



Infrastructure

Client: Dee Valley Water

Location: Wrexham

Project Overview

Atmos Consulting provided pre-construction ecological and environmental advice to Dee Valley Water (DVW) for the replacement of an 8.5km water pipeline.

Key Challenges

Ordinarily, works would have been carried out under permitted development rights, but because the pipeline crosses two important archaeological features, and skirts a European designated site with the largest known population of great crested newts (GCN) in the UK, the proposal went to the local planning authority for EIA Screening.

The new pipeline has to be operational by December 2017, which gave a very tight timescale.

Our Solutions

Atmos carried out an Environmental Appraisal of the proposed route that incorporated results from archaeological and extended Phase 1 habitat surveys. We also provided advice related to the risk of effects on the designated GCN population.

To ensure legislative compliance, Atmos Consulting undertook pre-application discussions with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and then applied for, and was granted, a European Protected Species licence for the construction phase. In the application we demonstrated that effects of the construction phase would only be temporary in nature.

Through a combination of our survey results and modelling from the Amphibian and Reptile

Conservation Trust), on the likelihood of GCN presence, we were able to agree with NRW a traffic light system of high/medium/low risk areas requiring varying levels of mitigation and supervision (Ecological Clerk of Works, ECoW) under licence.

This dynamic approach gave DVW a pragmatic working method for installation of the pipeline and avoided the large costs that would otherwise have been associated with amphibian fencing and trapping across the 8.5km route.

The Successful Outcome

Our work enabled DVW to carry out the works under permitted development rights, because the project was screened as not requiring EIA.

Work was also able to start earlier than originally planned. Construction is currently on-going under the supervision of Atmos Ecologists.

What our Client Said:

“As a result of the detailed reports, risk assessments and method statements provided by Atmos, the Company were able to avoid a full EIA. To ensure compliance with ecological and archaeological mitigating measures, Atmos will continue to work with us to provide supervision, site inductions and pre-construction assessment.

We are pleased to recommend their services.”

Our Ecology and Biodiversity Expertise

From multi-million pound mixed use developments requiring ecological surveys and assessments, biodiversity guidance and public consultations, through to individual property owners needing support with a bat survey, our highly experienced team of in-house ecological experts are here to support you in realising the vision of your project.

Our technical specialists include: ornithologists, protected species experts, aquatic ecologists as well as habitat and botanical experts. Together, they bring a proven track record in overcoming potential barriers or constraints to development proposals by producing innovative, robust and defensible solutions that successfully balance the commercial interests with the relevant statutory requirements for ecological assessment and the needs of wildlife.

Our Ecology and Biodiversity Solutions

Atmos offers a comprehensive range of solutions for the assessment, maintenance and management of ecological systems across the entire project life-cycle. Our Ecological Consultants are qualified members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management and hold a wide range of survey licences.

Choose from an integrated service approach or one of our specialist services that can seamlessly feed into your project, including:

- Aquatic & Terrestrial Invertebrate Surveys
- BREEAM Assessments
- Consultation and Liaison with Regulatory Bodies
- Discharge of Planning Conditions
- Ecological Appraisal
- Ecologic Clerk of Works
- Ecological Impact Assessments
- Ecological Mitigation Plans
- Electro-fishing and Freshwater Pearl Mussel
- Fish Surveys, Habitat and Health Assessment
- Habitat and Vegetation Surveys & Management Plans
- Habitat Survey Phase1, NVC Phase 2 Survey
- Ornithology
- Post Construction Monitoring
- Protected Species Surveys and Licence Applications
- River Corridor & Habitat Survey
- Site Appraisal & Feasibility Studies
- Water Framework Directive



atmos
CONSULTING

CBC House
24 Canning Street
EDINBURGH
EH3 8EG

t: 0131 346 9100

edinburgh@atmosconsulting.com

Old Kilcoy House
Tore
ROSS-SHIRE
IV6 7RZ

t: 01463 723500

inverness@atmosconsulting.com

Linden House
Mold Business Park
Wrexham Road
MOLD
CH7 1XP

t: 01352 744512

mold@atmosconsulting.com

www.atmosconsulting.com

 @AtmosConsulting

 Atmos Consulting Ltd