

Mr Sam Dumbrell,
County Planning,
West Sussex County Council,
Northleigh,
County Hall,
Chichester,
PO19 1RH



28 January 2014

Dear Mr Dumbrell,

Reference No: WSCC/104/13/SR

Re: The continuation of mineral extraction for a two year period and the importation of inert material over a five year period only, to enable the restoration of mineral working at Washington Sandpit for the long term benefit of the Sandgate Country Park at Washington Sand Pit, Hampers Lane, Sullington, West Sussex – Neighbouring Authority Consultation

Thank you for consulting the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) on this application.

Mineral extraction

With regards to the mineral extraction element of this application, I refer you to previous comments relating to planning permission WSCC/086/13/SR where the SDNPA did not raise an objection.

Revised restoration scheme

The revised restoration scheme is a welcomed improvement on the original permitted scheme when viewed in the context of the wider Sandgate Country Park. The scheme allows for increased access to the site which is considered to compliment the existing Public Rights of Way network, including the bridleways leading to the South Downs Way.

As stated in the submitted LVIA, views of the site are prevented by ever increasing layering of screening vegetation except for views from the South Downs and, in particular, the South Downs Way, where elevation allows for views into the site. The visual impact of the proposed development is not considered to be any more significant than the original scheme.

Importation of inert waste

It is noted from the application documents that the processing of the inert material is limited to screening and no crushing is proposed on site. Resale of recycled aggregate is not proposed.

Campsite

Given the relatively easy access to the South Downs Way via the local Bridleway network, the provision of camping/backpacker facilities would be welcomed.

Truck movements

Whilst HGVs will travel through a section of the National Park to access the A24 via the A283, it is acknowledged that the road is a designated lorry route. The increase in HGV movements to and from the site is not considered to have a significant impact on the National Park.

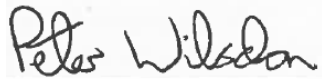
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Therefore, barring any impact on the final restoration of the site, the SDNPA raise **no objection** to this application.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Wilsdon". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P'.

Peter Wilsdon
Minerals and Waste Planning Officer
South Downs National Park Authority