

Environmental Statement - Addendum
Volume 3
Appendix 6.3 WFDa

APPENDIX 6.3

WFDa Spreadsheet and Summary Text

Water Framework Directive Assessment Addendum

1.1 Introduction and Aim

- 1.1.1 A Water Framework Directive Assessment (WFDa) evaluates biological, physico-chemical (water quality) and hydromorphological (physical) elements at a study site, for surface water and groundwater bodies, and for connecting waterbodies.
- 1.1.2 The WFDa report for the Stafford Western Access Route was submitted as Appendix 6.3 of the Environmental Statement (ES) in June 2015. Revisions have subsequently been made to the Scheme design, as described in the ES Addendum.
- 1.1.3 The aim of the WFDa Addendum is to summarise the effects of the amended scheme in terms of WFD objectives against baseline (existing) water environment conditions and in comparison to the previous scheme.

1.2 Method

- 1.2.1 The WFDa Addendum is provided as a summary assessment matrix of the impacts of all scheme elements on all WFD elements, for both the previous and amended schemes. The matrix is colour coded according to Table 1, and is set out as described in Table 2. The assessment itself is the summary matrix presented below.

Table 1 Colour Coded ‘Ratings’

- - -	Major worsening on the Comparator Scheme
- -	Moderate worsening on the Comparator Scheme
-	Minor worsening on Comparator Scheme
O	Neutral / no change to Comparator Scheme
+	Minor improvement on Comparator Scheme
+ +	Moderate improvement on Comparator Scheme
+ + +	Major improvement on Comparator Scheme
N/A	Not applicable

Table 2 Layout of the Assessment Matrix for the Previous and Amended Schemes

PREVIOUS SCHEME	AMENDED SCHEME
Summary assessment of the superseded scheme presented with hatched shading and black borders	Summary assessment of the amended scheme presented with plain shading and red borders, including assessment of how the amended scheme compares to the previous scheme
Scheme elements are arranged in columns and WFD elements are arranged in rows	Scheme elements are arranged in columns and WFD elements are arranged in rows

1.3 Results

- 1.3.1 The previous WFDa concluded that, in terms of WFD objectives, and based on information and various other works in progress available to date, it appears likely that the Scheme, including mitigation measures, would support WFD objectives.
- 1.3.2 The WFDa Addendum has identified minor risks of environmental deterioration compared to existing conditions and the comparator scheme. These relate to the change in scheme design from a 15-span viaduct across the River Soar floodplain to a 6-span viaduct with embankments within the floodplain, which increases the risk of deteriorating waterbody connectivity across the floodplain.
- 1.3.3 The Flood Risk Assessment for the amended scheme, which includes hydraulic modelling, demonstrates that the effects of the amended scheme on river flows would be insignificant. Other addendum assessments for hydrology, ecology and drainage (including water quality) identified no significant environmental worsening or improvement from the previous scheme to the amended scheme.

1.4 Conclusion

- 1.4.1 Water Framework Directive objectives have been reviewed for the amended Stafford Western Access Route. On the basis of information and other works in progress available to date, it appears likely that the Scheme, including mitigation measures, would uphold WFD objectives if appropriate monitoring and mitigation measures are put in place. The Scheme should therefore:
- Not cause deterioration in the ecological potential of any waterbodies.
 - Not prevent the waterbodies from meeting objectives of good ecological potential.
 - Not prevent or compromise WFD objectives being met in other water bodies.
 - Not cause failure to meet good groundwater status, or result in a deterioration of groundwater status.
 - Not prevent the implementation of mitigation measures.

