COUNTY: NORTHAMPTONSHIRE                SITE NAME: ROADE CUTTING
District: South Northamptonshire
Status: Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Local Planning Authority: South Northamptonshire District Council

National Grid Reference: SP 750525

Ordnance Survey Sheet 1:50,000: 152 1:10,000: SP 75 SW, SP 75 SE

Date Notified (Under 1949 Act): Date of Last Revision:
Date Notified (Under 1981 Act): 1986 Date of Last Revision:

Area: 14.9 ha 36.8 ac

Other Information: This is a new site identified as of national importance in the Geological Conservation Review.

Description and Reasons for Notification

Roade Cutting exhibits one of the most complete Bathonian (Middle Jurassic) sections in central Northamptonshire, potentially exhibiting complete Rutland Formation and White Limestone sections together with the basal Forest Marble (Blisworth Clay). The cutting is particularly important because it shows the typical rhythmic rock units developed within the Rutland Formation in this area.

The White Limestone section, which shows features comparable to White Limestone sections in both Oxfordshire and the East Midlands, is of the utmost value for establishing detailed correlations between those two areas. The section is a particularly important one for reconstructing the environment of deposition at various times during the Bathonian.