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Pontllanfraith
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NP12 2YW

Our Ref: P/MA/CCBC/NL/PA/101013/RJL

Your Ref: Mins: Nant Llesg

Date: 10th October 2013

FAO Ruth Amundson - Minerals Planning Officer

Dear Sir or Madam

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (as amended)
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)
(ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 1999 (as amended in Wales)

NANT LLESG SURFACE MINE, INCORPORATING LAND REMEDIATION

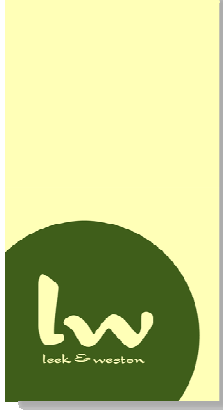
This letter accompanies a planning application, environmental statement, and accompanying documents for the 'Nant Llesg Surface Mine, Incorporating Land Remediation', which is submitted on behalf of Miller Argent (South Wales) Limited.

The submission includes the following documents:

- This covering letter
- Planning Application
 - Planning Application Form App1 (See Appendix MA/NL/PA/A002)
 - Minerals Planning Application Form (See Appendix MA/NL/PA/A002)
 - Article 11 Certificates (See Appendix MA/NL/PA/A002)
 - Planning Statement (with Drawing MA/NL/PA/001 'Planning Application Site Boundary' at 1:5000)
 - Planning Application Appendices
 - Planning Application Fee of £65,000
- Environmental Statement
 - Non-Technical Summary
 - Environmental Statement (Volume I) (Parts 1 & 2)
 - Environmental Statement (Volume II): Appendices (Parts 1, 2 & 3)
- Planning Application and Environmental Statement Drawings (ES Volume III)
- Health Impact Assessment (Appendix MA/NL/ES/A18/001)
- Sustainability and Carbon Statement (Appendix MA/NL/ES/A19/001)
- Tree and Woodland Impact Assessment (Appendix MA/NL/PA/A008)
- Statement of Public Consultation
- Design and Access Statement

A DVD is also enclosed, which provides the above submission in electronic format.

As agreed, ten full copies of the submission have been delivered to your Planning Department with this letter.



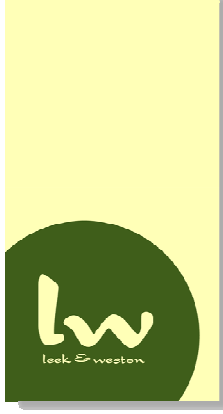
Appropriate notice of the planning application under Article 10 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 has been published today in the Rhymney Valley Express, the Merthyr Express and the Western Mail. Similarly, Article 10 notices have today been served by recorded delivery on all known owners. This has been appropriately certified at Section 25 of Application Form App1 with the Agricultural Holdings Certificate being provided at Section 26 of Form App1.

A copy of the Article 10 Notice is attached for your information. You will note that the prescribed date for the purposes of Section 65(2) of the Act and Article 10 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012 is the date of this submission.

We have a small stock of the documents as submitted. Please let me know if you require any further hard copies. Hard copies of the full environmental statement, its drawings and appendices are available for issue on request by members of the public at a cost of £500.00 per copy; or a DVD containing the submitted documentation in PDF format is available at a cost of £10.00 per copy. We would stress that the cost for hard copies of the environmental statement is being subsidised by the applicant; the true cost of reproduction being considerably more.

In summary, the development proposals comprise:

- Mineral workings at the Nant Llesg Surface Mine to recover approximately 6 million tonnes of coal;
- Remediation of old shafts, adits and mining dereliction associated with former iron ore and coal mining;
- Improvements to the quality of mine water discharge into the River Rhymney;
- Drainage remediation works to help address silting of Darran Valley Country Park Lake;
- Road improvement works at the junction of Fochriw Road and Bogey Road to improve visibility for traffic using the junction;
- The archaeological examination and recording of the northern embankment of Rhaslas Pond before its removal and the protection of and minor drainage works to the southern embankment; it being considered a prospective Scheduled Monument;
- Investigate, treat and/or remove waste materials from within a licenced inert landfill site that currently lies within the area of the proposed scheme;
- The use of a new coal washing plant and ancillary water recycling facility at Cwmbargoed Disposal Point for the preparation and processing of coal from the Nant Llesg and Ffos-y-fran surface mines;
- Continued use of facilities at Cwmbargoed Disposal Point for the duration of mining operations at the Nant Llesg and Ffos-y-fran surface mines, including the provision of a new layout for the water treatment facilities for the period 31st December 2024 until the cessation of mining operations at the Nant Llesg Surface Mine;
- Restoration and aftercare of the land for a minimum period of five years.



The following applications will be submitted in due course:

- Application for the stopping up of public rights of way within the planning application site boundary and the creation of a bridleway as an alternative highway; and
- Application for the consent of the Welsh Ministers under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 to carry out the proposed works on the Gelligaer and Merthyr Urban Common (CL38).

Details of the above applications are comprehensively set out in the attached planning application and the environmental impacts of those proposals assessed in the accompanying environmental statement.

We trust that you find the application in order and look forward to your confirmation of its validation and registration. Should you have any queries about the content or require further information on any aspect of the proposals, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Leek'.

Roger J Leek for
Leek & Weston Ltd

Enc.

Notices under Articles 10 and 25

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 10 OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

(to be served on an owner* or a tenant** or to be published in a newspaper (and, where the local planning authority maintain one, on their website))

Proposed development on approximately 478.1 ha of land to the west and south west of Rhymney and to the north and west of Pontlottyn and Fochriw in the County Borough of Caerphilly.

I give notice that Miller Argent (South Wales) Limited is applying to the Caerphilly County Borough Council for planning permission to mine approximately 6 million tonnes of coal from the Nant Llesg Surface Mine using surface mining methods; to remediate land within and adjacent to the surface mine; to carry out surface drainage works north of Fochriw; to carry out road improvement works at the junction of Fochriw Road and Bogey Road and at access points to Cwmbargoed Disposal Point; to form a new vehicular access to the mine off Fochriw Road; to carry out works on Rhaslas Pond; to provide all necessary buildings, plant and facilities ancillary to the surface mine; to erect a new building at Cwmbargoed Disposal Point and install within it a new coal washing plant; to provide a new water recycling facility at Cwmbargoed Disposal Point; to use facilities at Cwmbargoed Disposal Point to prepare, process and dispatch coal to market for the duration of mining operations at the Nant Llesg Surface Mine; to provide new water treatment facilities at Cwmbargoed Disposal Point for the period 31st December 2024 until the cessation of mining operations at the Nant Llesg Surface Mine; to investigate, treat, remove and/or cap waste materials at an existing licenced inert landfill site within the scheme; and to progressively restore the land in accordance with the proposed restoration strategy followed by a minimum five-year period of aftercare of the land.

Members of the public may inspect copies of:

- the application
- the plans
- and other documents submitted with it

at Caerphilly County Borough Council, Council Offices, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood NP12 2YW during all reasonable hours until 31st October 2013.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Head of Regeneration and Planning, Caerphilly County Borough Council, Council Offices, Pontllanfraith, Blackwood NP12 2YW by 31st October 2013.

* "owner" means a person having a freehold interest or a leasehold interest the unexpired term of which is not less than seven years, or, in the case of development consisting of the winning or working of minerals, a person entitled to an interest in a mineral in the land (other than oil, gas, coal, gold or silver).

** "tenant" means an agricultural tenant, as defined in section 65(8) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, of land any part of which is comprised in the land to which the application relates.

Signed:



Roger J Leek for Leek & Weston Ltd (Planning Agent)

On behalf of Miller Argent (South Wales) Limited

Date: 10th October 2013

Statement of owners' rights

The grant of planning permission does not affect owners' rights to retain or dispose of their property, unless there is some provision to the contrary in an agreement or in a lease.

Statement of agricultural tenants' rights

The grant of planning permission for non-agricultural development may affect agricultural tenants' security of tenure.