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Michael Elkington **Head of Planning Services**

West Sussex County Council

By email only

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18th September 2020 DATE:

Dear Mr Elkington,

REFERENCE: DM/20/3178 WSCC/045/20

DESCRIPTION: PROPOSED PHASE 4 ACTIVITY: 1) PUMPING OUT PREVIOUSLY USED

DRILLING FLUIDS TO ASCERTAIN ANY OIL FLOW (UP TO 4 WEEKS); 2) **CIVIL ENGINEERING WORKS TO UPGRADE THE SITE CONTAINMENT; 3)** A 12 MONTH EXTENDED WELL TEST WHICH INVLOLVES PUMPING OIL TO THE SURFACE, STORAGE AND OFFTAKE BY HGVS; 4) PLUG AND DECOMMISSION THE WELLBORE FOLLOWED BY SITE RESTORATION.

(NOTE THAT SHOULD THE EXTENDED WELL TEST CONFIRM

COMMERCIAL HYDROCARBON VOLUMES A SEPARATE APPLICATION

WOULD BE PREPARED FOR A FUTURE PRODUCTION PHASE).

LOCATION: LOWER STUMBLE EXPLORATION SITE LOWER STUMBLE WOOD

LONDON ROAD BALCOMBE

I refer to your consultation received on the 27th August 2020 inviting a formal consultation response in relation to the above mentioned application.

MSDC requests that WSCC when determine this application ensure that they are satisfied with the effects of the development of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. This includes a visual impact of the lighting, the fencing and all the equipment and structures associated with the site operations. MSDC also requests that the comments of the High Weald AONB unit should be taken into account.

If WSCC grant planning permission subject to conditions, those conditions should ensure that the applicant provides detailed Construction Management Plan that could include, but not exclusively, the following:

- House of Work
- Number of HGV's/routing/deliveries to avoid school drop off and pick up times.

Any conditions should ensure that the details set out in the submitted Noise Management Plan by RSK June 2020 (v01) are adhered to and that the suggested conditions in Appendix B are included.

Those conditions should also ensure that the site is restored to an agreed standard in a timely manner.

In addition, should the operations require staff to live on the site then appropriate accommodation, including toilets and washing facilities should be provided to prevent any risk to their health and the health of local residents.

Finally, MSDC urges WSCC to provide reassurances that the will rigorously apply and enforce the conditions of the application, should it be granted, to ensure that the residents are not affected by an unreasonable level of noise, particularly at unsocial hours, that air quality is maintained, including the control of odour from the flaring and that ground water is protected from the effects of pollution.

Thank you for consulting me on this matter.

SA Blanfield

Yours Sincerely

Sally Blomfield

Divisional Leader for Planning and Economy