

North York Moors National Park Authority



A member of the Association of National Park Authorities
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Andy Wilson
Chief Executive (National Park Officer)

Mr Paul Foster
Barton Willmore
Elizabeth House
1 High Street
Chesterton
Cambridge
CB4 1WB

Your ref: 17809/A3/PF/CMC

Our ref: NYM/2007/0901/FL

Date: 18 March 2009

Dear Paul

Possible Gas Production and electricity Generation, Eberston Common Lane, Snainton

Thank you for sending the further information following our meeting in the office when we discussed your initial ideas relating to the above. We have now had an opportunity to consider these in the light of our Local Development Framework and RSS policies and I apologise for the delay in sending our views to you.

Whilst I can appreciate the reasoning behind your proposal to base production of gas and electricity on the same site at the point of the gas production I consider the nature and scale of the works and buildings involved in electricity generation is such that we would consider this development inappropriate for this rural setting in the National Park.

As you are aware we have had no recent proposals for gas production but we have, informally within, the Authority discussed possible scenarios should any of the recent and current exploration and evaluation developments result in commercially viable gas deposits. I can confirm that our preferred option would be to pipe gas from this site to a site outside the National Park where it can be stored/transported/utilised for electricity generation. I appreciate that even this would result in a great deal of disturbance and issues in the National Park but once laid a pipeline would not have an on-going impact on the special qualities of the National Park. The on-going impact of and activity associated with an electricity production plant in the National Park, particularly on a remote and rural site such as this, would be, however in our view, contrary to our statutory purposes and adopted policies.

I am sorry not to be more positive in our advice over this proposal and I know you will appreciate this is informal officer advice only that will not bind the Authority should you decide

BARTON WILLMORE	
ANGLIA	
RECEIVED	
19 MAR 2009	
Seen by:	mr
File:	17809/A3
Action:	pf - forward to Grant Evans
By:	PF
Date:	19/3/09

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to submit a formal application in respect of this development. However, we do foresee real difficulties if you do submit a formal proposal and consider it best that you are aware of these at this early stage. We would also confirm our views that any proposal would need to be subject to a formal enforcement action.

No doubt you will consider these views with your client and it would be good to know in due course what your intentions are regarding this site once exploratory/evaluation work is complete.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you want to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Val Dilcock
Chief Planning Officer