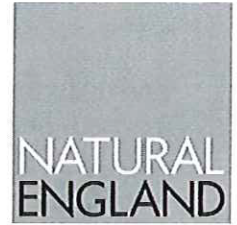


Date: 09 March 2017  
Our ref: 207482  
Your ref: NYM/2017/0033/CVC



Mark Hill  
North York Moors National Park

[planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk](mailto:planning@northyorkmoors.org.uk)

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Customer Services  
Hornbeam House  
Crewe Business Park  
Electra Way  
Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW1 6GJ

Dear Mark

**Planning consultation:** Application for verification check of conditions 18,34,46,47,57,68,70,73,92,93 and 94 of planning approval NYM/2014/0676/MEIA

**Location:** Dove's Nest Farm & Haxby Plantation, Sneatonthorpe (proposed minehead); underneath 252 sq km of the NYMNPA (winning & working of minerals); a corridor extending underground from the edge of the NP boundary to Wilton International Complex (mineral transport system); Lady Cross Plantation near Egton, Lockwood Beck Farm near Moorsholm, Tocketts Lythe, near Guisborough (intermediate shaft sites); site within the eastern limits of the Wilton International Complex, Teesside (tunnel portal).

**Grid Reference 489495 505142**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated **31 January 2017**.



Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

### **Discharge of Conditions**

We understand that the conditions to be verified are as follows:

- 18 Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP)
- 34 Construction Traffic management Plan (CTMP)
- 46 Ground and Surface Monitoring Scheme
- 47 Groundwater Management Scheme
- 57 Landscape and Ecological Management Plans
- 68 Temporary Structures
- 70 Arboricultural Method Statement
- 73 Management of Haxby and Bell Plantations.
- 92 Construction Vehicle and Plant Management Plan (CVPM)
- 93 Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)
- 94 Construction Method Statement

As agreed in past meetings, we understand that other bodies such as North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) and the Environment Agency (EA) are leading on Conditions 92 so we have not considered this area in much detail.

### **Condition 18**

The Noise and Vibration Management Plan (NVMP) is understandably very focussed on local residents



and disturbance. However, given the new 2016 bird data on nightjar and curlew there may be a need for more noise monitoring locations / levels particularly during the bird-breeding season 1 May – 31<sup>st</sup> August (earlier verification of Conditions 53, 54 and 55). Modelled noise levels predict levels lower than 50dBA (c. 42 dB during the night and 45dBA for daytime) for nightjar areas. We advise that some sample times are checked to verify whether the modelling is indeed accurate.

### Conditions 46 and 47

Spring Flow Conditions - we accept the proposed weekly monitoring data collation proposed in the ground and surface water monitoring scheme but are concerned that post-phase 2 work monitoring is only proposed to be carried out for a maximum of a month. The proposed platform is effectively a permanent structure that will have an impact on the recharge of groundwater. Section 3.3.3 notes that impacts from activities at Doves Nest Farm may take over a month to be identified at Moorside Farm springs. Longer post-phase 2 monitoring is essential for any impacts to be recognised, should they occur, reflecting the new steady state. Several months' worth of data would be very helpful in informing Phase 3, especially as the area of platform will be extended during phase 3, having a greater impact on recharge overall. It should also be clearly stated what action will be taken following the monitoring.

Section 3.3.5 refers to 'trigger values', 'control trigger values' and 'compliance trigger values'. However, this terminology is not then translated to the following tables, where the terms 'control values' and 'compliance values' are used instead. The trigger, control trigger and compliance trigger values need to be clearly defined along with the action which will follow if these trigger values are met or exceeded. The Remedial Action Plan also uses slightly different terminology.

Section 5 - regular summary reports are proposed and production of these might be kept under review to ensure that they are useful and necessary.

We accept the proposals in the Remedial Action Plan, but suggest that this is reviewed and updated for future phases based on 'lessons learned' during earlier phases. We note the proposals for vegetation monitoring in section 3.7.2 but suspect that any vegetation change resulting from phase 2 is unlikely to be picked up in the timescales proposed as the vegetation is very unlikely to respond that quickly. Annual vegetation monitoring is may be adequate for identifying any impacts from the cumulative effects of the different phases.

**Conditions 70 and 73:** The Arboricultural Method Statement – although there is some coverage of 'root protection zones' in the 'Introduction' there is not a lot of emphasis on this matter in the main document. For trees or woodland blocks, where long-term protection as screening is required, it is important that the trees are protected both above and below ground from physical damage and root and soil compaction by both vehicles and people, by sufficient distance being left under either BS5837-2012 or Planning Law.

We are satisfied that the remaining planning conditions 34, 57, 68, 92, 93 and 94 have now been verified as far as Natural England's remit is concerned.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries, please contact Christine Robertson on  
please contact

For any new consultations or issues,

Yours sincerely

James Walsh  
Yorkshire & Northern Lincolnshire Team

