



SOLENT PROTECTION SOCIETY

Protecting the Solent and its environment for future generations

10TH December 2015

Planning Department
Isle of Wight Council
Seaclose Offices
Fairlee Road
Newport
Isle of Wight
PO30 2QS

For the attention of Case Officer

Dear Sirs

**Reference: Planning Application Number TCP/09671/K-P/01265/15
Wightlink Ltd, Fishbourne Car Ferry Terminal, Fishbourne Lane, Ryde, Isle of Wight.
Proposed upper level loading ramp link span to include associated works.**

The Solent Protection Society (SPS) was founded in 1956 to protect all aspects of the Solent, its waters and shoreline, including views of the coast from the sea. We have two members of the Royal Institute of British Architects among our Councillors.

While recognising that a double deck system will improve vehicle loading and turnaround times, the proposed ramp is a significant unwelcome imposition in the landscape adjoining the AONB. SPS is not convinced that solid steel panels to the sides painted grey in any way represents an appropriate or elegant design solution, despite the fine words in the design and access statement.

An open railing system more like the link span or the open parapet system on page 12 of the design and access statement would be more reminiscent of ship's railings and more importantly would make the whole thing look much lighter and more transparent, so minimising its visual impact.

The photomontage Fig.6.2 of the D&A statement makes the concrete supports look cumbersome and over large. The engineering drawing appears to show the supports more shaped. These supports should be made as slim and elegant as possible to again minimise the impact and show some design aesthetic. A revised photomontage should be produced.

Finally SPS is concerned that the increased size of the ship, with possibly increased dredging and side wash, will not cause further coastal erosion particularly on the east side of the creek. We would expect any approval to be suitably conditioned and for there to be an agreed monitoring programme to ensure further coastal erosion does not occur and if so the applicant has responsibility for remedial works.

We are conscious that this submission is outside the stated closing date for which we apologise, this Society, by its nature and structure cannot always respond as quickly as it would otherwise wish. We would be grateful if the short delay could be forgiven on this occasion.

Yours faithfully

W.G. Pimlott
Council Chairman

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Solent Protection Society – Registered Charity No. 1154317