

Mr Rob Smith
North York Moors National Park
Development Control
The Old Vicarage Bondgate
Helmsley
York
YO62 5BP

Our ref: RA/2017/137194/02-L01
Your ref: NYM/2017/0505/MEIA
Date: 01 November 2017



Dear Mr Smith

APPLICATION IN RESPECT OF 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 ROAD ARRANGEMENTS (ADDITIONAL INFORMATION). WOODSMITH MINE (FORMELY DOVE'S NEST FARM & HAXBY PLANTATION), , SNEATONTORPE

We have reviewed the applicant's revised hydrological risk assessment (ref: 40-FWS-WS-83-PA-RA-0002) alongside the document 'Groundwater Modelling to evaluate the long term impact of the Woodsmith mine development to meet Section 73 Application (Ref: 61415R9 D2).

The modelling within these reports shows that that any impacts on groundwater dependent receptors will be minimal. We therefore have no objections to the variation of this condition and can confirm that our overall position remains the same as that stated in our previous response.

However, we note from the applicant's modelling report that the recharge trench (which is designed to protect the high sensitivity groundwater dependent receptors from the lack of recharge into the Moor Grit Formation) has hydraulic parameters which are subject to a degree of uncertainty. We therefore offer further comments which the developer will need to take into consideration as this project progresses:

Recharge trench

Before it can be confirmed whether the recharge trench will function as required, the applicant will need to assess the ground conditions at its final location. This information could help refine the modelling work carried out to date. It would also demonstrate whether the recharge trench can be designed to work as required, or whether additional mitigation measures may be needed to protect groundwater dependent receptors.

Environment Agency
Lateral 8 City Walk, LEEDS, LS11 9AT.

www.gov.uk/environment-agency
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In addition to the future ground testing, we will also require further detail on the final design of the recharge trench, together with a maintenance plan to ensure how the performance of the recharge trench will be ensured throughout its lifespan. A monitoring plan to assess the recharge trench's performance once constructed will also be required. This monitoring will need to be incorporated into a longer term, post construction monitoring plan (see final paragraph below).

Therefore, given the critical long-term role that the recharge trench will need to provide, the developer will need to indicate when the appropriate ground assessments for the recharge trench area will be undertaken.

As with the construction phases, the post-construction phase will require an appropriate groundwater monitoring programme to be produced to assess the expected long-term effects.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Nick Pedder

Planning Specialist - Sustainable Places

