

PLANNING REF : 250959
PROPERTY ADDRESS : 9
: Green End Close, Reading, Berkshire
: RG71EH
SUBMITTED BY : Mr Danny Fayers
DATE SUBMITTED : 09/06/2025

COMMENTS:

I am writing to formally object to the planning application for the demolition of existing buildings and garage, and the change of use from service station to a fuel oil storage and distribution facility, including the installation of eight fuel oil storage tanks, recladding of the existing building, refurbishment of hardstanding, and associated works at prince brothers.

My concerns are particularly focused on the environmental risks posed by this development, specifically to the local aquatic environment and carp populations in the Canberra and Orrell Lakes and the River Loddon.

1. Environmental Impact on Aquatic Ecosystems and Carp Populations

The proposed site is in close proximity to the River Loddon, Canberra Lake, and Orrell Lake, all of which support valuable fish populations, including carp. These water bodies are important ecological habitats that rely on clean water for the survival and reproduction of aquatic species. The introduction of a fuel oil storage facility and the potential for spills, leaks, or runoff from the development could severely degrade water quality and disrupt these ecosystems.

Carp, in particular, are sensitive to the quality of their aquatic environment. Even small-scale pollution from hazardous materials like fuel oil could lead to fish kills, destruction of spawning habitats, and long-term damage to the food chain. The risks associated with this development could thus have far-reaching consequences for the biodiversity of the River Loddon and the surrounding lakes.

2. Risk of Groundwater and Surface Water Contamination

Given the location of the site near both Canberra and Orrell Lakes and the River Loddon, there is a significant risk that any fuel oil spill or leakage could contaminate nearby surface water or groundwater reserves. These watercourses are vital not only for local wildlife but also for the broader community, including those who may depend on them for recreational activities.

Fuel oil is persistent in both soil and water, and its toxic hydrocarbons can contaminate sediment beds and damage aquatic life. This could result in long-term ecological degradation, particularly affecting the water quality, habitat integrity, and the health of carp populations.

3. Lack of Comprehensive Environmental Assessment

The planning application does not provide sufficient evidence of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) that would properly address these environmental concerns. The proposed facility's potential to affect local water quality, the habitats of carp, and the health of the River Loddon and nearby lakes requires further scrutiny. Given the scale and nature of the project, I believe it is essential that a detailed EIA is carried out to fully assess the risks to local aquatic ecosystems, including a specific focus on carp populations and the River Loddon.

Conclusion

The proposed development at prince brothers presents an unacceptable risk to the local environment, particularly the aquatic ecosystems in Canberra Lake, Orrell Lake, and the River Loddon. The potential harm to carp and all other fresh water fish populations and the broader biodiversity of these watercourses is a significant concern that must not be overlooked.

I respectfully urge the planning authority to refuse this application unless a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment is completed, with a specific focus on water pollution risks, the health of carp populations, and the protection of the River Loddon and surrounding lakes.

I request to be informed of any future developments or decisions related to this application and trust that my concerns will be given due consideration.

Yours sincerely,