

Jane Moseley
West Sussex County Council
Development Control
County Hall Tower Street
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1RH

Our ref: HA/2013/114771/03-L01

Your ref: WSCC/083/13/KD

Date: 26 June 2014

Dear Jane

RESPONSE TO WSCC RE PHE'S CONSULTATION. THE INSTALLATION OF A WELL AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, INCLUDING ACCESS ROAD AND SOIL BUNDS, FOR THE DRILLING OF A VERTICAL BOREHOLE AND CONTINGENT HORIZONTAL BOREHOLE FROM THE SAME WELL FOR THE EXPLORATION, TESTING AND EVALUATION OF HYDROCARBONS FOR A TEMPORARY PERIOD OF THREE YEARS. LAND SOUTH OF BOXAL BRIDGE, NORTHUP FIELD, WISBOROUGH GREEN, WEST SUSSEX, RH14 0DD

Thank you for your email 23 June 2014.

We note that PHE do not have any objection to the proposals set out by Celtique but have suggested a number of recommendations.

Air Quality issues, including fugitive and during flaring of any gas encountered will be considered as part of the Mining Waste Permit determination. We will formally consult PHE as part of any permit application. Technical assessments and controls can be requested by the Environment Agency. This can include baseline air quality surveys.

We have considered whether groundwater monitoring is required as part of the overall risk to the water environment. Celtique have provided a surface water and groundwater qualitative risk assessment as part of the planning application submission. The site lies on a thick sequence of Weald Clay (circa - 300m) which is classified as an Unproductive Aquifer. These are geological strata with low permeability that have negligible significance for water supply or river base flow. Therefore we have concluded that monitoring of groundwater at this location will not be necessary as the risk to groundwater will be negligible. However the main risks are to surface



water which are in close proximity to the proposed site. We will therefore as part of any Permit Application, specifically request and seek appropriate monitoring and pollution controls so that the risks to surface water are minimal. In addition to this, we have requested through a recommended planning condition, that site construction details are provided. This recommendation specifically requires the applicant to consider appropriate construction designs and controls, including the construction of an impermeable site compound so that any spillages or accidental releases are contained and do not escape in to the environment.

Under the Mining Waste Directive a comprehensive accident management plan is not required for this site as it is not a Category A mining waste facility.

A Pollution Incident Plan (PIP) will be prepared with reference to the EA Pollution Prevention Guidance PPG21 'Incident Response Planning' and PPG 18 'Managing Fire Water and Major Spillages'. The PIP describes responsibilities and actions to be followed in the event of an environmental incident on site or the surrounding area.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Yours faithfully

Environment Agency Planning Advisor

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