



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales**

Ein cyf/Our ref: SE/2015/118592/01
Eich cyf/Your ref: 2013/00333/FUL

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9 February 2015

Annwyl Syr/Madam / Dear Sir/Madam

DISCHARGE OF CONDITIONS 4 (NOISE), 5 (DRILLING METHOD STATEMENT), 10 CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PLAN), 12 (FOUL AND SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE), 13 (DUST) AND 16 (WHEEL WASHING) OF PLANNING PERMISSION (2013/00333/FUL) –SINGLE VERTICAL EXPLORATION BOREHOLE – LOCATED IN FIELD 400M ALONG AN UNNAMED ROAD BETWEEN THE A4266 AND DUFFRYN.

Thank you for consulting us on information submitted for the discharge of conditions for the above permission, which we received on the 14 January 2015.

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

From the information submitted, our advice is that the details submitted are sufficient for your Authority to discharge conditions 12 (Foul and Surface Water), 13 (Dust) and 16 (Wheel Washing) of 2013/00333/FUL, however we request further information on conditions 5 (Drilling Method Statement) and 10 (Construction Environmental Management Plan).

We require further clarification on the proposed design of the borehole casing and further information on the gas testing proposed, further detail is provided below.

Sections 2.3 of both the method statement supplied for condition 5 and the Method Statement and Environmental Management Plan prepared for condition 10, (both dated December 2014) state that the borehole will be drilled at 8.5 inches to 200m. It is then proposed to have a 7inch casing string to the base of the Barry Harbour Limestone at approximately 475m. This is not consistent with the drawing shown in Section 2.6 of both reports which show casing to 600m within the Lower Old Red Sandstone.

We also note that no casing is being installed in the rest of the borehole, with the cored

section remaining uncased during the gas testing phase. Clarification is required on what the gas testing phase (scheduled for 36 weeks) will entail.

We also advise that Section 6 (control of groundwater) of both reports is amended to reflect the depth of casing being installed in this borehole.

We are aware that information on the borehole design and additional information on gas testing has been included in the method statement enclosed with the WR11 notification submitted separately to Natural Resources Wales. We would advise that this information is used to update the reports submitted to support the discharge of conditions 5 and 10.

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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Ein diben yw sicrhau bod adnoddau naturiol Cymru yn cael eu cynnal, eu gwella a'u defnyddio yn gynaliadwy, yn awr ac yn y dyfodol.

Our purpose is to ensure that the natural resources of Wales are sustainably maintained, enhanced and used, now and in the future.