



NatureSpace Great Crested Newt District Licensing Scheme

Certificate

A CERTIFICATE DOES NOT PERMIT LICENSABLE WORKS TO COMMENCE. A FORMAL AUTHORISATION FROM BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL TO WORK UNDER THEIR DISTRICT LICENCE MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT.

Date of certificate issue: 26th March 2025

Development title: Uxbridge Moor Substation

Developer name: National Grid

Development location (8 figure grid reference): TQ 0399 8402

Development address: Iver Sub Station (Uxbridge Moor), Slough Road, Iver Heath, Buckinghamshire, SL0 0ED

Planning permission reference: PL/24/0449/FA

Development plan reference: "Uxbridge Moor Substation: Impact plan for great crested newt District Licensing (Version 1)", dated 31st January 2024

This certificate confirms that the above development (as detailed in the above referenced development plan) has been evaluated by NatureSpace Partnership in accordance with the terms and conditions of the District Licence (WML-OR152, or a 'Further Licence') and the required financial contribution to the local great crested newt strategy has been paid.



Provided that the works proceed in accordance with the assessed development proposals (plan "Uxbridge Moor Substation: Impact plan for great crested newt District Licensing (Version 1)", dated 31st January 2024) and with planning condition 13 of planning approval PL/24/0449/FA, the development can be covered under Buckinghamshire Council's District Licence (WML-OR152, or a 'Further Licence'). Once the local planning authority has granted the developer an authorisation to cover works under their District Licence for great crested newts, licensable works may proceed at the site. The authorisation is a written letter, signed by the local planning authority's signatory, and it forms a separate document to the planning permission Decision Notice.

The licence requires authorisations to specify which activities and operations are permitted from the list in Annex B of WML-OR152, or a 'Further Licence'.

In this case, the licensed activities and operations will be as follows: A5, A6, A7, A8, A11

The following Protocol conditions will apply: P2, P3, P4, P5, P8, P11

Please see Annex 1 for full details of these activities and operations.



Once authorised, developers working under the District Licence also should note:

- 'Authorised developers' authorise (in writing) additional persons (e.g. employees, contractors) to act as 'Accredited Agents' under the District Licence;
- Authorised developers must ensure that all persons using the licence (including any Accredited Agents) must possess appropriate knowledge, training and experience to undertake licensed activities in accordance with the District Licence and accepted best practice;
- Developers must maintain a record of activities carried out under the District Licence and a list of any persons you authorise to act as 'Accredited Agents' and provide a record of these activities and persons to Buckinghamshire Council or NatureSpace Partnership in a timely manner;
- It is a condition of any authorisation under the District Licence that reasonable requests for permission to access the site will granted to employees and representatives of the Local Planning Authority and or Natural England for monitoring purposes;
- It is recommended that the attached Best Practice Principles are followed for all works on site.

Advisory note: It is essential to note that any works or activities whatsoever undertaken on site (including ground investigations, site preparatory works or ground clearance) prior to receipt of the written authorisation from the planning authority (which permits the development to proceed under the District Licence WML-OR152, or a 'Further Licence') are not licensed under the great crested newt District Licence. Any such works or activities have no legal protection under the great crested newt District Licence and if offences against great crested newts are thereby committed then criminal investigation and prosecution by the police may follow.

Licensable acts which will be made lawful when an authorisation for the proposed development is issued under the District Licence:

Capture; Possess; Transport; Disturb; Killing & injuring; Damage & destroy resting places; Damage & destroy breeding sites.

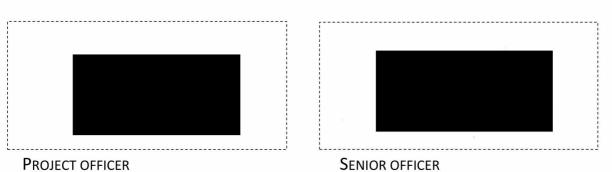
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NATURESPACE PARTNERSHIP

SIGNED (on behalf of Nature Space Partnership)

by



Important:

This certificate is <u>not</u> an authorisation to work under a District Licence. Authorisations are issued separately by the Licensee (Buckinghamshire Council), in writing once the development has been granted a valid planning permission.

District Licence expiry date note:

The District Licence (WML-OR152) is held by the Planning Authority, which is able to issue authorisations to developers with planning approval. All references to WML-OR152 within this document refer to the latest version of the licence as issued by Natural England. At the time of writing, this is referenced WML-OR152 (Version 1) issued on 22nd April 2024. The current District Licence is set to expire on 21st April 2027, at which point it will be renewed. The current 5-year limit on licence duration means that authorising documents will need to be amended as and when the licence is reissued by Natural England. The licence conditions expressly provide for 'Further Licences', and NatureSpace will manage the updating of this certificate and any authorisation documents at the appropriate time.

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Enquiries:

For any enquiries relating to this report please contact NatureSpace Partnership:

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Tel: 01865 688307

Website: https://naturespaceuk.com/

For any enquiries relating to District Licensing, please contact either NatureSpace Partnership, your local planning authority or Natural England - <u>gcndll@naturalengland.org.uk</u>



Annex 1. Activities, Operations and Protocols under a District Licence

The District Licence contains a 'Protocol for activities and operations affecting great crested newts within the licensed area' (see Annex B of the licence) – which contains a list of activities, operations and licensable acts. The full list in the District Licence does <u>not</u> apply in every authorisation under the District Licence. This report details the activities, methods and acts which would be permitted for the proposed development, based on the impacts as assessed.

Permitted activities and operations under the District Licence (subject to receiving planning approval and written authorisation from the planning authority):

- A5 Capture, exclusion and relocation of great crested newts from terrestrial habitat (by hand, hand searches of suitable features and/or destructive searches, night/torch searching, exclusion fencing (including upright and one-way temporary amphibian fencing). NB: This includes fence installation and removal.
- A6 Relocating great crested newts at imminent risk of harm on Development Land (by hand, hand searches and/or destructive searches)
- A7 Site clearance including removal of vegetation, hard- standing, buildings and landscaping
- A8 Removal of rubble and log piles and other potential hibernacula
- A11 Construction activities

Note that in this case, the activities and operations referenced A5 are not required under the licence, but will be included in the authorisation, to legally permit those activities should you have need for them (e.g. for terrestrial habitat creation or if you wish to install temporary amphibian fencing at any location to reduce risks to great crested newts during works).

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Protocols

Annex B of the District Licence is a 'Protocol for activities and operations affecting great crested newts within the licensed area' and includes a number of additional 'Protocol conditions'. The full list does not apply in every authorisation under the District Licence. This report details the 'Protocol conditions' which would apply to this site, based on the impacts as assessed.

Protocol conditions (which would apply upon authorisation):

- P2 Certain activities permitted by this licence require ecological expertise. Activities subject to this condition can only be carried out by an ecologist with an appropriate great crested newts Survey Licence or under the direct supervision of such a person.
- P3 Where licence or protocol conditions refer to publications, licence users are expected to refer to the most up to date iteration available. Natural England can direct users to the relevant iterations.
- P4 The biosecurity guidelines in Amphibian Disease Precautions: A guide for UK fieldworkers, Advice Note 4 (available from www.arguk.org) must be observed by all licence users.
- P5 Great crested newts must not be relocated outside the Licensed Area, over a distance greater than 1 kilometre or beyond a significant physical barrier to dispersal without the permission of Natural England.
- P8 Persons capturing newts under this licence are expected to follow the advice on welfare considerations for capture programmes in the 'Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines' available from Natural England.
- P11 Great crested newts are not to be translocated to Compensation Land or other locations within the Licensed Area unless the terrestrial and/or aquatic habitats are suitable for great crested newts. The suitability of the site is to be confirmed by a suitably qualified person (e.g. an ecologist with a great crested newt survey licence).

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