

Date/Dyddiad: 30 April 2018

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Lesley Griffiths AM  
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Dear Cabinet Secretary

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (WALES) REGULATIONS 2017  
VARIATION TO CONDITION 5 OF PLANNING PERMISSION 2015/00031/OUT TO INCLUDE FIRE TANK AND BUILDING AS WELL AS RELOCATION OF PARKING AT BARRY PORT BIOMASS PLANT, DAVID DAVIES ROAD, BARRY, CF63 4JE  
APPLICATION No. 2017/01080/FUL**

I am aware that the Welsh Government Planning Division, on your behalf, is currently considering whether the above referenced planning application is EIA development. They initially advised the applicant in writing on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 that they were "*minded to direct that the development is Schedule 1 EIA development*" and gave the opportunity to comment on the reasoning set out. Following this, I am aware the applicant responded contending that the development was not EIA development and seeking an explanation regarding the change of stance from Welsh Government on this matter. To date, we have not received further correspondence from the Planning Division on this matter and the planning application is still outstanding.

I write to advise you that at the meeting of the Vale of Glamorgan Council on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 a motion was discussed regarding the cross-party concerns about the environmental effects of the proposed Biomass Facility in Barry. It was resolved that the Vale of Glamorgan Council:

- Notes with concern Natural Resources Wales' decision to grant Biomass UK No 2 Ltd a permit to operate its gasification facility in Barry

- Regrets NRW's decision not to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment before taking a decision;
- Urges the Minister for Environment to ensure that an Environment Impact Assessment accompanies the developer's current planning application; and
- Calls on NRW to ensure independent and robust monitoring of emissions from the plant, and to investigate resident concerns over the impact of dust from the site.

Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to urge you to resolve the above matter and take into account the above mentioned motion when considering the need or otherwise for an EIA.

I thank you for giving this matter your attention and look forward to your early response.

Yours sincerely,



Councillor John Thomas  
Leader, Vale of Glamorgan Council

cc Hywel Butts, Head of Development Management  
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