WHP Telecoms Ltd, 1a Station Court, Station Road, Guiseley, Leeds LS20 8EY

Our Ref: ANW_ LN112

12th June 2024

The Parish Clerk
Saxilby with Ingleby Parish Council
Parish Office
St. Andrews Community Centre
William Street
Saxilby
Lincoln
LN1 2LP

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSED COMMUNICATIONS INSTALLATION FOR ARQIVA'S SMART METER NETWORK FOR ANGLIAN WATER AT SAXILBY STW, WEST BANK, SAXILBY, LINCOLN, LINCOLNSHIRE, LN1 2LU. NGR: E: 488635, N: 374963

WHP act as agents for Arqiva.

This letter is to draw your attention to a planning application to be submitted by WHP on behalf Arqiva and to provide contact details should you wish to enquire about it.

Arqiva owns, hosts and operates shared radio telecommunications infrastructure. It owns and operates the UK's TV and radio broadcasting transmitter network and it hosts a large number of other radio communications services on its sites.

The Anglian Water Smart Water Metering Network

The development proposed forms part of Arqiva's planned smart water metering network for Anglian Water. Anglian Water is the UK's largest water and wastewater services provider by geographic area with more than six million domestic and business customers in the east of England and Hartlepool. Anglian Water's 'Our Plan 2020-2025' includes the rollout of Smart Meters as a central component of its Water Management Plan. Table 6 on page 64 of the document includes the following statement.

"..We are installing smart meters across our region to enable a step change in our customer communications, supporting our water efficiency initiatives. The Smart metering programme also has significant benefits for optimising our networks and supporting the delivery of our leakage strategy."

As part of this initiative, Arqiva will build and operate the smart water metering network for Anglian Water drawing upon our experience in delivering smart metering networks for gas and electricity operators in the North of England and Scotland, and for Thames Water in London.

In summary, the major benefits of smart metering will be:

- More efficient operation: with faster leak detection and repair; better fault finding; greater network visibility; enhanced supply/demand planning; and better capital investment/maintenance targeting.
- Better customer service: providing customers with clear, detailed information on their water usage and consumption patterns, enabling them to adjust their behaviour to save water, energy and money.
- Environmental protection: lower consumption and reduced leakage enable reduced abstraction; this in turn cuts carbon emissions from water treatment and distribution processes.
- Improved water resilience: reduced danger of demand outstripping supply.
- A platform for more frequent and better-quality engagement with Anglian Water customers on water efficiency offers, bespoke advice and tools for reducing consumption and bills – both water and energy - benefiting Water and fuel poverty agendas.

Anglian Water's Smart Water Metering Network, like all electronic communications networks, is to be supported by an infrastructure of operational sites with the required antennas and other apparatus needed to provide radio coverage to the local area. In that sense, they have similarities with cellular networks, with the Smart Meters, being the devices that must connect and communicate with the network antennas, rather than mobile devices.

The base stations must therefore be located in proximity to the premises that will be served and must be able to communicate with meters that are typically found in a boundary box buried in the ground at a property, or in the footpath.

Consistent with planning policy, the main sites that form the Smart Water Metering Network have been largely planned around sharing or using existing communication sites, buildings and structures and where this has not been possible, new ground-based masts. These main installations provide the main umbrella of coverage to larger geographical areas and premises within those areas.

However, there are still smaller settlements, peripheral areas and more remote locations that cannot be covered by these sites due to coverage constraints, often related to distance, topography or other environmental related factors. Hence, in order to provide more localised coverage to these areas, a secondary layer of sites are required and these are generally physically smaller. The application is in relation to a site that will require the introduction of a new installation to enable localised network provision.

As these sites are required to provide localised indoor coverage over very specific areas then the siting parameters for coverage reasons are narrow. The sites must also satisfy a range of operational criteria, such as good fibre connectivity, an existing power supply suitably high and resilient for an electronic communications network, a reasonable level of security, vehicular or pedestrian access for ongoing maintenance and security of tenure for the life of the smart water metering network contract. In addition, the site must be capable of being constructed without undue constraints and avoiding undue environmental disturbance, that for example, might be associated with creating new access tracks and supplying new power runs above or below ground.

We are preparing to make an application to the local planning authority and it is possible that in due course the authority may notify you about it.

If you have any comments about the proposal, please contact us within the next ten days so that your views can, if practicable, be taken into account before we make the application.

My contact details are given below.

Yours faithfully,

Julia Marshall
j.marshall@whptelecoms.com

Enc: Drawing Numbers: ANW_ LN112