

Memorandum

To: Mike Convery
Minerals and Waste Planning
Cc:

From: Malcolm Barnett
Principal Landscape Architect

Date: 10th March 2010

Contact Details:

Your Ref: NY/2010/0065/SCO

Our Ref:

Re: NY/2010/0065/SCO - Scoping Opinion - Eberston to Hurrell Lane, Thornton-le-Dale, Ryedale, North Yorkshire

Thank you for your consultation on the above application.

Selection of the Site of the Proposed Facility on Landscape Grounds

EIA to put forward the alternative options and the rationale, on landscape grounds, for the selection of the proposed site of the facility

The Location and Setting of the Application Site

The proposed scoping excludes any reference to the National Park yet the proposal runs through the Park and the proposed processing plant site is located right on the edge of the Park. It is therefore essential that the EIA fully addresses both the temporary and permanent visual and landscape impacts of the proposal on both the landscape within the National Park, the landscape outside the Park, and the landscape that forms the setting to the National Park.

Visual Impact

Whilst I understand the reasoning behind selecting the 3 locations for the preparation of the photomontages for the public exhibition, I recommend that, in addition, a much wider range of viewpoints are selected in order to enable a full visual impact assessment of the proposed project to be undertaken, in line with the recommendations of the Guidelines of the LI and the IEMA to which the proposed scoping refers. Viewpoints to include from properties, settlements, public footpaths and panoramic viewpoints within the area of the ZVI.

Existing Landscape Structure

EIA to clearly identify the existing landscape framework..

Restoration Strategy

Request submission of an effective restoration and enhancement scheme for temporary impacts of the scheme caused by the proposed pipeline construction.

Clarity and Quality of Mitigation Strategy

Request that the submission includes an effective mitigation strategy, which may require the inclusion of off- site proposals and long term management proposals

Existing Documents

In addition to the documents referred to in the proposal, the landscape chapter of the ES should also refer to and draw upon "The Landscapes of Northern Ryedale" which was undertaken for Ryedale District Council by Gillespies in 1999.

North Yorkshire County Council has also commissioned a landscape character assessment of the whole of the County and York, the first draft of which is due to be received shortly.

Please contact me if you have any queries with regards to the above comments.