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Date: 26 May 2017  
Our ref: 214808  
Your ref: NYM/2017/0258/CVC



Mark Hill  
North York Moors National Park Authority



BY EMAIL ONLY

4<sup>th</sup> Floor Foss House  
King's Pool  
1-2 Peasholme Green  
York  
North Yorkshire  
YO1 7PX

Dear Mark Hill

**Planning consultation:** Application for verification check of conditions 4, 18, 34, 46, 47, 49, 52, 57, 59, 60, 64, 68, 70, 73, 76, 79, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95 of planning approval NYM/2014/0676/MEIA  
**Location:** At Woodsmith Mine (Formally Dove's Nest Farm & Haxby Plantation), Sneatonthorpe Grid Reference 489495 505142

Thank you for your consultation dated 28 April 2017, which we received on the same date.

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.

*Natural England has considered the following conditions only, which we consider to be relevant to our strategic environmental interests. If there are any additional conditions the National Park Authority would like us to comment on then please contact us using the details below.*

**Discharge planning conditions NYMNP-46, 47, 60 and 79 with regards to hydrology, hydrogeology and water quality**

Unfortunately Natural England has not yet been able to assess these conditions as we require specialist hydrological input which is unavailable at the moment. We will provide comments on these conditions as soon as possible.

**Discharge planning condition NYMNP-49 dust management for Phase 3 Works at Woodsmith Mine**

Natural England has considered the information provided in Technical Note RHDHVTN004 Woodsmith Mine Phase 3 Dust Management Plan dated 14 March 2017 and is satisfied with the proposed measures with regards to the operations proposed for phase 3 of the project.

We note that no consideration is given to dust suppression for the soil stockpiles identified in the soil management plan and question whether contingency measures should be put in place for dry and/or windy conditions prior to seeding.

Natural England notes that the working and storage of polyhalite are not addressed at this stage.

**Discharge of planning condition NYMNP-52 Protected Species Management Plan for phase 3 works at Woodsmith Mine**

Natural England notes document ref 40-RHD-WS-70-EN-PL-0010 Woodsmith Mine Protected Species Management Plan – Reptiles, ref 40-RHD-WS-70-EN-PL-0012 Woodsmith Mine Protected Species Management Plan – Birds, ref 40-RHD-WS-70-EN-PL-0013 Woodsmith Mine Protected Species Management Plan – Bats 40-RHD-WS-70-EN-PL-0011 Woodsmith Mine Protected Species

Management Plan – Badgers. We are broadly satisfied with the information provided. However we are unclear as to whether the most up to date monitoring results regarding badgers has been taken into account with regards to temporary boundary treatments. Where appropriate we would expect temporary boundaries to be developed to exclude badgers from development activities.

**Discharge of planning condition NYMNPA-57 Landscape & Ecological Management Plan**

Natural England broadly welcome the information provided. We are reassured that the landscape proposals set out in the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan dated March 31st will meet the conditions requested for the specific areas referred to in the Plan only.

We have one query in regard to 7.2 on page 9. Natural England recommends that any flexibility in conditions must be agreed with the North York Moors National Park and any other appropriate consultees before any work is carried out

**Discharge planning condition NYMNPA-70 Vegetation Management, including Arboricultural Method Statement**

Natural England notes that this condition is accompanied by document ref 40-RHD-WS-70-EN-MS-0002 Arboricultural Method Statement for Phase Three works Woodsmith Mine Site, Whitby. Natural England has no comments to make on this document however we note that elements of this condition have been deferred and we may wish to comment on these matters when they are discharged.

**Discharge planning condition NYMNPA-76 soil management for Phase 3 works at Woodsmith Mine**

We have considered document number 40-FWS-WS-70-CI-PL-0002Rev4 Soil Management Plan for Phase 3 works Woodsmith Mine, North Yorkshire and are satisfied that the plan is appropriate at this stage. We note that restoration and aftercare are not addressed at this stage.

**Discharge planning conditions NYMNPA-91 and 92 with regards to air quality management for Phase 3 works at Woodsmith Mine**

Natural England has considered the details provided in document ref 40-RHD-WS-70-EN-RP-0001 REV 1: Woodsmith Mine Phase 3 - Emissions to Atmosphere – NYMNPA-91 and 40-RHD-WS-70-CI-PL-0003 REV 0 Woodsmith Mine Phase 3 - Construction Vehicle and Plant Management Plan. We note that the Emissions to Atmosphere report rules out the need for retro-fitted SCR abatement technology at this stage of the project. Based on the information provided in Table 3-1 we do not have any significant concerns with this providing that the mitigation is provided at later stages of the project when it becomes necessary.

**Discharge of planning condition NYMNPA-93 Construction Environment Management Plan**

Natural England has considered document ref 40-RHD-WS-70-EN-PL-0014 Woodsmith Mine - Construction Environmental Management Plan and is satisfied that it addresses our concerns with regards to air quality, dust, nature conservation and soils.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely



Christine Robertson, Team Leader, North York Moors  
Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire



