

Date 1 June 2017  
Ourt ref:  
NRW Assent App 4 Radnor Hills CWT213112 NE advice 1 June 2017



By email

Natural England  
County Hall  
Spetchley Road  
Worcester  
WR5 2NP

Dear Saul

### **Radnor Hills Assent: Consultation**

Thank you for your email requesting further information in respect of the water quality targets set for the River Teme.

Explanation of the targets for SSSI rivers are found in the JNCC Common Standards Monitoring Guidance for Rivers <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-2232> (Version September 2016 updated from January 2014.)

Your assessment of the Radnor Hills application will need to provide information on how the condition of the SSSI, and its features, have been taken into account when reaching a decision. The Water Framework Directive legislation does not replace SSSI legislation but merely adds an additional level of protection to all water bodies and as such, is insufficient for ensuring that the notified features of the SSSI are protected. For this reason, more stringent targets are applied than those relating to the Water Framework Directive. As such it is necessary for you to show your consideration of the designation and that the proposal will not cause detriment to the SSSI (regardless of any other legislation). The CSM targets laid out in the guidance were widely consulted and agreed upon before publication, and, therefore, stand alone and require no specific agreement between agencies.

We look forward to receiving your analysis, taking into account the features of the SSSI and should you still wish to grant permission then you must give us a second notice explaining how, if at all, you have taken our advice into account. You must not grant permission before the end of 21 days from the date of such notice. We will then consider the further options available to us.

Again, we would like to reiterate that we have some serious concerns regarding this proposal and the potential impact it could have upon the River Teme SSSI.

Regards.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Buckingham".

Sue Buckingham  
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Mob: 07833 095 708  
Email: [sue.buckingham@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:sue.buckingham@naturalengland.org.uk)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Vicki Howden', written in a cursive style.

Vicki Howden

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