

Design and access statement

Michael Smith Building, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This statement forms part of a planning application for the installation of a new gas storage compound at the rear of the Michael Smith Building on the Oxford Road campus at The University of Manchester. Drawing number B001P shows the locations of the building and the proposed gas storage compound.

1.2 This statement is to be read in conjunction with the drawing numbers B001P, B002P, B003P, B004P Rev A and B005P, which accompany the application. Appended to this statement are existing photographs of the site and photos of a similar installation.

2.0 Proposal

2.1 Planning permission is sought for the installation of a new storage compound for nitrogen and carbon dioxide to replace the existing facility which does not meet current safety standards.

2.2 The proposed installation replaces the existing fully enclosed compound with new gas storage vessels on a concrete plinth surrounded by weld mesh fencing with 3 sets of access gates. The installation will be similar to a number of facilities around the University campus.

2.3 Overall dimensions – gas cylinders are approx. 2.5m high and the palisade fencing is 3m high

4.0 Assessment of Impact and Mitigation.

4.1 The new installation is only marginally bigger than the existing and against the scale of the Michael Smith building has minimal impact on the overall building elevation. The gas storage vessels will be more visible from Upper Brook Street because in order to comply with current H&S requirements the enclosure to the gas storage vessels will be open, constructed from black weld mesh fencing as opposed to the existing solid wall enclosure.

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Appendix 1.

Photographs



Photo 1. Existing storage facility



Photo 2. View of existing storage facility from Upper Brook Street



Photo 3. Examples of type of fencing proposed