

# Permit with introductory note

## The Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016

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**The Mrs McCorquodale Will Trust**

**Realignment of the River Witham & backfilling of the existing channel**  
**Installation of 28 non-spanning Large Wood Structures on the River Witham**  
**Installation of 2 channel spanning logjams on the River Witham**  
**Floodplain reprofiling with 19 scrapes & 4 mounds**  
**Installation of gravel riffle features in the River Witham**  
**Temporary dewatering & silt control on the River Witham**  
**Temporary spoil stockpiles in the River Witham floodplain**

**National Grid References:** SK 92781 32282 to SK 92554 32989.

Upper River Witham, near Little Ponton, Lincolnshire, extending between Whalebone Lane and Saltersford Water Treatment Works, NG33 5BU

### **Permit number**

EPR/EB3946ML

# Introductory note

## This introductory note does not form a part of the permit

The main features of the permit are as follows.

Realignment of the River Witham, with the installation of large wood structures, logjams, and gravel riffle features within the river, as well as floodplain reprofiling, enabled by temporary dewatering and the temporary storage of spoil in the floodplain

The status log of the permit does not form part of the permit. It sets out the permitting history, including changes to the permit or permit reference number.

<b>Status log of the permit</b>		
<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Application EPR/EB3946ML	Duly made 09/10/2025	Application for Realignment of the River Witham, with the installation of large wood structures, logjams, and gravel riffle features within the river, as well as floodplain reprofiling, enabled by temporary dewatering and the temporary storage of spoil in the floodplain
Schedule 5 Notice for Further Information issued EPR/EB3946ML	26/11/2025	Schedule 5 Notice for Further Information issued to The Mrs McCorquodale Will Trust, requesting further information on the methodology, designs, flood modelling and risk assessment, and landowner discussions and maintenance
Schedule 5 Notice for Further Information response received EPR/EB3946ML	26/01/2026	Schedule 5 Notice for Further Information response received from The Mrs McCorquodale Will Trust
Permit determined EPR/EB3946ML	06/02/2026	Permit issued to The Mrs McCorquodale Will Trust

End of introductory note

# Permit

## The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

### Permit number

**EPR/EB3946ML**

The Environment Agency hereby authorises, under regulation 13 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

**The Mrs McCorquodale Will Trust** (“the operator”)

whose principal office is

**Estate Office  
Home Farm  
Stoke Rochford  
Grantham  
Lincolnshire  
NG33 5EF**

to operate the following flood risk activities:

Realignment of the River Witham & backfilling of the existing channel  
Installation of 28 non-spanning Large Wood Structures on the River Witham  
Installation of 2 channel spanning logjams on the River Witham  
Floodplain reprofiling with 19 scrapes & 4 mounds  
Installation of gravel riffle features in the River Witham  
Temporary dewatering & silt control on the River Witham  
Temporary spoil stockpiles in the River Witham floodplain

at

Upper River Witham, near Little Ponton, Lincolnshire, extending between Whalebone Lane and Saltersford Water Treatment Works, NG33 5BU

**National Grid References: SK 92781 32282 to SK 92554 32989**

to the extent authorised by and subject to the conditions of this permit.

Name	Date
<b>G House Gemma House Team Leader</b>	<b>06/02/2026</b>

**Authorised on behalf of the Environment Agency**

# Conditions

## 1 Management

### 1.1 General management

- 1.1.1 The operator shall manage and operate the activities:
- (a) in accordance with a written management system that identifies and minimises risks of flooding, impact on drainage and environmental harm so far as is reasonably practicable, including those risks arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, incidents, non-conformances and those drawn to the attention of the operator as a result of complaints; and
  - (b) using sufficient competent persons and resources.
- 1.1.2 Records demonstrating compliance with condition 1.1.1 shall be maintained.
- 1.1.3 Any person having duties that are or may be affected by the matters set out in this permit shall have convenient access to a copy of the permit.

## 2 Operations

### 2.1 Permitted activities

- 2.1.1 The operator is only authorised to carry out the activities specified in schedule 1 table S1.1 (the “activities”).

### 2.2 The site

- 2.2.1 The activities shall not extend beyond the site, being the land shown edged in red on the site plan at schedule 2 to this permit and showing National Grid References **SK 92781 32282 to SK 92554 32989**.

### 2.3 Operating techniques

- 2.3.1 The operator shall use appropriate measures, including but not limited to those in the approved Method of Work.
- (a) to minimise sediment mobilisation
  - (b) to minimise impact on biodiversity
  - (c) to ensure there is no increase to flood risk or detrimental impact on drainage;
  - (d) for the storage and disposal of waste produced; and
  - (e) to prevent and minimise environmental harm.
- 2.3.2 All liquids in containers, whose emission to water or land could cause pollution, shall be provided with secondary containment, unless the operator has used other appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, leakage and spillage from the primary container.
- 2.3.3 Measures shall be taken to ensure that the activities do not cause the spread of invasive non-native species or plant or animal diseases.
- 2.3.4 The operator shall provide the Environment Agency with emergency contact details prior to the commencement of the activities.

- 2.3.5 The operator shall sign up to receive flood warnings and flood alerts from the Environment Agency. Upon receipt of alert or warning the works shall cease and temporary works removed within two hours to allow the river to flow at full capacity.
- 2.3.6 The operator shall ensure that vehicular access to the site is available to officers of the Environment Agency and their authorised contractors at all times.
- 2.3.7 If materials or equipment are washed downstream, the operator shall recover lost materials and/or equipment once it is safe to do so.
- 2.3.8 The activities shall, subject to the conditions of this permit, be operated using the techniques and in the manner described in the documentation specified in schedule 1, table S1.2, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.

## **3 Information**

### **3.1 Records**

- 3.1.1 All records required to be made by this permit shall:
- (a) be legible;
  - (b) be made as soon as reasonably practicable;
  - (c) if amended, be amended in such a way that the original and any subsequent amendments remain legible, or are capable of retrieval; and
  - (d) be retained, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency, for at least 6 years from the date when the records were made, or in the case of the following records until permit surrender:
    - (i) records relating to conditions for the ongoing operation or maintenance of a structure;
    - (ii) records relating to the continuing access of the Environment Agency to the watercourse or to works or structures it operates;
    - (iii) matters which affect the condition of the land.
- 3.1.2 The operator shall keep on site all records, plans and the management system required to be maintained by this permit, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.

### **3.2 Reporting**

- 3.2.1 The operator shall send all reports and notifications required by the permit to the Environment Agency using the contact details supplied in writing by the Environment Agency.

### **3.3 Notifications**

- 3.3.1 The Environment Agency shall be notified no less than 7 days before the commencement of the activities.
- 3.3.2 The Environment Agency shall be notified no more than 7 days after the activities are completed.
- 3.3.3 The Environment Agency shall be notified without delay following the detection of any breach of a limit specified in the permit or any significant environmental effects resulting from the activities or of any breach of the permit.
- 3.3.4 Written confirmation of actual or potential incidents or effects and breaches referred to in 3.3.3 shall be submitted within 24 hours.
- 3.3.5 The Environment Agency shall be notified within 14 days of the occurrence of the following matters, except where such disclosure is prohibited by Stock Exchange rules:

Where the operator is a registered company:

- (a) any change in the operator's trading name, registered name or registered office address; and
- (b) any steps taken with a view to the operator going into administration, entering into a company voluntary arrangement or being wound up.

Where the operator is a corporate body other than a registered company:

- (a) any change in the operator's name or address; and
- (b) any steps taken with a view to the dissolution of the operator.

In any other case:

- (a) the death of any of the named operators (where the operator consists of more than one named individual);
- (b) any change in the operator's name(s) or address(es); and
- (c) any steps taken with a view to the operator, or any one of them, going into bankruptcy, entering into a composition or arrangement with creditors, or, in the case of them being in a partnership, dissolving the partnership.

3.3.6 Where the operator proposes to make a change in the nature or functioning, or an extension of the activities, which may have consequences for flood risk, drainage or the environment and the change is not otherwise the subject of an application for approval under the Regulations or this permit:

- (a) the Environment Agency shall be notified at least 14 days before making the change; and
- (b) the notification shall contain a description of the proposed change in operation.

## **3.4 Interpretation**

3.4.1 In this permit the expressions listed in schedule 3 shall have the meaning given in that schedule.

3.4.2 In this permit references to reports and notifications mean written reports and notifications, except where reference is made to notification being made "without delay", in which case it may be provided by telephone.

3.4.3 Any reference to a distance of a number of metres from a flood defence structure, drainage work, remote defence or sea defence is a reference to that distance as measured from the foot of the foregoing as the case may be.

3.4.4 Any reference to a distance of a number of metres from a river control work is a reference to that distance as measured from the nearest part of the river control work.

3.4.5 Any reference to a distance of a number of metres from a watercourse is a reference to that distance as measured horizontally from the foot of the bank on the landward side of the watercourse.

# Schedule 1 – Operations

Table S1.1 activities		
Activity reference	Description of activities	Limits of activities
	<b>Permanent Works</b>	
P1	Realignment of the River Witham & backfilling of the existing channel	<p>The activity shall be commenced within 3 years of the date of the grant of the permit and completed within 1 year of commencement.</p> <p>Before the completion of the activity on the site, the Operator shall ensure that all surplus soil, subsoil and material excavated in the course of the activity is deposited back in the place which it was excavated from or permanently removed from the site.</p> <p>The activities shall be carried out in accordance with following drawing references:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-02, “Detailed Design Design View”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-04, “Detailed Design Long Profile 1”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-05, “Detailed Design Long Profile 2”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-06, “Detailed Design Cross Sections 1”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-07, “Detailed Design Cross Sections 2”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-08, “Detailed Design Cross Sections 3”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-09, “Detailed Design Cross Sections 4”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-10, “Detailed Design Cross Sections 5”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-11, “Detailed Design Cross Sections 6”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-12, “Detailed Design Cut Fill Analysis”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-13, “Detailed Design LWS Details”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> </ul>

Table S1.1 activities		
Activity reference	Description of activities	Limits of activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2150767-DWG-DD-14, "Detailed Design Logjam Details", Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> </ul>
P2	Installation of 28 non-spanning Large Wood Structures on the River Witham	<p>The activity shall be commenced within 3 years of the date of the grant of the permit and completed within 1 year of commencement.</p> <p>The structure is made from naturally occurring woody material and is securely fastened to the bed of the main river, the bank or both.</p> <p>Before the completion of the activity on the site, the Operator shall ensure that all surplus soil, subsoil and material excavated in the course of the activity is deposited back in the place which it was excavated from or permanently removed from the site.</p> <p>The activities shall be carried out in accordance with the document reference 05_Appendix_3_Little Ponton Project – Large Wood Structure Design details, entitled "Little Ponton Project – Details of Design Features", received 19/09/2025.</p> <p>The activities shall be carried out in accordance with following drawing references:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2150767-DWG-DD-02, "Detailed Design Design View", Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>2150767-DWG-DD-04, "Detailed Design Long Profile 1", Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>2150767-DWG-DD-05, "Detailed Design Long Profile 2", Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>2150767-DWG-DD-13, "Detailed Design LWS Details", Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> </ul>
P3	Installation of 2 channel spanning logjams on the River Witham	<p>The activity shall be commenced within 3 years of the date of the grant of the permit and completed within 1 year of commencement.</p> <p>The structure is made from naturally occurring woody material and is securely fastened to the bed of the main river, the bank or both.</p> <p>Before the completion of the activity on the site, the Operator shall ensure that all</p>

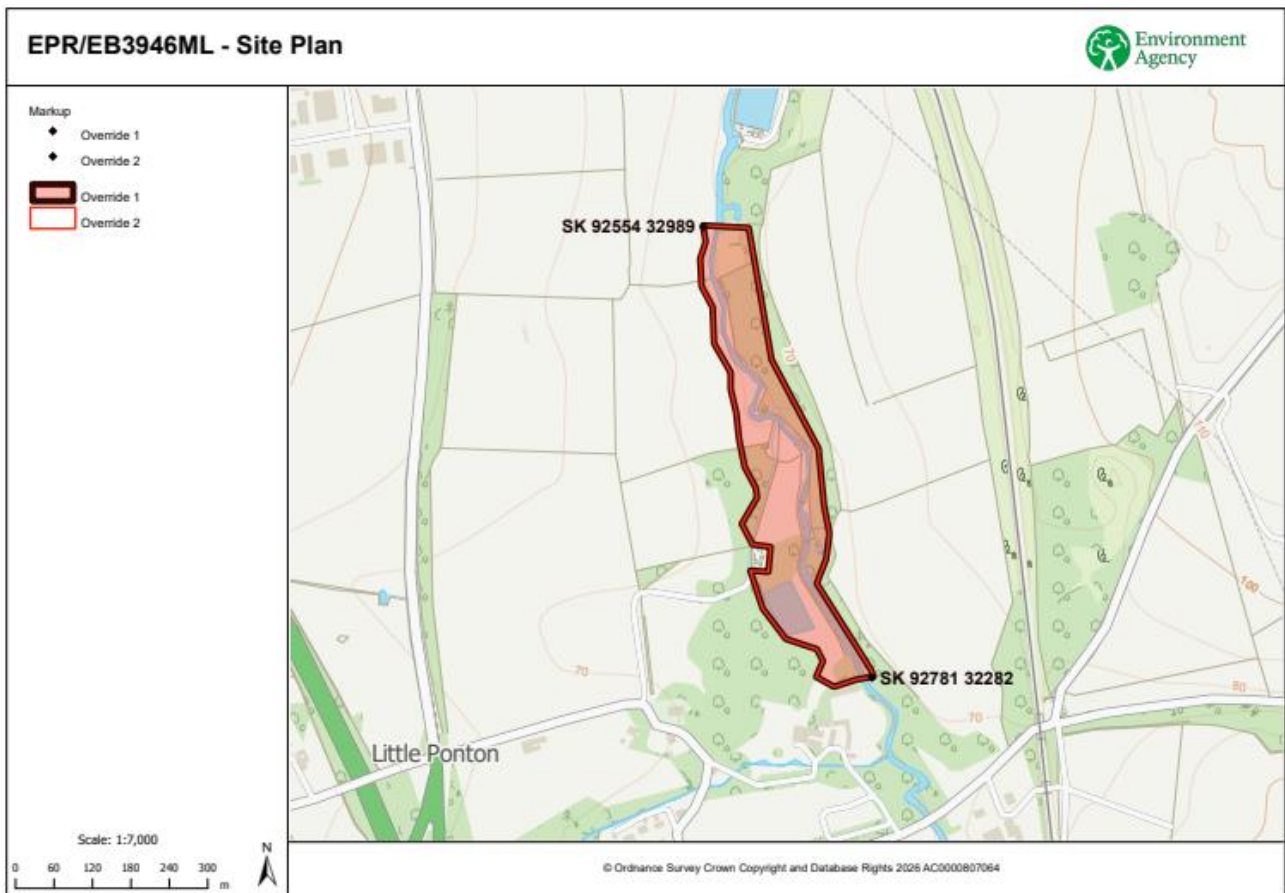
Table S1.1 activities		
Activity reference	Description of activities	Limits of activities
		<p>surplus soil, subsoil and material excavated in the course of the activity is deposited back in the place which it was excavated from or permanently removed from the site.</p> <p>The activities shall be carried out in accordance with the document reference 05_Appendix_3_Little Ponton Project – Large Wood Structure Design details, entitled “Little Ponton Project – Details of Design Features”, received 19/09/2025.</p> <p>The activities shall be carried out in accordance with following drawing references:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-02, “Detailed Design Design View”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-04, “Detailed Design Long Profile 1”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-05, “Detailed Design Long Profile 2”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-14, “Detailed Design Logjam Details”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> </ul>
P4	Floodplain reprofiling with 19 scrapes & 4 mounds	<p>The activity shall be commenced within 3 years of the date of the grant of the permit and completed within 1 year of commencement.</p> <p>Before the completion of the activity on the site, the Operator shall ensure that all surplus soil, subsoil and material excavated in the course of the activity is deposited back in the place which it was excavated from or permanently removed from the site.</p> <p>The activities shall be carried out in accordance with following drawing references:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-02, “Detailed Design Design View”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-04, “Detailed Design Long Profile 1”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-05, “Detailed Design Long Profile 2”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> </ul>
P5	Installation of gravel riffle features in the River Witham	<p>The activity shall be commenced within 3 years of the date of the grant of the permit</p>

<b>Table S1.1 activities</b>		
<b>Activity reference</b>	<b>Description of activities</b>	<b>Limits of activities</b>
		<p>and completed within 1 year of commencement.</p> <p>The activities shall be carried out in accordance with following drawing references:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-02, “Detailed Design Design View”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-04, “Detailed Design Long Profile 1”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> <li>• 2150767-DWG-DD-05, “Detailed Design Long Profile 2”, Rev5 v6, dated 02/12/2025.</li> </ul>
<b>Temporary or enabling works</b>		
T1	Temporary dewatering & silt control on the River Witham	<p>The activity shall be commenced within 3 years of the date of the grant of the permit and completed within 1 year of commencement.</p> <p>Before the completion of the activity on the site, the Operator shall ensure that all surplus soil, subsoil and material excavated in the course of the activity is deposited back in the place which it was excavated from or permanently removed from the site.</p>
T2	Temporary spoil stockpiles in the River Witham floodplain	<p>The activity shall be commenced within 3 years of the date of the grant of the permit and completed within 1 year of commencement.</p> <p>Before the completion of the activity on the site, the Operator shall ensure that all surplus soil, subsoil and material excavated in the course of the activity is deposited back in the place which it was excavated from or permanently removed from the site.</p>

<b>Table S1.2 Operating techniques</b>			
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Measures (if measures are specified)</b>	<b>Document reference</b>	<b>Date Received</b>
Condition 2.3.1	Approved Method of Work	“River Habitat Restoration: River Witham at Little Ponton – Outline Method Statement”, version 1.0, dated 22/12/2025	24/12/2025
Condition 2.3.1 (a) to minimise	Ensure a sediment/pollution control plan is in place and is incorporated into all	2150767 – “Little Ponton – Whalebone Lane Restoration	04/11/2025

<b>Table S1.2 Operating techniques</b>			
<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Measures (if measures are specified)</b>	<b>Document reference</b>	<b>Date Received</b>
sediment mobilisation	<p>method statements involving in-channel works</p> <p>Where water depths are less than 250mm in depth, SiltMats should be laid out in the channel at the downstream extent of the reach. The downstream placement should be determined based on bed profile and water depth, these will most likely be areas with shallow water where it will filter through the SiltMats. The mats should cover the entire width of the channel.</p> <p>Where water depths are greater than 250mm in depth, the use of SiltMats will be ineffective. Instead, a bubble curtain should be used to control the mobilisation and transport of fine sediment.</p>	WFD Assessment Report", version 2.0, dated 04.11.2025	
Condition 2.3.1 (c) to ensure there is no increase to flood risk or detrimental impact on drainage	Large wood structures will be inspected annually and after flood events to check stability; any which have become unstable will be re-secured or removed from the floodplain.	"Request for More Information - Application number: EPR/EB3946ML", dated 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2025	24/12/2025

# Schedule 2 – Site Plan



## Schedule 3 – Interpretation

“application” means the application for this permit, together with any additional information supplied by the operator as part of the application and any response to a notice served under Schedule 5 to the EP Regulations.

“authorised officer” means any person authorised by the Environment Agency under section 108(1) of The Environment Act 1995 to exercise, in accordance with the terms of any such authorisation, any power specified in section 108(4) of that Act.

“EP Regulations” means The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations SI 2016 No.1154 and words and expressions used in this permit which are also used in the Regulations have the same meanings as in those Regulations.

“main river” means a watercourse or part of a watercourse designated as main river on the statutory main river map held by the Environment Agency.

“Method of Work” means a document forming part of the operator’s management system, setting out the working methods for carrying out the activity and what measures will be taken to avoid or minimise the risks of environmental effects.

“approved Method of Work” means the operator’s Method of Work approved by the Environment Agency

“environmental effects” means:

- (a) flooding or risk of flooding;
- (b) harm to the environment or risk of harm to the environment; and
- (c) detrimental impact on drainage or risk of detrimental impact on drainage.

“environmental harm” means a result of human activity which may:

- (a) cause harm to the conservation, protection and enhancement of any species and habitats designated under any enactment as having special protection or priority;
- (b) prevent the achievement of environmental objectives within the meaning of the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC;
- (c) cause pollution; or
- (d) otherwise adversely affect the protection and enhancement of the environment.

END OF PERMIT