

Officer Liz Anderson – Ecologist
Date 12/08/2026

Ref: 25/03197/FP
Att: Henry Thomas

The Barn, Great North Road, Radwell, Baldock, Hertfordshire, SG7 5EN

Erection of detached industrial storage building following demolition of two existing industrial storage buildings and installation of external lighting and increase in material storage height to 6.0m. (Development has commenced).

Updated comments;

I have read the additional ecological information provided and note the 30m mast illuminates the rear of the yard and operates during winter between approximately 05:00–08:00 and 16:00–20:00. It is not used during the summer months. However, no clear detail is provided when it is used as bats are active in Spring and Autumn as well as Summer.

I would agree with the measures proposed in the Ecology Lighting Assessment and that these should be implemented to prevent a detrimental impact on a protected species though it would be helpful to have clarity as to what these are exactly, month by month.

- *retain the existing seasonal and time-based restrictions on operation of the 30 m mast;*
- *reduce the height of the mast where practicable without substantially increasing operating hours;*
- *refine luminaire aiming and shielding to minimise light spill and glare;*
- *avoid direct illumination of bat boxes and retained woodland or vegetation wherever practicable; and*
- *consider a reduction in colour temperature where operationally practicable.*

In addition, as the building on site will be demolished an EPS licence will be required and the following condition is advised;

EPS licence

Works undertaken likely to cause harm to bats shall not in any circumstances commence unless the local planning authority has been provided with either:

a) a licence issued by Natural England pursuant to Regulation 53 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 authorizing the specified activity/development to go ahead; or

b) a statement in writing from the relevant licensing body to the effect that it does not consider that the specified activity/development will require a licence.