

Three Rivers District Council
Three Rivers House,
Northway,
Rickmansworth,
Herts,
WD3 1RL

Reference Number: 19/1179/FUL

26 July 2019

Dear Madam/Sir

DESCRIPTION: Comprehensive redevelopment to provide 2 no. single storey warehouse Class B1c/B2/B8 units comprising a total of 16,590 sqm including 1,986 sqm ancillary B1a office space, access, landscaping and associated works.

LOCATION: Development Site, Maple Lodge, Maple Lodge Close, Maple Cross, Hertfordshire

Thank you for notification of the above planning application. Planning applications are referred to us where our input on issues relating to water quality or quantity may be required.

Affinity Water Limited ("Affinity Water") is the UK's largest water-only company, supplying a population of more than 3.6 million people with more than 900 million litres of the highest quality water every day of the year. Our supply area covers parts of Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Surrey, the London Boroughs of Harrow and Hillingdon and parts of the London Boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Ealing and Enfield. We also supply water to the Tendring peninsula in Essex and the Folkestone and Dover areas of Kent.

We have a statutory duty to supply water and are under legal obligations to ensure that the water is of a certain quality. As a result of this, any risk of contamination to a borehole will mean that we must stop using it until the risk has been eliminated and we must find an alternative source of supply in the meantime. Any potential contamination to the water supply as a result of development is therefore a significant concern for us.

You should be aware that the proposed development site is located within an Environment Agency defined groundwater Source Protection Zone 1 (SPZ1) corresponding to [REDACTED] Pumping Station. This is a public water supply, comprising a number of Chalk abstraction boreholes, operated by Affinity Water Ltd.

We are writing to object to this Application because we are concerned, for the reasons set out below, that it has the potential to impact adversely the public water supply. If you are minded to approve the Application, it is essential these concerns are addressed.



Piling within this area poses a risk with regards to the following:

- Creating pathways between shallow gravel groundwater and deep chalk groundwater potentially allowing naturally occurring manganese present in the gravel aquifer to migrate to the chalk.
- As above, but this also applies to other contaminants present due to the site being a former landfill.
- Turbidity during piling causing our sources to reach above 1NTU and shut down.
- Piling potentially blocking significant fissures hence creating a “curtain” effect. This could cause the flow paths to change around our sources, potentially causing greater drawdown for the same output

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

Laurence Chalk
Catchment Officer
Catchment Management

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