

Ecology response for DC/23/96303 Land adjacent Unit 2CB, Deer Park Farm, Fair Oak, SO50 7DZ

Discharge of conditions 3 (Construction Environmental Management Plan) and 7 (Landscape and Ecological Management Plan), of permission ref. F/17/82214 for use of land as civil engineering contractor's yard, with associated storage, storage containers, parking, fencing and landscaping

Rebecca Altman

2/11/23

Condition 3 CEMP

I have reviewed the Construction Plan and the CEMP Report by Southern Planning Practice (September 2023). Section 6.2 states that reptile drift fencing will be installed around the main area of the site, but not along the site access corridor, which is designated as the reptile receptor site area. This receptor area must be shown on the plan. The CEMP states that reptile exclusion fencing would be installed in the event that reptiles are trapped and translocated to this area, but this takes time to install, so this means that reptiles would be released into this area before it was fenced. The receptor area must be enhanced to provide suitable habitat for reptiles. We don't have any record of conditions in this area, such as whether there are basking areas, or natural or artificial hibernacula. The receptor area must be suitable for translocated reptiles before they are likely to be placed there. The LEMP contains a timetable for habitat delivery and management, but I don't see a specific timetable of works for reptile mitigation and management (including provision of fencing, temporary refugia within the receptor area, trapping and site security) as stated in condition 3. This receptor area must be maintained until the bund areas have been planted, and suitable reptile habitat (hibernacula, grassland and hedgerow) has become established around the bund.

Condition 7 LEMP

I have reviewed the LEMP by Southern Planning Practice (September 2023). Hedgerow tree and shrub planting aftercare (P2) must be extended either year 4 or 5 to include removal of the protective tree shelters fitted to the trees and shrubs once deer browsing is no longer a threat to these plants.

Reptile refugia (L1) must also be checked to see that they are still in position during the first five years.

The biodiversity net gain calculation (Metric 4.0) has been provided and is satisfactory.

Lisa Malter

Ecologist

