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Environment
Agency

Ms Nichola Atkinson
Haxey Parish Council
1 Eastmoor Villas
Epworth Road
Haxey
Doncaster
DN9 2LH

Date: 6th November 2008

Dear Ms Atkinson,

Re: Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan Consultation

Thank you for your consultation response regarding the above document. I apologise for the delay in responding to your comments and queries, this has been due to the considerable workload involved in assessing the many comments and developing the Midlands Region CFMP programme of projects.

We have reproduced and answered your questions in relation to the consultation below as follows:

Haxey Parish Council objects most strongly to the proposal in the Trent Catchment Flood Management Plan that Axholme and North West Lincolnshire (Policy Area 1) should be allocated Policy 2.

The Parish Council feedback has been noted. We would assure the Council that the selection of Policy 2 for this policy unit was undertaken following a pragmatic and objective assessment of current and future risk in relation to the wider catchment. In order to further develop this high level assessment an Isle of Axholme Strategy as recommended in the CFMP is currently underway.



If the Environment Agency is considering reducing their pumping operations in the Axholme area the commercial and domestic development of the area would be blighted.

As mentioned previously, the Isle of Axholme is predominantly land drained by human intervention. This is not sustainable in the long term and we are undertaking a more detailed Isle of Axholme Strategy study arising from the CFMP, and continue discussions with partners and public representatives to find out exactly what the application of the policy in the Trent CFMP means in the short, medium and longer terms for the Isle of Axholme and to try to find an acceptable long term solution. The outcome of this strategic study will seek to determine the most appropriate long term solution.

The impact upon agricultural and food production cannot be ignored. Food production is again increasing in importance on the political agenda and the area is highly productive particularly in the areas of vegetable production.

This is a current issue that we need to monitor in the light of more global food security concerns.

We have produced the CFMP in accordance with the existing policies for assessing damages to agricultural land. The CFMP is a live document and will be responsive to significant changes in national policy that could affect the ongoing flood risk management policy choice in relation to agricultural assets.

Once again, thank you for contacting us regarding the Trent CFMP. We trust you have found the response to your queries helpful.

Yours sincerely



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