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North York Moors National Park Authority
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
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YO62 5BP

NYMNP

10/04/2019

Date: 10 April 2019

Our ref: 50303/04/HS/JCx/17307152v1

Your ref: NYM/2017/0505/MEIA

Dear Rob

North York Moors: Woodsmith Mine: Application for a Non Material Amendment to Planning Permission NYM/2017/0505/MEIA

On behalf of our client, Sirius Minerals, and in accordance with procedural advice from the Authority, Lichfields is pleased to submit this application for a non material amendment (NMA) to planning permission NYM/2017/0505/MEIA.

Application Submission

This NMA application was submitted online via the planning portal on 10 April 2019 (ref. PP-07776677). This application comprises the following documents and plans:

- This covering letter;
- Completed application form;
- Woodsmith Mine Telecommunications Mast Elevation (drawing ref. 40-SMP-WS-5720-TE-00001)

Background

On 19 October 2015, the NYMNP granted planning permission for the *“Winning and working of polyhalite by underground methods including the construction of a minehead at Dove's Nest Farm involving access, maintenance and ventilation shafts, the landforming of associated spoil, the construction of buildings, access roads, car parking and helicopter landing site, attenuation ponds, landscaping, restoration and aftercare and associated works. In addition, the construction of an underground tunnel between Doves Nest Farm and land at Wilton that links to the mine below ground, comprising 1 no. shaft at Doves Nest Farm, 3 no. intermediate access shaft sites, each with associated landforming of associated spoil, the construction of buildings, access roads and car parking, landscaping, restoration and aftercare, and the construction of a tunnel portal at Wilton comprising buildings, landforming of spoil and associated works”* (Council Reference NYM/2014/0676/MEIA).

On 6 February 2017, the NYMNP granted planning permission for the *“Variation of Condition 5 of planning permission NYM/2014/0676/MEIA to allow minor material amendments relating to that part of the development at the Woodsmith Mine site (formerly known as Doves Nest Farm and Haxby Plantation),*

including; re-design of foreshafts and shaft construction methodology, changes to building layout and shaft access arrangements, revisions to construction and operational shaft platform levels, revisions to location and layout of surface water attenuation ponds, revisions to groundwater management arrangements and amendments to internal access arrangements” (Council Reference NYM/2017/0505/MEIA).

On 26 October 2018, the NYMNPA approved a non-material amendment for the installation of a telecommunications mast at Woodsmith Mine (ref. NYM/2018/0589/NM). The telecommunications mast – to be operated by Northern Power Grid – would allow power to be exported from the mine site, where there is a drop in demand.

Proposal

This non-material amendment application seeks approval for a redesign of the telecommunications mast that was approved under NYM/2018/0589/NM.

As shown on the enclosed plans, a “monopole” design for the mast is now proposed, comprising a 14.5 metre structure with a lightning finial on top. At its base, the mast will be earthed on a base plate and will connect to the nearby NPG kiosk via underground ducts. The entirety of the monopole structure will be finished in a RAL 6008 colour.

The footprint of the proposed monopole design is approximately half of that of the previously approved lattice structure. Not only does this limit the extent of any vegetation clearance even further, it also helps reduce any potential visual impacts of the mast by virtue of it tapering towards the top.

The proposed location of the mast is unchanged from the previously approved application. This remains to be the optimum location for the mast, given that it can provide a clear line of sight to the NPG Repeater Mast in Whitby, whilst keeping its height to a minimum and avoiding the need to clear any trees.

As before, is anticipated that the mast would be installed in one piece via a single HGV trip. Again, the mast should be maintenance free once installed and operational and a 2ft wide gravel path along the fence line will provide any requisite maintenance access.

Screening of the mast would be undertaken as per the approved details set out in paragraph 4.1.1 of the *Scheme for Maintaining and Managing the Haxby and Belt Plantations* (document ref. 40-SMP-WS-8323-PA-PL-00001).

We trust that this NMA application meets the requirements of the Authority and look forward to receiving your notice of approval. If you require any further information, please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely

James Cox
Associate Director



Copy – Sirius Minerals