



Raymond Cole
Wiltshire Council
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

By email only to: Raymond.Cole@Wiltshire.gov.uk

26 January 2022

Dear Raymond,

APPLICATION NO: PL/2021/11681

DESCRIPTION: Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of 18/12147/VAR to allow for design changes.

LOCATION: Charlton Park Farm, Charlton Park Estate, Near Quobwell Farm, Malmesbury, SN16 OHT

Thank you for consulting the Cotswolds Conservation Board ('the Board') on this proposed development, which would be located within the setting of the Cotswolds National Landscape.¹

In reaching its planning decision, the local planning authority (LPA) has a statutory duty to have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape.² The Board recommends that, in fulfilling this 'duty of regard', the LPA should: (i) ensure that planning decisions are consistent with relevant national and local planning policy and guidance; and (ii) take into account the following Board publications:

- Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2018-2023 ([link](#));
- Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment ([link](#)) particularly, in this instance, with regards to Landscape Character Types (LCT) 11 Dip-Slope Lowland and 14 Cornbrash Lowlands, both of which are located within 1km of the site;
- Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines ([link](#)) particularly, in this instance, with regards to LCT 11 ([link](#)), including Section 11.10 and LCT 14 ([link](#)), including Section 14.7;
- Cotswolds AONB Local Distinctiveness and Landscape Change ([link](#)); and
- Cotswolds Conservation Board Position Statements ([link](#)) in particular Development in the Setting of the AONB ([link](#)).

The Board notes that this application seeks approval for changes to the approved site layout and there is no amendment proposed to the amount or source of feedstocks nor how these are transported to and from the site.

The site is located in the setting of the National Landscape, the boundary of which is located c.800m to the west. Sections 11.10 and 14.7 of the Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines referred to above both identify the introduction of visually intrusive industrial features to the open and expansive landscape as a potential adverse landscape implication of proposals such as this.

Having reviewed the information submitted in support of this application, including the applicant's Landscape and Visual chapter in their Environmental Statement Addendum, the Board considers that the proposed design changes would be unlikely to significantly increase any adverse visual impact of the permitted scheme when viewed from the AONB. The larger and taller structures, in particular the

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The Cotswolds National Landscape is a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), managed and looked after by the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Chairman:
Brendan McCarthy
Vice Chair:
Rebecca Charley

digester tanks, remain in the same location and the repositioned gas flare would be viewed against the backdrop of the taller and wider digester tanks. The smaller equipment changes would not be visible from the AONB.

Bearing in mind the above, the Board does not object to this application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this response further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Joyce', with a small dot at the end.

Simon Joyce

Planning Officer

simon.joyce@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk | 07808 391227

NOTES:

- 1) Cotswolds National Landscape is the new name for the Cotswolds Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The new name takes forward one of the proposals of the Government-commissioned 'Landscapes Review' to rename AONBs as 'National Landscapes'. This change reflects the national importance of AONBs and the fact that they are safeguarded, in the national interest, for nature, people, business and culture.
- 2) Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/section/85
- 3) The documents referred to in our response can be located on the Cotswolds National Landscape website under the following sections
 - a. Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2018-2023
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/management-plan
 - b. Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/lca
 - c. Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/lsg
 - d. Cotswolds AONB Local Distinctiveness and Landscape Change
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ldlc
 - e. Cotswolds Conservation Board Position Statements
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ps1
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ps2