



Sussex Police
Serving Sussex

www.sussex.police.uk

Local Policing Branch

Your Ref: WSCC/040/17BA

Our Ref: NW/WSX/17/07A

Date: 31st October 2017

Contact Name: Neville Wren

Tel: 101 ext 540137

Direct Dial No: 01273 404868

Dear Mr Bartlett,

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

Thank you for your correspondence of 27th October 2017, advising me of an outline planning application for 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 at the above location, for which you seek advice from a crime prevention viewpoint.

I have had the opportunity to examine the detail within the application and in an attempt to reduce the opportunity for crime and the fear of crime I offer the following comments.

The National Planning Policy Framework demonstrates the government's commitment to creating safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion, and with the level of crime and anti-social behaviour in Haywards Heath district being average when compared with the rest of Sussex, I have no major concerns with the proposals, however, additional measures to mitigate against any identified local crime trends should be considered.

I refer to planning application WSCC/005/14/BA and our previous recommendations letter PE/WSX/13/28/B of 3rd March 2014 regarding perimeter security and additional measures.

I reiterate, the two main crime prevention measures that will benefit this installation are secure perimeter fencing with gates and lighting. In addition to the above two measures, due to the rural location it may be necessary for a monitored intruder alarm system to be fitted to indicate any intruders. In remote location such as this, the intruder system can also be linked to a CCTV system to provide a remote visual link to the site as well. I recommend that consideration is given to the lighting to ensure that should CCTV be installed the lighting is commensurate with it.

Entrance/driveway gates should be inward opening, of substantial framed construction and employ galvanized adjustable hinges and fixings mounted behind the attack face. Hinge systems must not allow the gate to be 'lifted off' and therefore should employ a method to restrict the removal of the gate from the adjoining fence post or wall. Gates should be fitted with galvanized drop bolts and facility for padlocking (manual gates) or electro-mechanical locking (automated gates) and employ mechanical/electro-mechanical devices as applicable to hold gate leaves in the open position.

Mr C Bartlett
Planning Officer
County Planning
West Sussex County Council

The gate construction should have the same design and construction attributes as the fence. Where automated gates are supplied and installed these must meet with the EU Machinery Directive and be CE marked accordingly.

The tops of fences should finish flush with their posts. It is important to ensure that where stepped ground is present there are no gaps which enable access under the fence. Equally important is to ensure that all elements that make up the perimeter security are of the same design, height and construction so that no one single element will compromise the overall security of the perimeter security.

The Crime & Disorder Act 1998 heightens the importance of taking crime prevention into account when planning decisions are made. Section 17 of the Act places a clear duty on both police and local authorities to exercise their various functions with due regard to the likely effect on the prevention of crime and disorder. You are asked to accord due weight to the advice offered in this letter which would demonstrate your authority's commitment to work in partnership and comply with the spirit of The Crime & Disorder Act.

Yours sincerely



Neville Wren
Designing Out Crime Officer
Sussex Police Headquarters