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Our ref: SO/2009/105693/02-L01
Your ref: JBA

Date: 14 October 2009 20091014

19 OCT 2009

Dear Sir/Madam

DRAFT FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT ROCHDALE MUNICIPAL OFFICES

Thank you, for your email dated the 29 September 2009 referring to the above. In answer to the points raised we can advise as follows.

In terms of the revised modelling that has been carried out, we will need to see the model files and an explanation of what has been changed to derive the results on which the assessment has been made. In an email from John Ruckledge to Richard Roebuck dated 24 August 2009, it was indicated that a review of the model used would be made when the FRA was submitted. As the FRA is based on the revised model results we assume that you are confident that it would be accepted by us on review.

Referring to the table in section 3.2.1 it would be useful to have a column of results showing the flood levels from the original EA model. This would give an indication of what the changes are as a result of the model revisions.

In section 3.4 reference is made to the sequential test and flood zones. It is stated that the site is in flood zones 1 and 2. This is based on the results of the ISIS-TUTLOW model that includes the effect of defences. I would draw your attention to PPS25 and in particular paragraph D2. Here it states that "Flood Zones refer to the probability of sea and river flooding only, ignoring the presence of defences". Accordingly, parts of the site are likely to be affected by Q100 flood levels when the defences are ignored. For the purposes of the sequential test, the site must therefore be considered to be in Flood Zone 3a.

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In terms of floor levels, we would not raise objection to the level of 120.6m AOD subject to review of the revised model. As a comparison check, how does this compare to the existing Environment Agency model levels?

The surface water drainage proposals will require further clarification and we note you have identified this in the FRA. The chosen method of dealing with additional volumes of run-off should be identified in the report with sufficient detail to establish the principles of the surface water drainage system.

Yours faithfully



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