

Chris Bartlett  
West Sussex County Council  
Development Control  
County Hall Tower Street  
Chichester  
West Sussex  
PO19 1RH

**Our ref:** HA/2017/119896/01-L01  
**Your ref:** WSCC/040/17/BA  
**Date:** 22 November 2017

Dear Chris

**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. LOWER STUMBLE HYDROCARBON EXPLORATION SITE, LONDON ROAD, BALCOMBE, HAYWARDS HEATH, WEST SUSSEX, RH17 6JH**

Thank you for your consultation on the above planning application. Please quote our reference number on any further correspondence.

### **Environment Agency Position**

We consider that planning permission should only be granted to the proposed development as submitted if the following planning condition is imposed as set out below. Without this condition, the proposed development on this site poses an unacceptable risk to the environment and we would wish to object to the application.

### **Condition – Construction Method Statement**

No development shall take place until details of the construction of the engineered containment of the site to prevent pollution has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The approved Method Statement shall be adhered to throughout the inspection and construction period. The Statement shall provide for:

- Details of the inspection of the existing containment measures
- Details of any remediation or replacement of the containment measures
- Details of containment construction and quality assurance
- Details of future inspection and maintenance

Environment Agency  
Portfield Depot Oving Road, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 2AG.  
Customer services line: 03708 506 506  
[www.gov.uk/environment-agency](http://www.gov.uk/environment-agency)

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Any changes to these components require the express written consent of the local planning authority. The scheme shall be implemented as approved.

Reason: To protect water quality and ensure compliance with the NPPF

The condition of the site containment which includes an impermeable liner and drainage ditch needs to be inspected and reported on its effectiveness to prevent pollution of the water environment. No operations should take place until the Environment Agency is satisfied that containment measures are in place.

We would wish to be consulted on the details provided to discharge this condition.

### **Supporting Notes**

We have reviewed the Environmental Report and in particular we have reviewed Section 10 Hydrogeology and Pollution Control drainage strategy report and find the details satisfactory.

### **Non Planning Consents**

The proposed activities on site have the benefit of a Mining Waste Permit and a Radioactive Substances Activity Permit. The Mining Waste Permit covers the storage and disposal of liquid wastes from the well testing. The Radioactive Substances Permit covers the storage and disposal of formation water containing Natural Occurring Radioactive Material (NORM) from the well flow testing phase.

Yours sincerely,

Sustainable Places Team

Email: [planningssd@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:planningssd@environment-agency.gov.uk)