAD NASH NEWPORT
NP18 2BZ**

Thank you for your email of 4 July 2025 regarding the above planning application. From the information provided it appears that the proposed development falls within the SD3 distance of the nearby licensed explosives site, but outside SD2 distance. HSE therefore has no comment to make on the planning application provided that the development is not a vulnerable building.

“Vulnerable building” means a building or structure of vulnerable construction, that is to say—

(a) 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 S Rance

Mr Nicholas Harney
Regulatory Compliance Officer
Chemical, Explosive and Microbiological Hazards Division (CEMHD 7)