

## **THE WELSH MINISTERS**

### **M4 CORRIDOR ENHANCEMENT MEASURES STEELWORKS ACCESS ROAD PHASE 2**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 105 B OF THE HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 (AS AMENDED)**

### **ASSESSMENT OF IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN SITES NOTICE OF STATEMENT TO INFORM AN APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 61 OF THE CONSERVATION OF HABITATS AND SPECIES REGULATIONS 2010**

The Welsh Ministers have decided to proceed with the above project for the 'online' improvement of 4.7km of existing dual carriageway at Llanwern, Newport, South Wales (Grid Ref. ST 375 862) through the steelworks site bringing the road (known as Queensway) up to public highway standard, including any necessary safety and environmental 'online' improvements of 2.9km of the existing road from the steelworks eastern gate to the M4 Junction 23A. The Welsh Ministers determined that this project is a relevant project and subject to Environmental Impact Assessment in accordance with Part VA of the Highways Act 1980 (as amended) and EC Directive 85/337/EEC (as amended).

The project is also subject to an Assessment of Implications on European Sites (AIES) in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) and Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EC.

In accordance with the above determination an Environmental Statement (ES) was prepared which identifies the key environmental issues associated with the project. The ES also details the mitigation measures that are to be provided in order to avoid, reduce or offset the project's

adverse effects. At the same time a Statement to Inform an Appropriate Assessment (SIAA) was also prepared under Regulation 48 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) of the Regulations 1994.

The ES, a non-technical summary of it and the SIAA were published on 25 August 2011 and placed on deposit at the locations listed below until 6 October 2011 and comments were invited. Responses were received and considered by the Welsh Ministers before reaching their decision to proceed with the improvement

Copies of the ES, non-technical summary, the SIAA and the Welsh Ministers Decision Letter may be inspected during office/opening hours from the 21 December 2011 until 1 February 2012 or within 6 weeks of the publication date of this notice, whichever period expires later, at the following locations;

Caldicot Library, Woodstock Way, Caldicot NP26 5DB;

Newport City Council, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR;

Monmouthshire County Council, County Hall, Cwmbran NP44 2XH;

Magor with Undy Community Council Office, Magor Police Station, Main Road, Undy, Caldicot NP26 3EH; or

Welsh Government, Transport, Orders Branch, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ.

Any person aggrieved by the decision of the Welsh Ministers to proceed with this improvement for which an ES has been made and desiring to question the validity of that decision, on the ground:

- a) that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980 or
- b) that any requirement of that Act, or of regulations made thereunder has not been complied with;

may, within 6 weeks from the publication date of this notice, apply to the High Court

for the suspension or quashing of the decision to proceed.

A copy of the Welsh Ministers decision can be viewed at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/transport/roads/schemes/reports/?lang=en>

**A copy of this notice in larger print can be obtained from the Welsh Government, Transport, Orders Branch, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NQ.**

M D BURNELL  
Orders Branch  
Transport  
Welsh Government  
On behalf of the Welsh Ministers