

APPLICATION NUMBER: WSCC/045/20
COUNTY MATTER MINERAL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
(ENGLAND) ORDER 2015

To: Paul Foster
AECOM Ltd
Saxon House
27 Duke Street
Chelsford
Essex
CM1 1HT

In pursuance of their powers under the above mentioned Act and Orders, West Sussex County Council hereby notify you that they **REFUSED** the following development:

Temporary permission for exploration and appraisal comprising the removal of drilling fluids and subsequent engineering works with an extended well test for hydrocarbons along with site security fencing and site restoration at Lower Stumble Exploration Site, off London Road, Balcombe, Haywards Heath RH17 6JH

as shown on the application and plans submitted to this Council on 28 August 2020 for the following reasons:

Reason for Refusal

1. The proposed development would represent major development in the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, for which there are no exceptional circumstances, and which is not in the public interest. There are alternative sources of hydrocarbon supply, both indigenous and imported, to meet the national need, there would be minimal benefit to the local economy from the development, and there is scope for meeting the need in some other way, outside of nationally designated landscapes. It would therefore be contrary to Policies M7a and M13 of the West Sussex Joint Local Minerals Plan (2018) and paragraphs 170 and 172 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019).

Date **10 March 2021** Signed: **Michael Elkington**, Head of Planning Services

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THE NOTES IN APPENDIX A

YOUR ATTENTION IS DIRECTED TO THE FOLLOWING NOTES.

THEY ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY AND DO NOT PRETEND TO SET OUT THE WHOLE OF THE LAW ON THE SUBJECT. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOU CONSULT A SOLICITOR IF YOU ARE IN ANY DOUBT.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

1 Appeals to the Secretary of State

- (a) If you are aggrieved by the decision of your local planning authority to refuse permission for a proposed development, then you can appeal to the Secretary of State under section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

 - (b) If you want to appeal, then you must do so using a form which you can obtain by contacting the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 00 00 or submitted electronically via the Planning Portal at <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/appeals/online/makeanappeal>. Your appeal and essential supporting documents must reach the Inspectorate within 6 months of the date shown on the Local Planning Authority's decision notice or, for 'failure' appeals, within 6 months of the date by which they should have decided the application.
- 2** Further correspondence about this application should quote the reference number at the top right hand corner of the form.