



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales**

Ein cyf/Our ref: CAS-199012-T5F7
Eich cyf/Your ref: P/22/0237

Rivers House,
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St Mellons,
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Merthyr Tydfil County Borough
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ebost/email:
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28/10/2022

Annwyl Syr/Madam / Dear Sir/Madam,

BWRIAD / PROPOSAL: Variation of conditions 3 (Coal Extraction) and 4 (Final Restoration) of planning permission APP/U6925/A/10/2129921 to extend the life of the existing mine for a further 9 months

LLEOLIAD / LOCATION: Land at Ffos Y Fran Land Reclamation Scheme

Thank you for consulting Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales about the above, which we received on 14 September 2022.

We have concerns with the application as submitted because inadequate information has been provided in support of the proposal. To overcome these concerns, you should seek further information from the applicant regarding European Protected Species (EPS).

Further details are provided below.

European Protected Species

We note and agree with the advice provided by your Authority's Ecologist in the internal memorandum dated 26/09/2022, uploaded on your website, that there should be an updated biodiversity data search and a review to confirm whether the conditions of the Great Crested Newt (GCN) licence have been met.

Therefore, alongside an updated data search of the application site, we advise you seek from the Applicant, an update on matters relating to GCN and details of the proposed GCN measures to be included within the aftercare scheme.

We would welcome consideration of a longer aftercare period. Should this be possible we can provide further advice.

We would be happy to comment further on receipt of the further information requested above.

Condition 57

This condition should be updated to reflect the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).

We also request that the existing conditions 44, 45 are reapplied when re-issuing the permission.

Brecon Beacons National Park

The proposal lies approximately 3km from the National Park boundary to the north west (Taff Fechan) and 3.6km from its boundary to the north.

We agree with the findings of the Addendum to the Environmental Statement (ES) Chapter 16 Landscape and Visual. The increase in time period of operational effects and delay in restoration is unlikely to have any noticeable increase in effects on the National Park.

We agree with the statement at 16.5.7 of the Addendum of the ES that a 5 year aftercare period is insufficient for features such as hedgerows, woodland and heathland and that a longer period would be appropriate.

Other Matters

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters included on our checklist, *Development Planning Advisory Service: Consultation Topics* (September 2018), which is published on our [website](#). We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests.

We advise the applicant that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure they secure all other permits/consents/licences relevant to their development. Please refer to our [website](#) for further details.

Please advise the Applicant that all discharges and abstractions must be satisfactorily permitted under the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 (EPR) and that older permits may require variation accordingly

If you have any queries on the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yn gywir / Yours faithfully

Claire McCorkindale

Cynghorydd - Cynllunio Datblygu / Advisor - Development Planning
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales