



The Coal
Authority



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Learning Partner

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For the Attention of: Arne Swithenbank – Case Officer
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

[By Email: planning@staffsmoorlands.gov.uk]

18 November 2021

Dear Arne

PLANNING APPLICATION: SMD/2021/0691

Screening opinion to determine the requirement for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to accompany a planning application, for a proposed battery storage project; land off Bembersley Road, Brown Edge

Thank you for your notification of 29 October 2021 seeking the views of the Coal Authority on the above.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. As a statutory consultee, the Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

The Coal Authority Response

The Coal Authority records indicate that the site is likely to have been subject to historic unrecorded underground coal mining at shallow depth and that a thick coal seams outcropped across the site.

Whether or not any future proposal for the development of this site is to be accompanied by an Environmental Statement is for the decision of the LPA. However, as part of any formal planning application, the applicant will need to submit a Coal Mining Risk Assessment, or equivalent report for the site, which considers in detail the risks posed to the development by the coal mining legacy within the site.

I hope this is helpful but please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

Chris MacArthur

Chris MacArthur *B.Sc.(Hons), DipTP, MRTPI*
Planning Liaison Manager

Disclaimer

The above consultation response is provided by The Coal Authority as a Statutory Consultee and is based upon the latest available data on the date of the response, and electronic consultation records held by The Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based upon only the information provided to The Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by The Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the Applicant for consultation purposes.