

Our ref: SMART/EH021/MB

02/06/2021

Mr Terry Airlie,
Correspondence Secretary,
Queensferry & District Community Council,
87 Sommerville Gardens,
South Queensferry,
EH30 9PW

Dear Mr Airlie

ARQIVA - SMART METERING

**SOUTHBOUND GRASS VERGE, B800, SOUTH QUEENSFERRY, EDINBURGH,
EH30 9SE (NGR: E 312991, N 677336)**

PRIOR CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY

Smart Metering is a Government programme, introduced in 2014, to roll out smart electricity and gas meters to homes and small businesses across Great Britain. The smart meter initiative is a key part of the Government's programme to cut greenhouse gas emissions, decarbonise the economy and support the creation of new green jobs and technologies.

The Department of Energy & Climate Change has awarded the contract to deliver the radio communication network for smart metering to Arqiva and Telefonica. Arqiva will deploy and manage the radio communications network in Scotland and northern England whilst Telefonica will provide the network to the remainder of Great Britain. Both companies will become the Communication Service Providers.

This new national smart metering 'Wide Area Network' will form part of the UK's Critical National Infrastructure and is one of the 40 projects in the UK's National Infrastructure Plan. Its deployment and timely delivery is particularly important to achieving a sustainable economy and meeting key Government priorities. In Scotland, smart metering will help deliver the aspirations within the Climate Change (Scotland) Act and Low Carbon Scotland: Meeting our Emissions Reduction Targets 2013-2027 - The Second Report on Proposals and Policies (RPP2).

It will help meet objectives within the Scottish Government's Economic Strategy and support Scotland's transformation to a low carbon economy. Consumers will benefit by having real time information on their energy consumption, to help them control energy use, save money and reduce emissions. With greater visibility and understanding of their energy consumption, consumers will be able to make more informed choices about which appliances to use and when. For example, a consumer seeing the power consumption of a tumble dryer might be encouraged to use a washing line instead or perhaps to avoid operating it during peak periods of demand when pricing is higher.

As the smart metering radio network must be able to communicate with meters that are typically found within the heart of a property, for example, in an under stairs cupboard, then the sites must be in relative proximity to properties that they serve.

To meet the requirements of the new radio communications network for smart metering, Arqiva will need to install electronic communications apparatus at several hundred sites across Scotland. In December 2013 we provided a Network Rollout plan and broad schedule of sites which would likely need to be delivered in your Local Authority's area to meet network coverage. A follow-up meeting was held at the Council Offices in April 2014 and the identified sites were presented to representatives of the Council Planning Department.

Arqiva owns and operates the terrestrial radio and television broadcast networks. We own most of the tower portfolio originally developed by T-Mobile (now part of Everything Everywhere) and we have rights and manage other masts, towers and rooftops, developed or otherwise suitable for use for electronic communications. In total, Arqiva has access to over 16,000 sites around the UK, which is considerably in excess of the numbers available to any other electronic communications operator in the UK.

Basing the smart metering radio communications network on this portfolio of existing sites will be a critical element in minimising the potential visual impact associated with the deployment of a new network. This is obviously consistent with longstanding statutory and government policy requirements to use existing sites or other high structures so as to minimise visual impact.

However new installations will be required in some areas for a variety of reasons, for example, the nearest existing sites are too far from certain properties; the signal from the nearest site may be adversely attenuated or affected by topography or natural or man-made features such as trees or high buildings; or the fabric of the properties is such that the signals will be unable to penetrate them, for example, because they are old thick walled buildings. Without some new installations a number of homes and businesses would not therefore be able to benefit from smart meters.

In this case, as a new network is being established, a new ground-based mast is being proposed. Arqiva is therefore looking to install a 12 metre high monopole along with 1 x Omni antenna at 13.5m and 1 x GPS antenna at 12.1m. The proposed streetworks pole has been designed to have minimal effect on the structures immediate surroundings. A small equipment cabinet is also proposed at ground level. The proposal looks to present the optimum solution in terms of balancing environmental and operational considerations and meet the visual expectation of the area. It will also provide a constituent part of a key Government infrastructure priority. Detailed drawings of this site are attached.

Pre-application request for comments

The purpose of this letter is to advise you of a specific proposal and invite your detailed comments so that, if practicable, they can be taken into account in finalising the details and making the planning submission. We also seek your agreement on the Traffic Light Rating and the associated consultation strategy to be adopted in this case (see below).

If for whatever reason, you have concerns about the use of this site, could you please indicate why? In addition, please provide details, including land ownership if you have them, of any alternative sites within an approximate radius of 500 metres around the site that you consider might merit investigation as a realistic and preferred option. With this information a comparative assessment can be carried out and if appropriate an approach made to the landowner to establish availability.

Other Consultations

In addition to above, Arqiva is committed to carrying out consultation with the community prior to development in accordance with best practice guidelines and the advice contained in national policy, the operators are committed to undertaking wider engagement with the local community and other stakeholders who may have an interest in the development.

The proposal has, therefore, been assessed using Traffic Light Rating Model in order to establish an appropriate level of engagement. The proposal has been categorised as Amber. In accordance with best practice guidelines, additional engagement was undertaken and sent out to the following: Councillor Kevin Lang, Councillor Louise Young, Councillor Norman Work and Councillor Graham Hutchison of the Almond ward along with the Local Planning Authority – Edinburgh City Council. If, however, you consider this rating to be incorrect or consider other interested parties should be notified at this stage, then please let us know and pass on copies of this documentation or let us have details at your earliest convenience.



We look forward to receiving any comments you may have. It would be greatly appreciated if you could either forward your comments or, if preferred, contact us to arrange a meeting within the next 14 days.

Yours faithfully

Martin Brown

Senior Planning Manager

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Mob: 07771 933 094

On behalf of ARQIVA

Enc: Location Plan – 307414-00-004-MD001, Drawings – 307414-00-000-MD001, 307414-00-001-MD001, 307414-00-002-MD001 and 307414-00-003-MD001




NOTES

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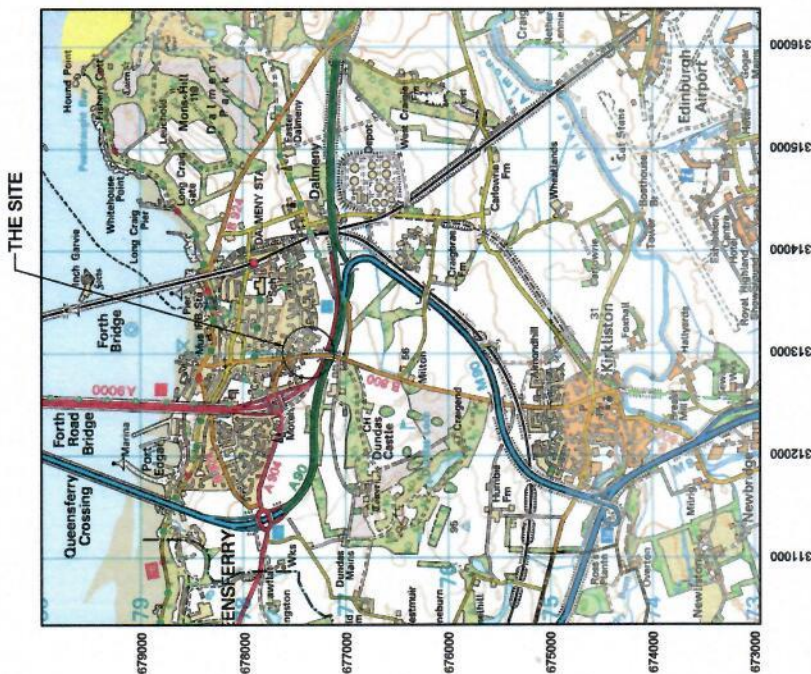
O.S. LANDRANGER MAP
No. 065

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| Chester Court, Winchester, Hampshire, SO21 2DA Tel: 01962 823434 Fax: 01962 823718 | |
| SITE No 307414 SM_EH021 | B900 STREETWORKS SOUTHBOUND GRASS VERGE B900, SOUTH QUEENSFERRY EDINBURGH EH30 9SE |
| NGR OS GRID | NT 22991 77336 3125991 677336 |
| TITLE LOCATION PLAN | |
| SCALE SEE DRAWING | |
| DRAWN APPROVED | HMR 170521 |
| DRG No. | Sheet 1 of 1 |
| 33acacx-00-004-MI.001 | |



LOCATION PLAN
SCALE 1:1250



LOCATION PLAN
SCALE 1:50,000

NOTE: TRAFFIC & PEDESTRIAN MANAGEMENT WILL BE REQUIRED DURING CONSTRUCTION WORKS AND FOR FUTURE MAINTENANCE ACCESS TO ANTENNA.

NOTE: PARKING FOR FUTURE MAINTENANCE ON GRASS VERGE EITHER SIDE OF ACCESS ROAD TO ARKUP ENGINEERING. ADDITIONAL PARKING AVAILABLE WITHIN ADJACENT HOUSING ESTATE OR SUPERMARKET 300m FROM SITE LOCATION

PROPOSED 100mm DIA UPVC DUCT (ENATS SPEC 12-24) FOR INCOMING DNO SUPPLY TO PROPOSED AROVIA SMART METERING EQUIPMENT CABINET (OMNI)



NOTE: PROPOSED POWER SUPPLY TO BE TAKEN FROM DNO SUPPLY IN GRASS VERGE TO BE ROUTED IN PROPOSED DUCT TO PROPOSED SITE LOCATION. DNO TO CONFIRM

NOTE: PROPOSED ARQIVA SMART METERING FEEDERS TO RUN UNDERGROUND FROM PROPOSED CABINET TO PROPOSED POLE IN DUCT THEN UP CENTRE OF POLE TO PROPOSED ANTENNA LOCATION.

NOTE: PROPOSED ARQIVA SMART METERING BT SUPPLY TO BE RUN IN PROPOSED UNDERGROUND DUCT IN GRASS VERGE TO SITE LOCATION. BT TO CONFIRM

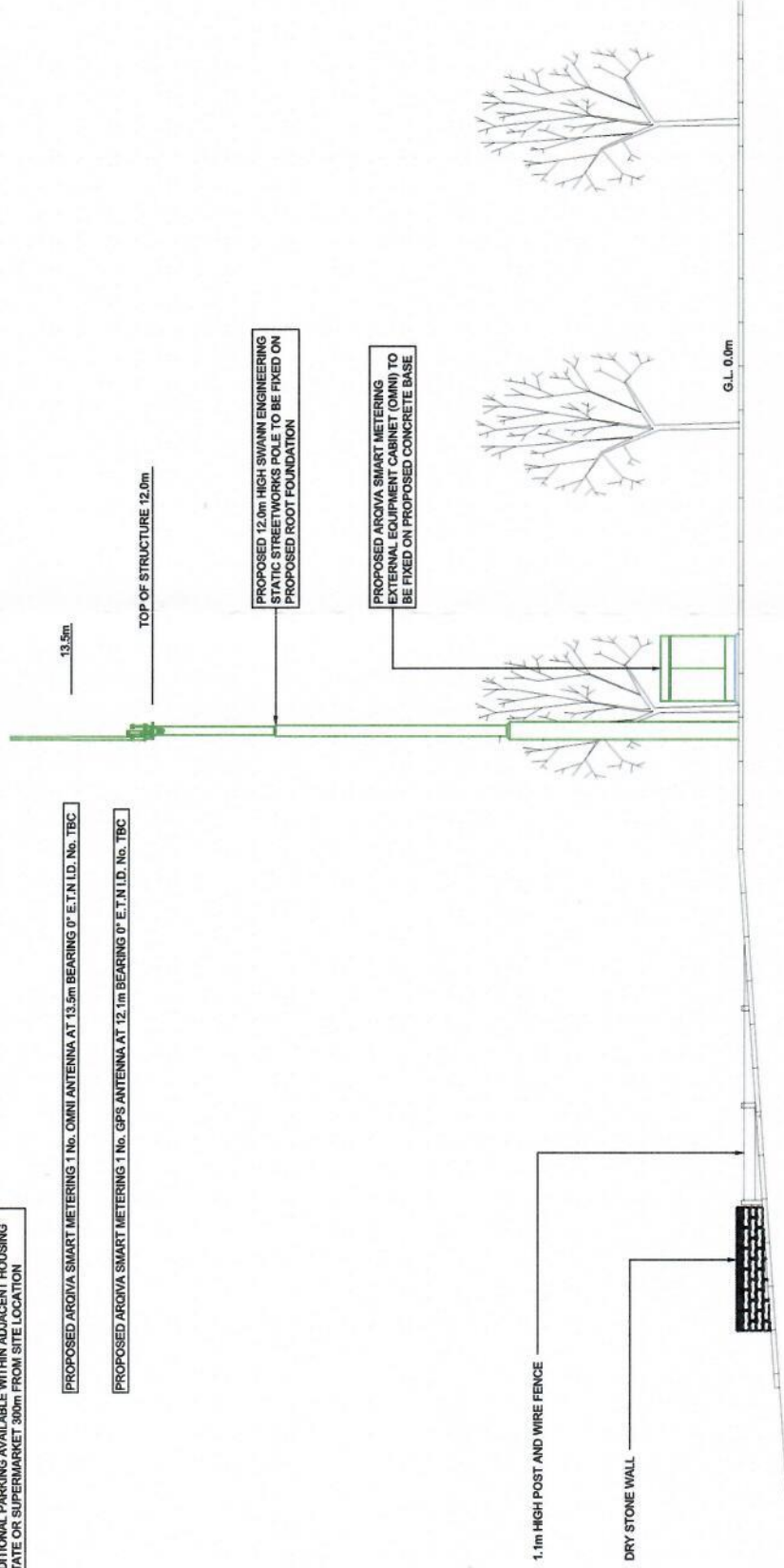
NOTE: SERVICES ARE PRESENT IN THE GRASS VERGE. HAND DIG TO VERIFY AREA IS CLEAR PRIOR TO MECHANICAL EXCAVATION. STATS INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR REFERENCE. 2No. DUCTS WERE FOUND AT TRIAL DIG 1200mm BELOW EXISTING GROUND LEVEL. POLE FOUNDATION TO BE LOCATED CENTRALLY BETWEEN DUCTS

NOTE: TRAFFIC & PEDESTRIAN MANAGEMENT WILL BE REQUIRED DURING CONSTRUCTION WORKING AND FOR FUTURE MAINTENANCE ACCESS TO ANTENNA

NOTE: PARKING FOR FUTURE MAINTENANCE ON GRASS VERGE EITHER SIDE OF ACCESS ROAD TO ARUP ENGINEERING. ADDITIONAL PARKING AVAILABLE WITHIN ADJACENT HOUSING ESTATE OR SUPERMARKET 300m FROM SITE LOCATION

PROPOSED ARQIVA SMART METERING 1 No. OMNI ANTENNA AT 13.5m BEARING 0° E.T.N.I.D. No. TBC

PROPOSED ARQIVA SMART METERING 1 No. GPS ANTENNA AT 12.1m BEARING 0° E.T.N.I.D. No. TBC



THIS DRAWING HAS BEEN PRODUCED FROM INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM SITE SURVEY ON 23/04/21. PHOTOS ARE AVAILABLE.

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SITE No 3XXXXX
SM_EH021
B800 STREETWORKS
SOUTHBOUND GRASS VERGE
B800, SOUTH QUEENSFERRY
EDINBURGH
EH30 9SE
NGR NT 12991 77336
OS GRID 312991 677336
TITLE WEST ELEVATION
PROPOSED

SCALE 1:100
DRAWN HAR
APPROVED
170521
DWS No. Sheet 1 of 1
307414-00-003-MD001-A