

**CAS-02641-G8G7M5**

**LAND AT MODEL FARM, PORT ROAD,  
RHOOSE, CF62 3BT**

Statement on Climate Change Matters – Summary

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## 1 Author and Declaration

- 1.1 Andrew Tasker, Associate Director at RPS Tetra Tech. Qualifications: BSc (Hons) Geography & Environmental Sciences; MSc Sustainable Cities; full member of the Institute of Sustainability and Environmental Practitioners (ISEP); Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv). Over 10 years' professional experience in sustainability and climate change; experience as expert witness in Development Consent Order examinations. Evidence prepared in accordance with professional codes and is his true professional opinion.

## 2 Scope of Evidence

- 2.1 Addresses climate change matters for the Proposed Development, specifically greenhouse gas (GHG) assessment, climate resilience/adaptation and responses to points raised by Interested Parties (notably Vale Communities Unite and Mr D Clarke).

## 3 Relevant Legal and Guidance Framework

- 3.1 Assessment considers the implications of the Supreme Court decision in Finch and follows IEMA (2022) guidance "*Assessing Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Evaluating their Significance*." Emphasis placed on assessing direct and relevant indirect (upstream and downstream) emissions and presenting a reasonable worst-case.

## 4 Assessment Approach

- 4.1 The climate change assessment includes direct (Scope 1), indirect (Scope 2) and material supply-chain and lifecycle (Scope 3) emissions where material and reasonably practicable.
- 4.2 Construction-phase: quantified on site activity including any land use change and emissions from material manufacture, transport and installation based on available activity data.
- 4.3 Operational-phase: quantified regulated energy use (electricity and gas) using CIBSE Guide F benchmarks and operational transport emissions informed by the Transport Assessment. Periodic maintenance/refurbishment and unregulated tenant energy were considered qualitatively or excluded where immaterial or unpredictable. It is expected that detailed consideration would be given to these functions at the reserved matters application stage.
- 4.4 Exclusions: unregulated tenant-specific energy and certain refurbishment/repair emissions were not quantified due to lack of reliable data. Notwithstanding, this would not impact the significance of effect definition for the Project which is Moderate adverse effect.

## 5 Mitigation and Commitments

- 5.1 Embedded mitigation to be secured through Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP), Travel Plan, Car Parking Management Plan, Sustainable Development Guide and Energy Masterplan as secured by planning conditions.
- 5.2 Further mitigation to be explored at reserved matters includes Future Buildings Standard alignment (zero-carbon-ready), fabric improvements, low-carbon/renewable technologies, low-carbon construction practices, low-carbon material selection, lean design, on-site renewables and procurement approaches (e.g., PPAs).
- 5.3 Acknowledges some operational mitigation depends on tenant behaviour and market factors beyond the Applicant's direct control.

## 6 Findings and Conclusions

- 6.1 Initial assessment (with embedded mitigation) identified moderate adverse effects for both construction and operation — significant in EIA terms without identified further mitigation.
- 6.2 With committed further mitigation at detailed design and reserved matters stage, residual effects are concluded to be minor and not significant.
- 6.3 The assessment asserts that inclusion of currently unquantified emission sources would increase absolute magnitude but would not change the conclusion on significance because IEMA significance is informed by mitigation commitments and alignment with net-zero trajectory as well as quantified totals.
- 6.4 Overall, the climate change chapter is presented as compliant with Finch and IEMA guidance, providing a conservative, reasonable worst-case assessment and a clear pathway for further mitigation and design-stage measures.