



The Coal
Authority



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Learning Partner

200 Lichfield Lane
Berry Hill
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire

For the Attention of: Ms J Curley – Case Officer
Staffordshire Moorlands District Council

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

18 March 2022

Dear Ms Curley

PLANNING APPLICATION: SMD/2022/0076

Construction of a temporary 49.35MW battery storage facility, to include a compound, a DNO control room, a customer substation, security fencing, landscaping and other associated infrastructure; land off Bemersley Road, Brown Edge, Staffordshire, ST6 8BB

Thank you for your consultation letter of 10 March 2022 seeking the views of the Coal Authority on the above planning application.

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: Material Consideration

The application site falls within the defined Development High Risk Area; therefore within the application site and surrounding area there are coal mining features and hazards which need to be considered in relation to the determination of this planning application.

The Coal Authority notes the submitted Geotechnical and Preliminary Coal Mining Risk Assessment (dated January 2022) from South West Geotechnical Ltd, which accompanies the application. The content of the report has been informed by appropriate and up-to-date coal mining information for the proposed development site.

Based on this review of existing information the report confirms that there is the potential for worked coal seams to underlie parts of the site at shallow depth. Consequently, and based on the angle of dip of the strata the report has categorised the site into three levels

of risk (i.e. red, green and amber). On the basis that the proposed structures now correspond with those parts of the site categorised as green, where there would be sufficient competent rock cover above any workings to afford ground stability, I can confirm that the Coal Authority has **no objections** to this planning application.

The Coal Authority Recommendation to the LPA

The information prepared by South West Geotechnical Ltd is considered sufficient for the purposes of the planning system in demonstrating that the application site is safe and stable for the proposed development. The Coal Authority therefore has **no objection** to the proposed development.

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

Yours sincerely

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 coal mining 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.

In formulating this response The Coal Authority has taken full account of the professional conclusions reached by the competent person who has prepared the Coal Mining Risk Assessment or other similar report. In the event that any future claim for liability arises in relation to this development The Coal Authority will take full account of the views, conclusions and mitigation previously expressed by the professional advisers for this development in relation to ground conditions and the acceptability of development.