

## WSCC COUNTY PLANNING CONSULTATION

**Application Number:** WSCC/040/17/BA

**Environment & Heritage Team archaeological response 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**Case officer: Chris Bartlett**

### **Proposal**

Temporary permission for exploration and appraisal comprising the flow testing and monitoring of the existing hydrocarbon lateral borehole along with site security fencing, the provision of an enclosed testing flare and site restoration

### **Location**

Lower Stumble Hydrocarbon Exploration Site, London Road, Balcombe, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 6JH

**Recommendation:** no objection on archaeological grounds; no archaeological assessment or recording required.

**Comment:** John Mills, Senior Archaeologist, commented on the previous application WSCC/005/14/BA on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, and recommended no objection on archaeological grounds on the basis that the proposals should not involve any archaeological impacts. He concluded that no further archaeological mitigation was required.

The Environmental Report accompanying the application confirms that this is an existing borehole drilled in 2013 under planning permission WSCC/027/10/BA. The report discusses heritage impacts in sections 2.3.6 and 2.3.7 and I concur with its conclusions.

The temporary planning permission, which John Mills commented upon in 2014, has now expired but the current application is for the same proposal as that granted in 2014, differing only in terms of an increase in height of the workover rig from 22 to 32 metres. This minor change does not affect the conclusions drawn by John Mills in 2014 and there remains no requirement for archaeological action.

Mark Taylor, Principal Archaeologist, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017