

FAO Rob Smith
North York Moors National Park Authority
The Old Vicarage
Bondgate
Helmsley
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Date: 26 March 2018
Our ref: 50303/04/HS/JCx/15626958v2
Your ref: NYM/2017/0505/MEIA
Sirius ref: 40-LCH-AUT-LE-0041

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.

This NMA relates to the installation of a Northern Power Grid ("NPG") substation at Woodsmith Mine.

Application Submission

This NMA application was submitted online via the planning portal on 26 March 2017 (ref. PP- 06843294). This application comprises the following documents and plans:

- This covering letter;
- Completed application form;
- NPG Substation General Arrangement & Access (drawing ref. 40-ARI-WS-56-CI-DR-3000 Rev 0); and
- NPG Kiosk General Arrangement (drawing ref. 40-SMP-GE-5611-EL-18-00001 Rev A)

Background

On 19 October 2015, the NYMNPA 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 NYMNPA 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).

Proposal

The proposed works comprise the provision of a permanent, Northern Power Grid (“NPG”) substation at the Woodsmith Mine site. The substation is proposed to be located to the west of the main site and adjacent to the existing access road off the B1416. Once operational, the NPG substation will provide electrical power to the mine via a series of transformers and switch rooms located around the site. The substation will be unmanned and accessed only when required for maintenance or other ad-hoc, operational purposes.

The proposed layout and general arrangement of the substation is shown in the enclosed plans, demonstrating how a short section of the perimeter fence is proposed to be re-aligned in order to accommodate the new structure.

To facilitate the construction and subsequent maintenance of the substation, vehicular access is to be provided via the existing gated road off the B1416. A turning area is proposed immediately adjacent to the substation to allow any construction or maintenance vehicles to exit on to the B1416 in a forward manoeuvre.

The substation itself will comprise a structure, measuring 6900mm (L) x 3150mm (W) x 2450mm (H), accessible via two sets of (padlocked) double doors at its front-facing elevation and two single (padlocked) doors on its side-elevations. Two motion-sensor (“PIR”) lights are proposed to be installed, externally, above the double doors to the substation to facilitate any urgent maintenance works during night-time hours.

The NMA will not impact on Sirius Minerals’ ability to meet the requirements of its associated planning conditions, with the details enclosed with this submission also fulfilling the requirements of Condition 74 (details in relation to Permanent Above Ground Structures).

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

Aisling Kelly
Associate Director

Copy – William Woods, Sirius Minerals
Simon Carter, Sirius Minerals