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FAO: Marcus Goldsworthy

9 February 2015

Annwyl Syr/Madam / Dear Sir/Madam

DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS 5 (NOISE), 6 (DRILLING METHOD STATEMENT), 11 (CONSTRUCTION ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN), 13 (FOUL AND SURFACE WATER), 14 (DUST) AND 16 (WHEEL WASHING) TO DRILL A SINGLE VERTICAL EXPLORATION BOREHOLE, UNIT 20, SUTTON SPRING ROAD, LLANDOW TRADING ESTATE.

Thank you for consulting us on information submitted for the discharge of conditions for the above, which we received on 5 January 2015.

We have reviewed the information submitted, and provide the following comments.

We are satisfied that the details submitted for your authority to discharge conditions 13 (Foul and Surface Water), 14 (Dust) and 16 (Wheel Washing) of 2013/00334/FUL. We require further clarification on condition 6 (Drilling Method Statement) and condition 11 (Construction Environmental Management Plan).

We are unable to recommend the discharge of condition 6 and 11 further clarification is required on the proposed design of the borehole casing.

We note that it is intended to install a 7inch casing string to the base of the Barry Harbour Limestone at approximately 475m. No casing is being installed in the rest of the borehole, with the cored section remaining uncased during the testing phase. We appreciate the need to leave the borehole uncased for the purpose of retrieving core samples (for analysis ex-situ) and in understanding the detail of the strata encountered to identify the target horizon. We seek further clarification on what the gas testing phase (scheduled for 36 weeks) will entail.

If this testing leads to the production of gas, or extraction of any potentially naturally contaminated water we would require the borehole to be cased in its entirety to minimise the risks of migration of gas or fluids into overlying aquifers.

Thank you for providing information in regards to condition 5 (Noise Impacts). We note the presence of a bat roost 525 meters to the north of the site, and agree with the recommendations put forward in the noise management plan, including the installation of a noise abatement barrier.

Planning Advice Note

We refer you and the applicant to our Planning Advice Note for further advice on pollution prevention measures and applying for a permit.

If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact us

Yn gywir / Yours faithfully

R. H. Evans

Miss Ruth Evans

Ymgynghorydd Cynllunio Datblygu - Caerdydd a Bro Morgannwg / Development Planning Advisor – Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan

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