

23 October 2023

Mrs Heather Morrison  
Planning Department  
Cumberland Council  
The Copeland Centre  
Catherine Street  
Whitehaven  
Cumbria, CA28 7SJ

Direct tel: n/a

Our ref: PLC/BCC/2149

Dear Heather,

**PLANNING PERMISSION: PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED DEMOLITION – THORP MANAGEMENT CENTRE LINK BRIDGE**

Sellafield Limited proposes to demolish a redundant overhead walkway known as the THORP Management Centre Link Bridge (TMCLB), which is located within the Sellafield site. The primary function of the link bridge was pedestrian access between THORP Management Centre and the THORP plant. One section of the bridge over Street 12 was removed nearly a decade ago to provide a safe access route to a significant construction site in the centre of the Sellafield site. There are three remaining sections of the bridge requiring removal in addition to several associated support columns and an access staircase that require removal to base slab level.

The underside of the bridge is approximately 8.0m high and spans railway sidings adjacent to Street 12 and car parking area. The remaining bridge is composed of 3 sections of approximate lengths 22m, 16m and 31m respectively. These independent sections consist of a steel lattice girder framework supported by 4 number concrete columns, with a 5th isolated column that remains to the West of Street 12 which supported the previously removed section of bridge column. Each section of the lattice girder framework is mounted on two supporting columns via one fixed and one sliding bearing.

The building is now redundant and has reached the end of its useful life. Sellafield Limited is currently undertaking option studies into future development options on the TMCLB site. At present, the proposed future use is not confirmed and the TMCLB requires demolition to remove unnecessary maintenance works.

Given the possibility for possible future redevelopment at the site, the proposal is to remove the building superstructure and retain the existing concrete foundations until a future development design is confirmed. Any future development proposals will be presented to relevant stakeholders and will be subject to formal planning application and consent from the Local Planning Authority.

I therefore attach copies of the following for your approval:

- Application for Prior Notification of Proposed Demolition - Form
- Summary Information Report

- Phase 1 Habitat Survey\*
- Location Plan - 1 BE 3032299 Rev E

\*The Habitat Survey includes the information previously contained in the ecology report.

From the Scale of Charges for Planning Applications, the fee payable is £96.00, which has been sent separately.

Please note a Site Notice of Application for Prior Approval for Demolition of Building, along with a Statement of Display of a Site Notice, has been produced and erected at the entrance to the Sellafield site.

Yours sincerely

Euan Hutton  
Chief Executive Officer