



Highways and Engineering Service – Economy and Environment

DRAINAGE CONSULTATION ON APPLICATION – 25/00680/FUL – SCOUT MOOR WIND FARM

LLFA Consultation Response on behalf of Head of Highways and Engineering

Date of Response: 13th October 2025

LOCATION & PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Scout Moor Wind Farm

Construction and operation of 17 wind turbines with a maximum height to the tip of the blade of 180 metres (above ordnance datum), together with associated ancillary infrastructure comprising crane pads and hard standings; new access tracks; improvement and widening works to Scout Road; onsite substation; underground electrical infrastructure and cabling; fencing and boundary treatments; external lighting; drainage infrastructure; habitat and moorland restoration works; public right of way works; landscaping; temporary construction compound and staging area; underground electrical grid connection to the Rossendale Bulk Supply Point; and associated engineering works; alongside the retention of and improvements to existing access tracks associated with the existing Scout Moor Wind Farm.

DOCUMENTS REVIEWED

- Flood Risk Assessment (FRA), Pell Frischmann, June 2025
- Drainage Strategy, Pell Frischmann, June 2025

DRAINAGE & FLOOD OFFICER COMMENTS

1. The FRA confirms the site lies wholly within Flood Zone 1. The FRA identifies surface water flow paths across the site. These represent the primary flood risk source. Groundwater flood risk is assessed as low, consistent with BGS data and local understanding.
2. Attenuation basins/swales are proposed downslope of impermeable areas, designed to store flows for the 1 in 30-year storm event with exceedance routing across the site. Climate change uplift of +45% has been applied to the 100-year design event.
3. The aim should be to discharge surface run off as high up the following hierarchy of drainage options as reasonably practicable: The ordered drainage techniques to be assessed with the aim to reduce or omit lower techniques:
 - Control at Source (Infiltration / Recycling)
 - On Site Treatment (Basins, Swales, Rain gardens, Tree pits)
 - Local Treatment (Adoptable Ponds, Basins, Swales etc)
 - Regional Treatment (ditto usually to a larger scale)
 - Discharge to Watercourses / Bodies
 - Discharge to SW Sewers
 - Discharge to Combined Sewers

Site-specific infiltration testing undertaken to BRE365 methodology has demonstrated that the ground conditions are clayey and impermeable. Water failed to infiltrate in Test Pit 1, and Test Pit 2 was not tested due to similar ground conditions. Infiltration has been ruled out.

1. Attenuation Capacity – MicroDrainage results (Appendix A) indicate potential flooding for some storm durations even at the 2-year event. The applicant must confirm that attenuation features will be designed to accommodate the 1 in 30 yr event without on-site flooding and management of the 1 in 100yr + 45% CC within the site.
2. Exceedance Flow Routing – Additional detail is needed to demonstrate safe conveyance of exceedance flows, particularly where access tracks intersect mapped surface water flow paths.
3. Construction Phase – The CEMP should secure robust temporary drainage and pollution control measures, including sediment management and detailed proposals for watercourse crossings.
4. Maintenance & Adoption – Whilst a generic SuDS maintenance schedule has been provided, long-term maintenance responsibilities and funding arrangements must be clearly defined and secured.

DRAINAGE & FLOOD OFFICER SUMMARY:

- i. The drainage proposals are acceptable in principle subject to the above points being addressed during subsequent design stages.
- ii. It is considered that the drainage is sufficiently detailed for subsequent design and implementation to be controlled by appropriate conditions.

Consultation by Keith Mealey

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