



Head of Planning
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Unit 5, Triangle Business Park
Pentrebach
Merthyr Tydfil
CF48 4TQ

19th October 2022

FAO: Hugh Towns

Dear Sir

Re: 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:
Ffos Y Fran Land Reclamation Scheme, East of A4060 Slip Road, Merthyr Tydfil.
Pl.App.No.: P/22/0237.

Thank you for consulting us about this application; consequently we have reviewed the detailed information contained on your website.

The information in the Historic Environment Record curated by this Trust shows the area to be set within the Merthyr Tydfil Registered Historic Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (Cadw reference HLW (MGL) 2), in Character Areas HLCA031: Merthyr Common Central summarised as: *Nationally important Industrial landscape; water management and extractive features associated with the Dowlais and Penydarren Ironworks; industrial and post-medieval upland settlement; transport networks -industrial and public rail; area of industrially altered common*; also HLCA058 Ffos y Fran, summarised as: *Nationally important Industrial landscape associated with the Dowlais Ironworks; industrially altered upland Common: intensive area of extractive features predominantly early to mid 19th century coal and ironstone workings along mineral outcrop, primarily levels and pits, also early remains of crown pit workings, and patch workings; transport networks; industrial and public rail, drainage features: the Dowlais Free Drainage System; industrial settlement: includes scheduled Ffos-y-fran Iron Worker's settlement*; and HLCA078 Dowlais Great Tip, Trecatti, Trehir and Twyn y Waun, summarised as: *Reclaimed industrial landscape; an area, formerly similar to HLCAs 031 and 039, since subject to reclamation, opencast and landfill, or combinations thereof former site of multi-period extractive and drainage features associated with the Dowlais Ironworks; former site of industrial and post-medieval upland settlements; former site of a regionally important Medieval Fair/market*. It also includes part of the Scheduled Monument Sarn Howell Pond and Watercourse (Cadw reference GM494).

Extensive archaeological mitigation work has been undertaken over a number of years, including desk based assessment, ASIDOHL2, field evaluation, excavation, recording of the remnant industrial landscapes, extraction, transportation, and infrastructure features.

The supporting documentation includes an Environmental Statement Addendum, Chapter 14: Archaeology and The Historic Landscape, which concludes that the impact of the proposal on archaeology and the historic landscape is none, and no additional mitigation measures will be required. We concur with this conclusion, and, as the

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archaeological advisors to your Members, we have no objections to the positive determination of this application. The record is not definitive, however, and features may be disturbed during the course of the work. In this event, please contact this division of the Trust.

If you have any questions or require further advice on this matter please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

Judith Doyle

Judith Doyle BA MBA FSA MCIfA
Stewardship Officer