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For the Attention of:

David Marno
Head of Development Management
Planning Services
Department for Resources and Regulation
3 Knowsley Place
Bury, BL9 0EJ

22 April 2026

Our Reference: STG-WGH-BRYLHA-035

Dear David,

Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme of Works in the Borough of Bury under Planning Permission 66947 - Application for the partial discharge of Condition 28 (Coal Mining Condition) for works at Woodgate Hill WTW Compound (Phase 1 and 2 only)

The Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP) is a regionally significant infrastructure programme which benefits from policy support and planning permission, and for which there is an established urgent need. United Utilities have appointed Cascade Infrastructure Ltd to fund, design, construct and maintain the HARP programme of works, and Cascade have in turn appointed STRABAG to carry out the design and construction.

HARP is a proposal to replace six existing underground tunnel sections of the 110km Haweswater Aqueduct. The aqueduct takes raw water from the Haweswater Reservoir along a 16km section to a water treatment works (WTW) near Kendal for treatment. From this WTW the aqueduct conveys treated water southward to a WTW in the borough of Bury. Along its length there are a number of water mains that branch off the aqueduct supplying treated water to customers in Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester.

A series of HARP works are proposed in the Bury Council authority area, including works



for a replacement section of aqueduct and associated temporary and permanent works and infrastructure.

Full planning permission (Council Ref: 66947) was granted in June 2023, subject to a series of planning conditions and s106 obligations.

Scope of this Application

This application is to partially discharge Condition 28 (Coal Mining Condition) of the above permission, in respect of Phases 1 and 2 at the Woodgate Hill WTW Compound only.

“Condition 28 – Coal Mining Condition

Development within each phase approved under Condition 3 above shall not be commenced until;

a) A scheme of targeted additional intrusive investigations (either in advance of the proposed works or during the mine stabilisation phase) has been agreed and carried out as required on site to establish the risks posed to the development by past coal mining activity.

b) any remediation works and/or mitigation measures to address land instability arising from coal mining legacy, as may be necessary, have been implemented on site in full in order to ensure that the site is safe and stable for the development proposed. The intrusive site investigations and remedial works shall be carried out in accordance with authoritative UK guidance. Reason. The scheme does not provide full details of the actual risk from coal mining, which is required to secure the satisfactory development of the site in relation to coal mining pursuant to National Planning Policy Framework Section 15 - Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

This application relates only to Phases 1 and 2, as set out in the recently submitted Phasing Plan under Condition 3, specifically:

Table 1 – Phases of development to which this application relates

Phase	Description of Works
Phase 1 - Enabling & Site Establishment Works Anticipated start of works Q3 2026	• Temporary haul roads and footpaths formation • Water Attenuation Lagoons formation • Setup of temporary mobile welfares • Setup of drainage and wastewater treatment system • Setup of temporary generators area (use until mains connection) • Setup of wastewater treatment plant • Partial site access haul road and footway construction works • Site entrance junction construction works • Topsoil removing • Temporary security setup • Erection of temporary fence line (e.g. Heras fence) • Concrete testing building



Phase	Description of Works
Phase 2 - Commencement of Substantive Excavations Works Anticipated start of works Q4 2026	• Site compounds re-profiling • Site access haul road and footpath construction works • Sheet piling earthworks for ground stabilization • Facilities foundation hardstanding construction • Lay in required utilities services (e.g. water, gas, telecom) • Site security system setup (e.g. fence line, turnstile gates) • Construction of footings and foundation slabs • Substation connection and commissioning • LV distributor and commissioning • Welfares facilities and site car parking construction • Site storage and workshops area formation • Crawler and mobile cranes setup • Setup of grout slurry batching plant • Setup of piling casing storage area • Setup of reinforcement cages storage area

All of the above works are site-based works contained within the Woodgate Hill WTW Compound red line boundary.

A further application will be submitted prior to Phase 3 of the proposed works (shaft, portal and tunnelling works).

Risk Assessment Summary

The proposed Haslingden and Walmersley Section of the HARP programme of works is located partially within Development High Risk Areas as defined by the Mining Remediation Authority (formerly the Coal Authority). A Mining Risk Assessment¹ accompanied the planning application to Bury Metropolitan Borough Council which demonstrated that the coal mining hazards and risk had been robustly considered and that appropriate mitigation had either been undertaken at the routeing stage or would be implemented during later stages of the project and construction.

The Risk Assessment reviewed in detail the Haslingden and Walmersley Section of the HARP programme of works. The review of the Woodgate Hill WTW Compound (shaft and enabling works) itself concluded that there are hazards associated with potentially unrecorded workings at the site.

Proposed Approach for Phases 1 and 2

It is not proposed to undertake any additional intrusive investigations or remediation works or mitigation measures for Phases 1 and 2 of the works. These works do not involve deep excavations or tunnelling and therefore it is not considered necessary to undertake additional investigations at this stage.

Phases 1 and 2 consist of earthworks to a cut depth of around 5m at the top of the hill on

¹ Final Mining Risk Assessment, Wardell Armstrong (April 2021) – (Document Number GM10903/004/V1.0/FINAL)



the access road into site. The main site compound in the immediate vicinity of the planned shaft construction itself is reasonably level, requiring localised cut/fill to a depth of no more than 1.5m. Onsite drainage works are expected to a depth of approximately 3m.

Phases 1 and 2 of these works will include excavation through superficial strata including topsoils, made ground and glacial tills, and based on geological data to date are unlikely to include excavation through bedrock strata including the Pennine Lower Coal Measures strata.

The risk of encounter or interaction with unrecorded mine workings during phase 1 and 2 are therefore considered very low.

However, a further application will be submitted prior to the commencement of Phase 3 of the proposed works, which relates to the shaft construction and tunnelling works. The depth of bedrock and the depth of worked or unworked coal will be confirmed via planned intrusive site investigation prior to the onset of these Phase 3 works. This later application will review the results of these intrusive investigations.

Summary

This application is to partially discharge Condition 28 (Coal Mining Condition) of the above permission, in respect of Phases 1 and 2 at the Woodgate Hill WTW Compound only. It has been developed and submitted in accordance with planning permission reference 66947.

We would be very grateful for a timely determination within the statutory decision-making timeframes, in order to assist in maintaining the programme for delivery of HARP.

I trust this is helpful. If you have any queries relating to this application, please don't hesitate to contact me on 07398 755525 or tim.snell@partner.strabag.com.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Snell".

Tim Snell

Town Planning Lead, Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme, STRABAG UK Limited

Cc.