



Planning Inspectorate

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Your Ref: DC/22/1505

Our Ref: APP/Z3825/W/24/3354454

Date: 04 March 2025

Sent by email:

planning@horsham.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017 (SI 571/2017) ('THE EIA REGULATIONS')

Appeal by: Simon Hewitt

Site Address: South Lodge Roffey Park, Forest Road, Colgate

I refer to the above appeal. The Secretary of State has considered the application in accordance with Regulation 14 (1) of the above Regulations.

The development proposed, namely, change of use/conversion of stable building to form a residential annexe with associated external alterations (Retrospective), falls within the description at 10 (b) of Schedule 2 to the above Regulations. In the opinion of the Secretary of State, having taken into account the criteria in Schedule 3 to the above Regulations, the proposal would not be likely to have significant effect on the environment for the following reasons:

The threshold criteria at 10 (B) of Schedule 2 to the above Regulations are not exceeded, however the proposed development is within the High Weald National Landscape.

The proposed development is within the zone of influence (Sussex North Water Supply Zone) of the Arun Valley Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site located c. 20.8km south west. The Arun Valley sites are vulnerable to an increase in groundwater abstraction as a result of an increase in the local residential population. The appellant has provided a Water Neutrality Statement (undated). By retrofitting appliances within the main house, the proposed developments water consumption is proposed to be reduced.

Considering the nature, scale and location of the proposed development and nature of the receiving environment, whilst there may be some impact on the surrounding area and nearby designated sensitive areas as a result of this development, it would not be of a scale and nature likely to result in significant environmental effects.

Accordingly, in exercise of the powers conferred on the Secretary of State by Regulations 14(1) and 7(5) of the above Regulations, the Secretary of State hereby directs that this development is not Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development.

Under regulation 28(1) of the above Regulations, the relevant planning authority must take steps to secure that this screening direction is placed on the part of the Planning Register which relates to the application in question. I would be grateful if you could do so to ensure that the Secretary of State's view is publicly available.

(This direction does not affect any duties of the appellant under other legislation, including The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.)

Yours faithfully

Hafren Thomas

Hafren Thomas
EIA and Land Rights Advisor
(Signed with the authority of the Secretary of State)

cc: Mr Alex Martin (Lyondale Ltd) - Agent - appeals@lyondale.co.uk

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