

Environment Agency Position - July 2025
Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan – Policy 20 - Purple Haze

Introduction

The Environment Agency has been asked by Hampshire County Council to review an additional advice note regarding the hydrology at the Purple Haze site. The site is proposed for allocation for the extraction of sand and gravel in Policy 20 of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan: Partial Update. The Environment Agency raised no concerns with the allocation at plan submission stage.

We have also been consulted and commented on the planning application for the site. We originally objected but further information was subsequently submitted allowing us to remove our objection subject to relevant conditions.

Purpose

The purpose of this note is to confirm that having reviewed the additional information (Document no: B24441P1_03 by Jacobs dated 3rd July 2025) whether our position has changed.

Position

Having reviewed the additional information referred to above, our position on hydrology has **not changed**.

We agree with the following statement from the memo (paragraph 31).

“With implementation of adequate mitigation and compensation measures, the proposed scheme is expected to be deliverable with no adverse impact to the integrity of the Special Area of Conservation and its component Site of Special Scientific Interest.”

It is therefore our opinion, considering issues within our remit, that the allocation is acceptable because it will be possible to manage the risks to Ebblake Bog SSSI through the specifics of the planning permission, for example (but not limited to):

- Hydrological monitoring and mitigation scheme
- Surface water management plans
- Restrictions on depth of working (proposed in current application)
- Areas at greatest risk of linkage with the SSSI proposed as ecological mitigation areas with no quarrying (proposed in current app).

We have requested that conditions be applied to any planning permission granted in respect of these issues.

Please be aware that Natural England have different responsibilities with regard to protected sites and Hampshire County Council should continue to work with them to ensure that their concerns are considered.

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Planning Specialist
Environment Agency
July 2025