



Vaynor Quarry ROMP Addendum

Quarry Development Scheme

Heidelberg Materials UK

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

BBNP	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
MPA	Mineral Planning Authority
MT	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
OMS	Overall Mining Site
ROMP	Review of Mineral Permissions
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest



1.0 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT – ADDENDUM

1.1 Background

The First Periodic Review ROMP dated August 2022 was submitted by Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited (HQPE) under the trading name of Hanson UK. In October 2023, Hanson UK changed its trading name to Heidelberg Materials UK as part of the global rebranding initiative by their parent company, HeidelbergCement, which is now known as Heidelberg Materials.

Please note that all drawings forming part of this addendum now refer to Heidelberg Materials UK. The rest of the Environmental Statement and its appendices remain unchanged.

Within the Environmental Statement for the Vaynor Quarry First Periodic ROMP dated August 2022, Sections 1.3 and 3.0 described the Quarry Development Scheme with the aid of a series of drawings representing the extent of quarry workings at the end of each phase. Throughout the quarry development scheme, stone extraction was taking place both above and below the winter water table to achieve the permitted lateral and vertical quarrying limits.

During the First Periodic Review consultation process, NRW raised concerns regarding the impact of quarry dewatering upon the adjacent Nant y Glais SSSI and Taf Fechan SSSI.

Acknowledging NRW's concerns, Heidelberg Materials UK ("Heidelberg") propose a revision to the quarry development scheme whereby for the first six phases (i.e. up to 55 years from the recommencement of quarrying), extraction of permitted limestone reserves would be restricted to **above** the winter water table. Towards the end of Phase 6, Heidelberg will progress a scheme of working that will address concerns over potential hydrogeological impact of working below the winter water table. The scheme will be submitted to the MPA for consideration and once approved, the permitted limestone reserves below the winter water table will be quarried in accordance with the approved scheme of working.

1.2 Stantec UK Limited

To support the revision to the quarry development scheme, Heidelberg commissioned their hydrogeological consultants, Stantec UK Limited, to evaluate the impact of working above the winter water table using the data previously relied upon in preparing the Hydrogeological Impact Assessment (Appendix 9 in the Environmental Statement). Stantec UK Limited produced a letter dated 26th August 2025 entitled 'Vaynor Quarry



ROMP - Hydrogeological perspective of above water table working'. A copy is appended to this Addendum Report (see Appendix C). Extracts from letter and the key conclusion by Stantec UK Limited are shown in *italics* below.

'In support of the current ROMP application for Vaynor Quarry, Heidelberg has produced a series of revised quarry development plans for above water table working. The current versions of these plans are all dated June 2025 and comprise two sets, one running from V6/PR/MT/6.0 to V6/PR/MT/6.8 and the other from V6/PR/BBNP/6.0 to V6/PR/BBNP/6.8 (second set).'

Drawings V6/PR/MT/13A and V6/PR/BBNP/13A illustrates the three cross sections drawn through the reserve and illustrates the final working profile and also the profile of the winter ground water level. It can be seen from the cross sections that the water table is inclined from east to west (see sections A-A' and C-C') and from north to south (see section B-B').

*'Working above the water table means that, in contrast to below water table working, no groundwater in the saturated zone will be diverted into the void. Groundwater in the saturated zone will continue to flow to wherever it used to flow to (e.g. Taf Fechan springs). It is only the diversion of some of the recharge in the expanded quarry footprint that could have an impact. Taking this and other points into account means that, with the exception of springs NG01 and NG02, the risk to the various receptors associated with above water table working is considered to be **Negligible**. Some diversion of recharge out of the catchments for NG01 and NG02 cannot be ruled out, but it is considered that the magnitude of effect would not be more than Low, resulting in an impact that was **Minor** and therefore **Not Significant**.'*

1.3 Planning condition

To this end, Heidelberg, are prepared to accept a planning condition that prohibits any quarrying below the winter water table until such time as a scheme of working addressing the hydrological impacts has been approved by the MPA. The following condition has been put forward for consideration.

- 10) *There shall be no quarrying of minerals existing below the winter water table illustrated on the cross sections in Drawings V6/PR/MT/13A and V6/PR/BBNP/13A until a scheme of working (to be submitted prior to the completion of Phase 6 of the revised quarry development scheme) addressing any hydrogeological impacts of working below the winter water level has been submitted to the Local Planning Authority.*



2.0 REVISED QUARRY DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

The Environment Act 1995 provides for planning conditions which regulate operations at quarries to be updated at 15 year intervals. The current application represents the first periodic review; the second periodic review will take place 15 years following the determination of the current application.

Within this context, it has been deemed appropriate to prepare a quarry development scheme for the current application which provides details of the proposed quarry development scheme for an initial 15 year period (sub-divided into 5, 10 and 15 year plans).

These plans are then followed by a 25, 40, 55 and 75 year plan culminating with a final quarry development plan representing the full exploitation of the permitted reserve.

Separate quarry development plans have been prepared for the purposes of the formalising the applications within the two administrative areas, with the 'red line' application boundaries relating to the Mining Sites within each of the two administrative areas superimposed on the quarry development plans however, the plans show the same detail in respect of the quarry development scheme

These plans use the prefix 'MT' (Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council) and 'BBNP' (Brecon Beacons National Park authority) in the drawing numbers to allow them to be differentiated.

The full suite of drawings associated with the revised quarry development scheme are (with drawing references in brackets):

- Existing Quarry: (V6/PR/MT/6.0 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.0)
- Quarry Phase 1: 5 Year Plan (V6/PR/MT/6.1 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.1)
- Quarry Phase 2: 10 Year Plan (V6/PR/MT/6.2 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.2)
- Quarry Phase 3: 15 Year Plan (V6/PR/MT/6.3 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.3)
- Quarry Phase 4: 25 Year Plan (V6/PR/MT/6.4 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.4)
- Quarry Phase 5: 40 Year Plan (V6/PR/MT/6.5 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.5)
- Quarry Phase 6: 55 Year Plan (V6/PR/MT/6.6 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.6)
- Quarry Phase 7: 75 Year Plan (V6/PR/MT/6.7 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.7)
- Final Quarry Development Plan: (V6/PR/MT/6.8 & V6/PR/BBNP/6.8)
- Quarry Cross Sections: (V6/PR/MT/13A & V6/PR/BBNP/13A)
- Restoration Concept for Mining Site: (V6/PR/MT/14 & V6/PR/BBNP/14) *
- Quarry Bench Restoration Treatments: (V6/PR/MT/15 & V6/PR/BBNP/15) *
- Restoration Concept for Overall Quarry: (V6/PR/MT/16 & V6/PR/BBNP/16) *



- Quarry Waste Tip Plan and Cross Sections: (V6/PR/MT/17 & V6/PR/BBNP/17) *
- North East Screen Bund: (V6/PR/MT/18 & V6/PR/BBNP/19) *

* No change to the plans in the original submission

Table 1: Phases and Extractable Reserves Summary

Phase / Years	Extractable Reserves (Million Tonnes per phase)	Cumulative Reserves (Million Tonnes)
Existing	0.0	0.0
Phase 1 (0 – 5 Years)	2.70	2.70
Phase 2 (6 – 10 Years)	2.50	5.20
Phase 3 (11 – 15 Years)	2.80	8.00
Phase 4 (16 – 25 Years)	4.60	12.60
Phase 5 (26 – 40 Years)	6.50	19.10
Phase 6 (41 – 55 Years)	8.10	27.20
Phase 7 (56 – 75 Years)	9.70	36.90
Final Quarry Development (75+)	9.40	46.30



2.1 Existing Quarry

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.0 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.0)

The existing Vaynor Quarry comprises:

- i) The ROMP 'Overall Mining Site' (OMS) which straddles the administrative boundaries between Brecon Beacons National Park (BBNP and Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (MTCBC)) whose boundary comprises the majority of the Quarry Site in the central, northern and south eastern areas;
- ii) The former processing plant area in the south area of the site, with an access off Vaynor Road; and
- iii) The former IDO permitted area which occupies an area of land, undefined on the ground, between the OMS and the former processing site.

The OMS area within which future quarrying will take place has been subject to historical quarrying which has created a western and eastern limb or quarry voids, separated by a spur of land which has been partly disturbed by historical quarry waste and overburden tipping. A more substantial quarry tip is present in the northern area of the OMS.

Land in the south eastern area of the OMS accommodates an existing pond to which surface water and perched groundwater from the eastern limb of the quarry drains and then soaks away into the underlying strata. The land to the south east of the pond is well-vegetated with trees and would not be disturbed by future quarrying operations.

The current situation at the quarry is shown on plan numbers V6/PR/MT/6.0 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.0 – the detail shown on these plans do not differ to those plans submitted as part of the First Periodic Review application to both MTCBC and BBNP, the only change is in the title block concerning the rebranding from Hanson UK to Heidelberg Materials.

2.2 Quarry Phase 1: 5 Year Plan

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.1 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.1)

An initial 5 year development scheme focuses upon quarrying in the north western area, working from the existing floor of the quarry and the advancement of benches in a northerly direction. The base level of the quarry being designed such to ensure that limestone quarrying remains above the winter ground water level throughout this phase.



There will be a requirement to undertake a limited soil and overburden strip in the northern area to allow for the progression of faces. The resulting overburden will be partly used to construct the screen bund along the north eastern side of the Quarry designed to protect the amenities of the residents of Llwynsilanws Farm to the northeast of the Quarry. Upon completion, the northern and eastern slopes of the bund will be planted in accordance with the Restoration Concept for Mining Site (V6/PR/MT/14 & V6/PR/BBNP/14) and Quarry Bench Restoration Treatments (V6/PR/MT/16 & V6/PR/BBNP/16). The remainder of the stripped overburden will be placed on the existing northern quarry tip.

An existing haul road would provide access into the western limit of the quarry (upgraded as appropriate) and to a mobile crushing and screening plant which would be sited in the vicinity of the defined extraction area. During the initial 5 year development period, no quarrying operations will take place within the eastern limb of the quarry.

The Phase 1 development scheme would yield a reserve of some 2.70m tonnes.

2.3 Quarry Phase 2: 10 Year Plan

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.2 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.2)

During Phase 2 of the quarry development, the faces in the north western area of the quarry will continue to be developed both northwards and eastwards. The floor of the quarry in the northern area will be limited to 323m to remain above the water table. Simultaneously, initial quarry progression in the southern area commencing at 298m (again above the water table) will advance a series of quarry faces in a northerly direction into the central spine which separates the current western and eastern limbs of the quarry.

The removal of overburden will continue to be placed on the existing northern quarry tip.

At the end of 10 years, the Phase 2 development of the scheme would yield a reserve of some 2.50m tonnes with the cumulative tonnage from the recommencement of operations being 5.20m tonnes.



2.4 Quarry Phase 3: 15 Year Plan

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.3 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.3)

The north western quarry faces would continue to advance eastwards into the central spine below the southern limit of the northern quarry tip.

In the south central part of the quarry, deepening of the quarry floor will be restricted to c.290m AOD to maintain working above the water table as previous designs involved working to 274m AOD. The south central quarry faces would continue to progress further, working northwards into the central spine.

Overburden removed during this operation would continue to be partly within the northern tip and along redundant quarry benches identified for quarry bench treatments T2 & T3 in accordance with the restoration concept for the mining site as shown on Drawings V6/PR/MT/14 and V6/PR/MT/15.

The Phase 3 development scheme would yield a reserve of some 2.80m tonnes, cumulative tonnage from the recommencement of operations being 8.00m tonnes.

2.5 Quarry Phase 4: 25 Year Plan

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.4 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.4)

During this phase, the north western quarry faces would advance progressively eastwards and the south central quarry faces working northwards through the central spine.

The overburden removed in advance of northerly progression of the south central quarry faces would be partly used for progressive restoration and the surplus placed in the new quarry tip at the base of the quarry in the eastern area of the site.

The Phase 4 development scheme would yield a reserve of some 4.60m tonnes, increasing the cumulative tonnage extracted from the recommencement of quarrying operations to 12.60m tonnes.

2.6 Quarry Phase 5: 40 Year Plan

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.5 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.5)

During this phase, the top most bench in the north west will advance in an easterly direction involving the partial removal of the current northern quarry tip, with the



material used partly for progressive restoration and the residue placed in the new quarry tip located adjacent to the eastern quarry wall in the central part of the quarry void. There would be full quarry development across the central area of the site with the faces progressing generally northward. The depth of the quarry working will be controlled to ensure the base of the quarry lies above the winter water table.

The Phase 5 development scheme would yield a reserve of some 6.50m tonnes bringing the cumulative tonnage from the recommencement of operations to 19.10m tonnes.

2.7 Quarry Phase 6: 55 Year Plan

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.6 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.6)

Quarrying would continue to advance progressively northwards until achieving the permitted lateral limits along the western, northern and eastern boundaries.

Towards the end of this phase, the hydrological scheme of working addressing the hydrological impacts of working below the winter water table will be submitted for approval by the MPA. At the end of Phase 6, all 27.20m tonnes limestone reserves situated above the winter water table will have been worked out. .

During Phase 6 of the development scheme, 8.10m tonnes would have been quarried, increasing the cumulative tonnage of limestone extracted to 27.20m tonnes.

2.8 Quarry Phase 7: 75 Year Plan

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.7 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.7)

Following the approval of the hydrogeological scheme of working, throughout this penultimate phase of the quarry development, the emphasis will be on deepening the quarry to achieve the permitted working limits involving the extraction of limestone below the winter water table.

Work will commence in the southern part of the quarry, working to achieve the maximum depth of 275m AOD across the width of the quarry void. Work would then advance the faces northward following the natural bedding planes into the central area



of the quarry void. Deepening of the quarry void is evidenced by the extension to the pond in the south of the quarry void.

Simultaneously, the higher benches in the northern area would be progressively worked northwards to the final quarry profiles.

During this phase of the development 9.70m tonnes would be won taking the cumulative tonnage from the recommencement of operations to c. 37.00m tonnes.

2.9 Quarry Phase: Final Quarry Development

(Drawing Ref. V6/PR/MT/6.8 and V6/PR/BBNP/6.8)

The final quarry development plan shows the quarry faces and benches worked back to the limits of the planning permission (within the control of Heidelberg), and a gently sloping floor of the quarry which reflects the dip of the underlying strata.

This will form the basis for the progressive implementation of restoration strategy for the overall site with restoration of the quarry faces and benches with a combination of planting and natural re-colonisation, grassland and woodland planting on the quarry floor and a shallow water feature in the southern area.

From Phase 7 to the completion of the final quarry development phase, the remaining reserve of 9.40m tonnes will have been extracted.

In total, the quarry development scheme would release a reserve of some 46.30m tonnes which, with an anticipated average annual output of some 500,000 tonnes per annum, gives an operational life of approximately 100 years. The level of output would be consistent with the average annual sales at Hanson's Penderyn Quarry which Vaynor Quarry is identified as its natural replacement.



3.0 CONCLUSION

In accordance with the current planning permissions covering the 'Overall Mining Site', Heidelberg can recommence quarrying at any time and moreover extract the permitted limestone reserves below the winter water table.

However, to acknowledge the concerns of NRW regarding the dewatering of the quarry and the potential impact upon the adjacent Nant y Glais SSSI and Taf Fechan SSSI, Heidelberg have proposed a revision to the Quarry Development Scheme.

The revision proposes to restrict the extraction of the permitted limestone reserves above the winter water table until the end of Phase 6, i.e. 55 years from the recommencement of quarrying.

Prior to the end of Phase 6, a hydrological scheme of working addressing the hydrological impacts of working below the winter water table will be submitted for approval by the MPA.

Once the hydrogeological scheme of working is approved, limestone extraction during Phase 7 through to the final quarry development will be below the winter water table to achieve the permitted working limits.



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Appendix A Revised Phasing Plans (Merthyr Tydfil CBC)

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Appendix B Revised Phasing Plans (Brecon Beacons National Park)

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Appendix C Stantec UK Limited Letter

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4 September 2025



Appendix D Drawing Changes between 2022 ROMP and 2025 Revision

Vaynor Quarry ROMP Addendum

Quarry Development Scheme

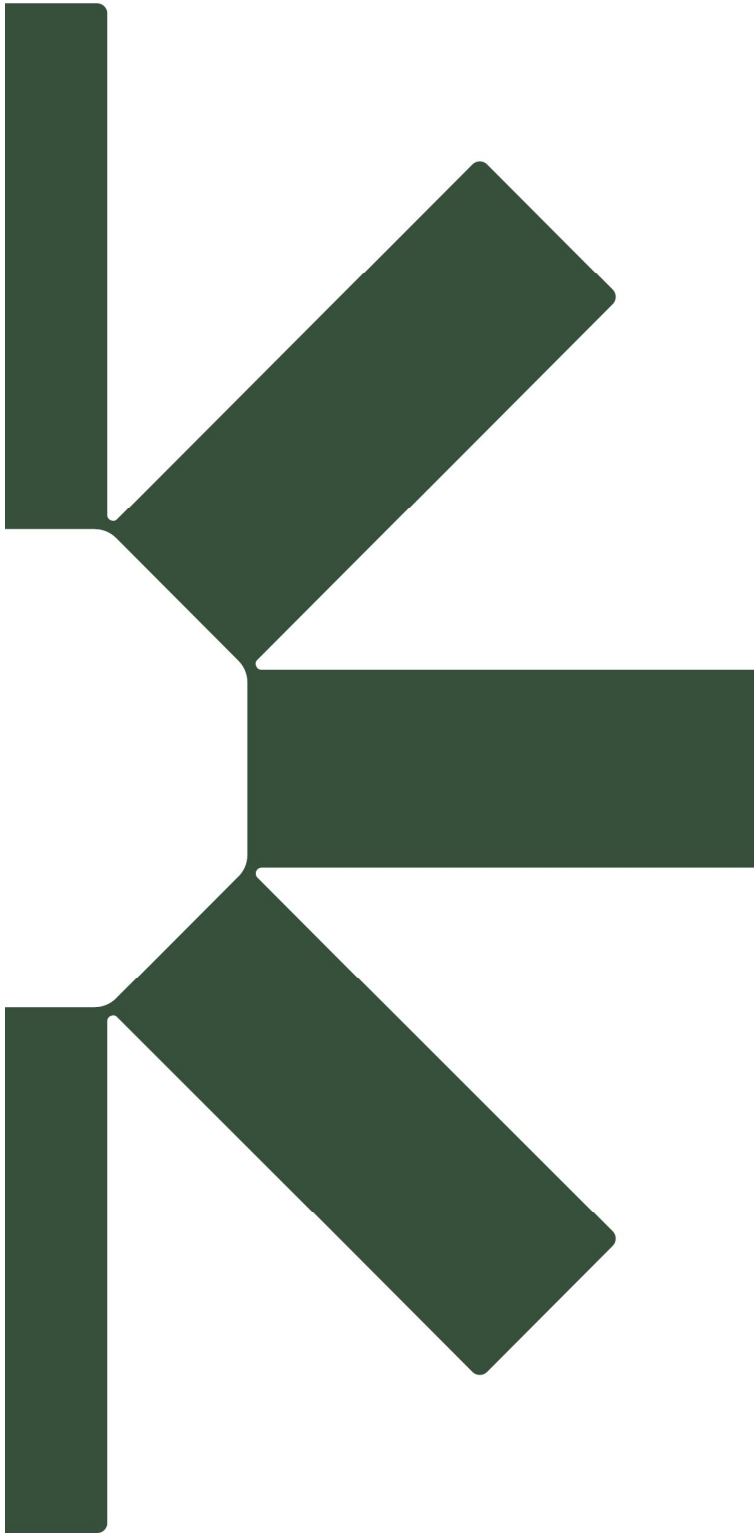
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Drawing Description	2022 ROMP Submission	2025 Revision	Description of Change
Existing Quarry	V6/PR/**/6	V6/PR/**/6.0	Title block updated reference to Heidelberg Materials
Quarry Phase 1: 5 Year Plan	V6/PR/**/7	V6/PR/**/6.1	No change other than title block
Quarry Phase 2: 10 Year Plan	V6/PR/**/8	V6/PR/**/6.2	Replaces the Phase 2 10 year plan (V6/PR/**/8)
Quarry Phase 3: 15 Year Plan	V6/PR/**/9	V6/PR/**/6.3	Replaces the Phase 3 15 year plan (V6/PR/**/9)
Quarry Phase 4: 25 Year Plan	N/A	V6/PR/**/6.4	Replaces the Phase 4 30 year plan (V6/PR/**/10)
Quarry Phase 5: 40 Year Plan	N/A	V6/PR/**/6.5	Replaces the Phase 5 60 year plan (V6/PR/**/11)
Quarry Phase 6: 55 Year Plan		V6/PR/**/6.6	Additional development phase
Quarry Phase 7: 75 Year Plan		V6/PR/**/6.7	Additional development phase
Final Quarry Development Plan	V6/PR/**/12	V6/PR/**/6.8	No change other than title block
Quarry Cross Sections	V6/PR/**/13	V6/PR/**/13A	Replaces Previous Cross Section Plan (V6/PR/**/13)
Restoration Concept for Mining Site	V6/PR/**/14	V6/PR/**/14	No change
Quarry Bench Restoration Treatments	V6/PR/**/15	V6/PR/**/15	No change
Restoration Concept for Overall Quarry:	V6/PR/**/16	V6/PR/**/16	No change
Quarry Waste Tip Plan and Cross Sections	V6/PR/**/17	V6/PR/**/17	No change
North East Screen Bund	V6/PR/**/18	V6/PR/**/18	No change
** Applies to both MT and BBNP			





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