

BESPOKE PERMIT APPLICATION –SEWER DISCHARGE

Project: London Southend Airport
Purpose: Surface De-icer Drainage Discharge Permit Application
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CONSIDERATION OF DISCHARGE TO SEWER FOR PROPOSED SURFACE DE-ICING OPERATIONS AT LONDON SOUTHEND AIRPORT

The proposal outlined in this bespoke permit application is that drained runoff containing surface de-icing fluids (potassium acetate) will be discharged to the nearby watercourses of Eastwood Brook and Prittle Brook.

It is considered that the proposal presented offers a practical solution to deal with the surface water runoff that will be created when using surface de-icing chemicals.

During early development of the design, the option of discharging to a local public sewer was considered. Discussion took place between Capita Symonds (on behalf of London Southend Airport) and the sewerage authority, Anglian Water.

Discharge of de-icer runoff to a foul sewer might be permitted providing certain criteria could be met (including possible pre-treatment of the runoff prior to discharge), however foul sewers are not designed with sufficient capacity to accept large volumes of storm water. A method of switching between foul and storm discharge would be required to prevent surface water discharging to the foul sewer when de-icing was not taking place. Given the low risk of contamination of the receiving watercourse posed by the use of potassium acetate based de-icing chemicals, it is not considered practical to construct such a system.