

TECHNICAL NOTE

JBA Project Code	2024s0332
Contract	Ravensfleet Pumping Station
Client	Cheetham Hill Construction Ltd
Day, Date and Time	Wednesday, 20th March 2024
Author	Sheena Peat
Reviewer / Sign-off	Sue Jones / Dave Sargent
Subject	EIA Screening Justification

1 Introduction

Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board (SGWMB) intends to improve the drainage of arable farmland in the Ravensfleet Catchment, near Scunthorpe, in West Lincolnshire.

The proposed improvement works are considered to be Permitted Development under Class C - development by drainage bodies of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015.

This Technical Note sets out the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening justification for the proposed improvement works under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations 1999 and associated 2017 amendment ('the EIA Regulations').

'EIA screening' is the procedure used to determine whether a proposed development project is likely to have significant effects on the environment and consequently whether an EIA in the format of an Environmental Statement is required.

This proposed scheme has been screened against Schedule 2 of the EIA (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations to confirm if the environmental effects are likely to be significant or not. Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations sets out the considerations to be made to determine whether the improvement works would have a significant effect on the environment including characteristics of improvement works, location of improvement works, and characteristics of the potential impact.

Relevant information is provided herein to determine a screening justification.

2 Background

The proposed improvement works at Ravensfleet Pumping Station intend to improve the standard of flood protection in the Ravensfleet Catchment. The works involve construction of a new fish and eel friendly electric land drainage pumping station whilst retaining the existing diesel pump house. The station will be constructed online directly adjacent to the existing diesel pump house.

2.1 Reason for the proposed works

The new station will act as Duty supplementing the existing capacity to provide an improved standard of flood protection, allowing the less efficient diesel pumps to only require operation in emergency flood situations. The new station will provide a 1 in 10 year standard of protection and include three fish and eel friendly submersible pumps that discharge directly into the river Trent via the existing tidal outfall.

3 Screening Criteria and Thresholds

The EIA Regulations (2) defines "improvement works" as works which are 'the subject of a project to deepen, widen or straighten, or otherwise improve or alter any existing watercourse or remove or alter mill dams, weirs and other obstructions to watercourses, or raise, widen or otherwise improve or alter, any existing drainage work'.

Consideration has been given as to whether the proposed scheme is likely to have significant effects on the environment with regard given to the criteria set out in Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations.

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Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations sets out the selection criteria for determining whether improvement works will have significant effects on the environment under three main headings, as outlined below:

- characteristics of improvement works;
- location of improvement works; and
- characteristics of the potential impact.

3.1 Characteristics of the improvement works

The proposed improvement works comprise a new pumping station to be built on the left bank, immediately downstream of the existing pump house. A new hard engineered channel and pump sump is to be constructed consisting of steel sheet pile walls with reinforced concrete (RC) invert slab; the piles will be capped with RC along the channel leading to the sump, and the sump topped with an RC slab. The natural banks of the existing gravity outfall channel will be retained downstream of the new station, though the channel itself will be redundant and the new pipework will be laid along the bed leading to the existing outfall structure into the Trent.

3.2 Location of the improvement works

The proposed improvement works are located adjacent to Ravensfleet Pumping Station in the Ravensfleet Catchment, near Scunthorpe in West Lincolnshire. The site is on Ravensfleet Road, Ravensfleet Farm, East Stockwith, West Lindsey, Lincolnshire (Grid Reference SK 80079 95895). This is a rural area with a field path to the site.

The location of the proposed improvement works is shown in Figure 1 below.

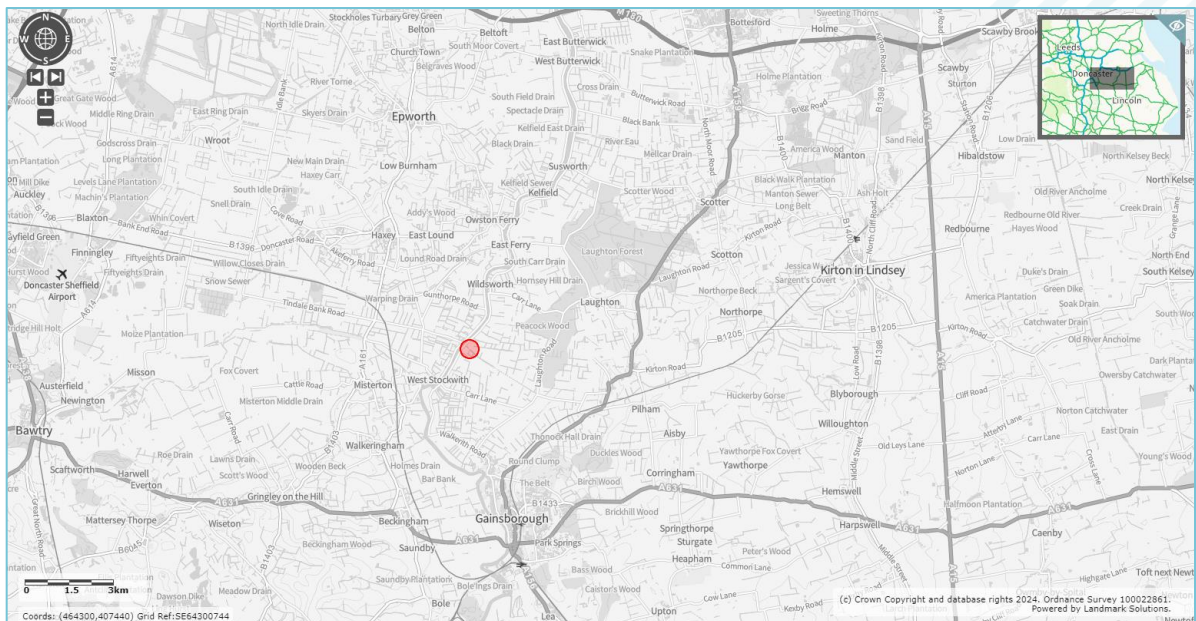


Figure 1: Location of the proposed improvement works. Source: MAGIC.

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3.3 Characteristics of the potential impact

An Environmental Appraisal was completed for the proposed works in September 2023. This was updated in March 2024 to inform this EIA Screening justification. The Environmental Assessment Matrix (EAM) is included within the associated documentation (MNY-JBA-XX-XX-AS-EN-0001-S3-P04-IEA_Ravensfleet_PS). The location, scale and nature of the proposed improvement works alongside the availability of appropriate avoidance and mitigation measures have been taken into consideration. Impacts on environmental receptors are relatively minor and benign and are not expected to result in any likely significant environmental effects.

3.3.1 Cumulative effects

In accordance with the EIA Regulations, consideration has also been given to the potential for cumulative impacts to arise. Cumulative impacts are those that accrue over time and space from multiple developments activities. The impact of the proposed works has been considered alongside the potential impacts from other projects or activities that are both reasonably foreseeable in terms of delivery (e.g., have planning consent), and are located within a relevant geographical scope, where environmental impacts could result in a more significant overall effect.

Consideration has also been given to combined (or in-combination) effects, where different topic issues associated with a project (or projects) may act together to produce an effect that is greater or lesser than each in isolation. It is anticipated that with the implementation of the mitigation measures, the potential for significant in-combination effects would be minimised.

An initial assessment of the potential cumulative effects to occur during the construction phase has been undertaken through a review of West Lindsey District, North Lincolnshire, and Bassetlaw District Councils' planning portals. Development that has either been submitted, or determined and approved, within a 1km buffer of the site extent of the proposed improvement works have been identified.

A few small-scale proposed developments (e.g., extensions, conversions, telecommunications) were identified within 1km of the site. However, due to their nature, it is not considered that they would give rise to cumulative effects or impacts. No large scale developments were identified.

It is considered unlikely that a significant cumulative effect would occur from implementing the proposed improvement works. It is also assumed that should any other proposed developments come forward, appropriate mitigation measures would be implemented for the duration of their respective works.

4 Consultation

As per Regulation 5(1) of the EIA Regulation, this EIA Screening justification and a Notice of the proposed works requires advertising in two local newspapers for a period of 30 days. These are to be advertised on the Internal Drainage Board website and the Gainsborough Standard. The Notices are included as Appendix A.

A copy of the Notice will be supplied to Natural England and the Environment Agency, in accordance with Regulation 5(2) of the EIA Regulations, on or before the date of publication of the Notice.

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5 Conclusion

It is our view that an Environmental Impact Assessment should not be required for the proposed improvement works as outlined in this Technical Note and detailed in the EAM (MNY-JBA-XX-XX-AS-EN-0001-S3-P04-IEA_Ravensfleet_PS).

A Flood Risk Activity Permit from the Environment Agency will be obtained prior to works commencing on the site.

The proposed improvement works is supported by various assessments including ecological surveys undertaken in March 2024.

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A EIA Screening Justification Notice

A.1 Short notice to be advertised in the Gainsborough Standard

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION NOT TO
PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT**
under Regulation 5 (1) of The Environmental Impact
Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works)
Regulations 1999 (Amendment) 2017

Notice is hereby given that Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board intends to provide an improved level of flood protection in the Ravensfleet Catchment, near Scunthorpe, in West Lincolnshire.

The proposed improvement works are located at Ravensfleet Pumping Station and involve construction of a new fish and eel friendly electric station. Further details can be found by accessing the link below:

[Link to IBD website showing long notice included in Appendix A.2.]

Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board considers that the improvement works are not likely to have significant effects on the environment and does not intend to prepare an Environmental Statement in respect of them.

Any person wishing to make representations in relation to the likely environmental effects of the proposed improvement works should do so, in writing, to the address specified below, within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Henry Shone (Project Manager)
henry.shone@jbaconsulting.com
The Old School House, St. Joseph's Street, Tadcaster, North
Yorkshire, LS24 9HA
Project Ref: 2024s0332

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A.2 Long notice to be advertised on the IDB website

ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION NOT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT under Regulation 5 (1) of The Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations 1999 (Amendment) 2017

Notice is hereby given that Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board intends to provide an improved level of flood protection in the Ravensfleet Catchment, near Scunthorpe, in West Lincolnshire.

The proposed improvement works are located at Ravensfleet Pumping Station and involve construction of a new fish and eel friendly electric land drainage pumping station whilst retaining the existing diesel pump house. The new station will act as Duty, supplementing the existing capacity to provide an improved standard of flood protection, allowing the less efficient diesel pumps to only require operation in emergency flood situations. The new station will provide a 1 in 10 year standard of protection and include three fish and eel friendly submersible pumps that discharge directly into the river Trent via the existing tidal outfall. The station will be constructed directly adjacent to the existing diesel pump house.

Scunthorpe and Gainsborough Water Management Board has undertaken an initial environmental assessment of the proposals and considers that the improvement works are not likely to have significant effects on the environment, and therefore does not intend to prepare an Environmental Statement in respect of Schedule 2 of the Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations 1999 (as amended).

The assessment of potential environmental effects, the significance, and any suggested mitigation/ controls to make certain that there are no adverse effects on the environment, are presented as an Environmental Assessment Matrix (EAM) and is available from the Project Manager via the contact details below.

Any person wishing to make representations in relation to the likely environmental effects of the proposed improvement works should do so, in writing, to the address specified below, within 30 days of the date of publication of this notice.

Henry Shone (Project Manager)
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