

Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project

Environmental Statement – Appendix 5.4 Statement of competence

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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 As required under Regulation 14(4)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('the EIA Regulations') [1], an Environmental Statement (ES) must be prepared by competent experts and the ES should be accompanied by a statement outlining the relevant expertise and qualifications of these experts.
- 1.1.2 This document has been prepared on behalf of Southern Water Services Limited for the Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project (the 'Proposed Development') outlining the competence of key project team members involved in producing the ES.

2 Statement of competence

2.1 Environmental Impact Assessment management

Arup and Haskoning

- 2.1.1 Arup and Haskoning are registrants of the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professional's¹ (ISEP) EIA Quality Mark scheme. Both companies are committed to excellence in EIA activities and have agreed to have this commitment independently reviewed through review of ESs prepared by each company.
- 2.1.2 The EIA project management consultants have over 50 years' combined experience in coordinating the EIA process for various types of development, including significant infrastructure, water and highways development.

2.2 Topic Leads

Air quality and odour

- 2.2.1 Topic Lead is a Chartered Environmental Scientist and Principal Air Quality Consultant with over 15 years of experience. They are Air Quality Practice lead for the UK Environment Resilience and Renewables Advisory Group at Haskoning. They have led air quality assessments on a number of EIAs for large-scale property, renewable energy, mining and infrastructure projects in the UK and Africa, as well as assessments for more bespoke services in the industrial sector, including assessments of meteorology and odour. Their involvement in large EIA projects includes Dogger Bank South, Dogger Bank D, and most notably as air quality assessment lead for several sections of the HS2 Phase 2b route. They were also air quality assessment lead for the Additional Provisions stage of the HS2 Phase 1 route through London.

Archaeology and cultural heritage

- 2.2.2 Topic Lead is a Technical Director in Haskoning's heritage practice area, supporting terrestrial major infrastructure development. They are a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and has over 25 years of experience of professional historic environment practice.
- 2.2.3 Topic Lead has been heritage technical lead on EIAs for numerous infrastructure projects from scoping through examination, including Sizewell C, and Manston Airport. They have also supported local planning authorities in responding to Development Consent Order (DCO) applications such as at Wylfa Newydd as well as providing support in delivery to schemes such as Hinkley Point C Connection.

¹ ISEP - formally known as the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)

Terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity

- 2.2.4 Topic Lead is a highly experienced, strategic ecology leader for Mott MacDonald². They are currently a Technical Director with over 15 years of consultancy experience. They are a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management and a Member of the Royal Entomological Society. They have held both project and technical leadership roles on several large infrastructure projects including Anglian Water's Strategic Pipeline Alliance project, HS2 Phases 1 and 2b and Heathrow Expansion project, the last of which was a DCO.
- 2.2.5 Topic Lead combines a strategic approach to ecology with a detailed understanding of the EIA process and has in depth, hands-on experience of large-scale ecology project leadership. This has included liaison and discussions with key consultees such as Natural England and the Environment Agency, as well as wider stakeholder engagement. They have led ecological appraisals for a broad range of projects in support of planning applications as well as the development of long-term site management plans as ecology lead for both EIA and Habitats Regulations Assessment.

Marine biodiversity

- 2.2.6 Topic Lead is a knowledgeable marine ecologist at Mott MacDonald with over 20 years of practical experience of environmental consultancy. They are currently a Senior Associate with a proven ability to provide relevant advice regarding impacts, mitigation and monitoring for a range of projects. These projects include climate change impacts on coastal habitats and conservation species, site selection for new developments and dredging activities, underwater acoustics impacts from a variety of anthropogenic activities and habitat restoration and creation.
- 2.2.7 As the Marine Environment team lead, the Topic Lead has stakeholder engagement experience including liaison with local regulators and provision of advice relating to licencing, monitoring and mitigation requirements. They have undertaken technical review and assessment of marine biodiversity for various EIA projects including Hinckley Point C marine licence revision 7, Ports of Jersey redevelopment of Elizabeth Harbour and Isle of Man Ferry terminal, providing quality assurance for both regulatory and commercial clients ensuring that best practice and most recent data are applied.

Carbon and climate change

- 2.2.8 Topic Lead is a Principal Environmental Consultant with over 12 years of experience. They are Environment team and Carbon Practice lead for the UK Environment Group at Haskoning, specialising in carbon assessments, footprinting and decarbonisation roadmaps. They have experience in a wide range of sectors, including maritime and ports, energy and industrial infrastructure, and transportation links such as roads and airports. Their experience includes working on Norfolk Boreas and Vanguard Offshore Wind Farms, Boston Energy from Waste Facility and Holyhead Port Expansion.

² Mott MacDonald is a registrant of the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Professionals.

- 2.2.9 They are also part of the ISEP Working Group compiling a guidance document for practitioners when determining the significance of GHG assessments in EIA.

Land quality and ground conditions

- 2.2.10 Topic Lead is a Chartered Principal Environmental Consultant with over 20 years of experience specialising in land quality, ground investigation and consultancy in a wide range of settings including commercial, residential, industrial settings and for a number of government bodies. They are the Practice Lead for Haskoning.
- 2.2.11 Topic Lead has worked on a number of large EIA Projects including Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon Offshore Wind Farm, Dogger Bank South, Dogger Bank D and Northfalls providing technical inputs into the various stages of EIA.

Land use and agriculture

- 2.2.12 Topic Lead – land use is an Associate Director in Arup’s Cities, Planning and Design team. They are a socio-economist and chartered town planner with over 25 years of professional experience. Their professional accreditations and memberships include being a Fellow of the Royal Town Planning Institute (FRTPI), Member of the Institute of Economic Development (MIED) and Fellow of the Royal Society for the Encouragement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (FRSA). They are also APMG International Better Business Cases both Foundation and Practitioner Qualified.
- 2.2.13 Topic Lead – land use has led both specialist and large-scale EIA assessments covering socio-economics, land use, tourism, recreation, community and related topics. Their DCO experience includes supporting Anglian Water on two SRO reservoir projects, A66 Trans-Pennine project, Tilbury2, the A14 Improvement Scheme, NLWA Edmonton Energy from Waste DCO and the Luton Airport Expansion DCO. Wider EIA support includes being the lead socio-economic assessor to support the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC), socio-economic lead for HS2 Phase 2A ERD+ and the 2022 Commonwealth Games.
- 2.2.14 Topic Lead – agriculture is a Director of Reading Agricultural Consultants, with 35 years’ experience as a consultant in agriculture, agricultural economics, rural land use and soil science. They have considerable experience of assessing the impact of all types and scales of developments on soils and agriculture. These have related to highways schemes and other major infrastructure projects, particularly high speed railways, strategic rail freight interchanges, airports and pipelines; mineral extraction and restoration; new housing and commercial developments; and power generation and distribution projects. They have developed and implemented soil resource plans for major developments, including the translocation of Ancient Woodland soils.
- 2.2.15 Topic Lead – agriculture has given evidence at over 100 public inquiries, hearings and DCO examinations, including recent DCO examinations of the A303 Stonehenge tunnel, the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet and Byers Gill Solar Farm. They have produced guidance and policy interpretation notes for the Welsh Government on Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities and is part of the Technical Advisory Group to Defra on the update to the Code of Practice for the sustainable use of soils.

Landscape and visual

- 2.2.16 Topic Lead is a Chartered Landscape Architect and an Associate Director at Arup with over 20 years of experience in the planning, design and management of major infrastructure. Their expertise is recognised through his previous positions on the Landscape Institute Technical and Research Committee and the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (GLVIA) Panel. They contributed to the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) Blue-Green Infrastructure Manual and was lead author of a technical guidance note on the planning, design and management of infrastructure, published by the Landscape Institute. They have also previously published guidance on preparing heritage and townscape character assessments and on neighbourhood planning. Topic Lead has regularly given evidence as an expert witness at DCO Examination, Public Inquiry and Examination in Public.
- 2.2.17 Topic Lead has wide ranging experience, including acting as Environmental Overseeing Consultant for landscape for Phase 1 of HS2 and leading on the management of a national portfolio of sites for the Environment Agency. They have supported numerous DCO applications, including the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements, Sunnica Energy Farm, Gate Burton and Longfield Solar Farm projects and the LionLink Interconnector and the A27 Arundel Bypass schemes. Their role on such projects includes overseeing the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) and using the results of this assessment to inform the iterative design. They apply a strategic, landscape-led, multi-disciplinary approach to the design of infrastructure projects which addresses the sensitivities of the landscape and maximises opportunities for environmental net gain. They also regularly give advice on the stewardship, management and maintenance of green assets, including for major infrastructure clients such as HS2, Network Rail and Transport Infrastructure Ireland.
- 2.2.18 Many of the projects that Topic Lead has supported relate to nationally designated areas of landscape comprising National Parks or National Landscapes, including giving advice on behalf of major infrastructure organisations and local planning authorities.

Major accidents and disasters

- 2.2.19 Topic Lead is a Senior Consultant at Arup with over seven years of experience. They specialise in Major Accidents and Disasters assessments for EIA and has worked on a number of EIAs for the topic including Byers Gill Solar Farm, CiNER Glass Factory in Merthyr Tydfil, Marchwood Port redevelopment, the A120 and A358 road projects. As part of these projects, Topic Lead has taken part in stakeholder engagement, liaising with organisations including the Health and Safety Executive, local planning authorities and the Environment Agency.

Noise and vibration

- 2.2.20 Topic Lead is a Principal Consultant at Haskoning with over 15 years of experience providing advice and assessment on sound, noise and vibration to a wide range of public and private sector clients. They are a corporate member of the UK Institute of Acoustics and was an examiner for the specialist Environmental Noise module of the Institute of Acoustics Diploma on Acoustics and Noise Control for 5 years.

They specialise in inputting into EIAs to accompany planning and permitting applications and in investigating and remediating ongoing complaints. They co-authored the noise assessment recommendations in the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Guidelines: Environmental Assessment of Traffic and Movement (2023).

- 2.2.21 Topic Lead's project experience is worldwide and crosses sectors including water infrastructure, land development (masterplanning, residential, mixed-use, leisure), transportation (airports, road and rail), power, minerals and waste, and manufacturing schemes. They have significant experience leading noise and vibration assessments for major infrastructure projects including DCO assessment for offshore (Sheringham Shoal and Dudgeon extension and Hornsea Project Four) and onshore windfarms (Golticlay, Clachaig Glen and Camster II), major road schemes (M42 Junction 6), rail (Northumberland Line Upgrades) and water infrastructure projects (Red John Pumped Storage Hydro Scheme and Counters Creek). They have acted as expert witness for noise and vibration at planning and permitting inquiries on behalf of scheme promoters and local planning authorities.

Resources and waste management

- 2.2.22 Topic Lead is an Associate in Arup's London Climate and Sustainability Services team. They are a Chartered Environmentalist and Chartered Waste Manager, who has more than 15 years of experience in resource and waste management projects worldwide. They have been the waste and materials topic lead on a large number of EIAs and has led assessments at all scales, including complex national infrastructure projects. Topic Lead was the waste and material resources topic lead for the HS2 Phase 2b hybrid Bill, and has played a key role in assessing and managing impacts associated with the huge volume of material arising from tunnels and other earthworks. They have extensive experience supporting efforts to reduce impacts associated with waste management, including the preparation of resource management plans and pre-demolition audits, and in incorporation of designing out waste principles into scheme designs.

Socioeconomics, tourism and health

- 2.2.23 Topic Lead – socioeconomics and tourism, refer to Land use and agriculture.
- 2.2.24 Topic Lead – health is an Associate at Arup within the Climate and Sustainability Services team. They are a Chartered Environmentalist with postgraduate achievements in both environmental and public health and has more than 20 years of experience as a consultant. Topic Lead – health has been the health topic lead for major national infrastructure projects such as High Speed 2 and Luton Airport Expansion and has acted as an expert witness in Public Examinations for DCO projects. They are on ISEPs Health Impact Assessment Working Group and has authored guidance, including Transport Infrastructure Ireland's Standard for Population and Health Impact Assessment of National Roads.

Traffic and transport

- 2.2.25 Topic Lead is a Senior Transport Planner in Arup's Cities, Planning and Design team. Topic lead is a Chartered Member of the Institute of Logistics and Transport (CMILT), who has over 12 years of experience in transport planning, supporting

numerous large and complex developments in the UK. Topic Lead has been the Traffic and Transport topic lead on several major development planning applications, including large employment, residential, education, health and mixed-use sites. Most recently, examples include Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Proposed Extension, Jersey Hospital and Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus.

Water environment

- 2.2.26 Topic Lead is a Technical Director and Water Environment Sector Lead at Haskoning. They are a Chartered Geomorphologist (CGeog(Geomorph)) and Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (FRGS) with over 20 years of experience in applied fluvial geomorphology, water and sediment quality, EIA and Water Environment Regulations (WER) Compliance Assessment. They have led the delivery of numerous Water Environment topic assessments and WER Compliance Assessments as part of the DCO and planning process and has taken part in multiple DCO Examinations and planning enquiries.
- 2.2.27 Topic Lead's experience includes numerous large projects, including linear transmission cable infrastructure for offshore wind farms (e.g. Norfolk Vanguard, Norfolk Boreas, Hornsea Project Four and Dudgeon and Sheringham Shoal Extension), power generation (e.g. Sizewell C nuclear power station and Boston Gasification Plant) and other significant developments (e.g. North Yorkshire Polyhalite Mine, London Gateway port extension and Grangemouth chemical plant redevelopment).

References

- [1] UK Parliament, “The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017,” 2023. [Online]. Available: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukSI/2017/572/contents>.



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The logo graphic for Southern Water, featuring three stylized white waves of varying lengths, with the longest wave on the right.