



Oaktree Environmental Limited

Unit 5 Oasis Park, 19 Road One,
Winsford, Cheshire CW7 3RY

Tel: 01606 558833
Fax: 01606 861182

Mr. Dave Pring
Environment Agency
Rivers House
East Quay
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 4YS

Date: 25 July 2013

Our ref: 2680-126-JIW-001
Your Ref:

Dear Mr. Pring,

Re: Stowey Quarry, Stowey Road, Stowey

I refer to the meeting held on 23 July between our client, Larry Edmunds, your colleague Barbara Keenan and Chris Herbert of SLR Consulting (representing Bath and North East Somerset Council) at which matters relating to the above site were discussed.

The Environment Agency will be aware that the application to accept inert waste, asbestos and stable, non-reactive hazardous waste (SNRHW) submitted to Bath and North East Somerset Council (BANES) was refused in October 2012 and is now the subject of an appeal. The main reason for the application's refusal was the sustained objection of the Environment Agency due to the potential for leachate generation from the SNRHW element of the proposal and the potential for groundwater contamination. The meeting referred to above was called with a view to discussing how the issue of leachate generation could be best addressed.

Having regard to the issues discussed, our client now considers it appropriate to withdraw the SNRHW element from the proposed development and is prepared to progress on the basis that the restoration of the quarry be undertaken through the landfilling of inert and asbestos wastes only. Our understanding is that the Environment Agency would have no objection to such a proposal were the landfill to only accept these two waste streams.

In agreeing to withdraw the SNRHW element from the proposal, our client feels that his situation should be viewed in the following context. Prior to the application being reported to the BANES' Development Control Committee on 26 September 2012, we had attempted to secure a meeting with relevant officers from the Agency to discuss the objection to the proposed development. In making its objection, the Agency had been a little reluctant to discuss its concerns and how these could be overcome. Our client was eager to address these concerns in order that the proposal could progress in a manner that maintained his original proposal but with sufficient safeguards to ensure that no detrimental environmental impacts arose as a result.

A meeting was scheduled for 13 September 2012 at the Agency's Bristol office but this was subsequently cancelled at short notice with a view to holding meeting at the Agency's Bridgwater

Oaktree Environmental Limited -Registered in the UK - Company No. 4850754

E-mail: sales@oaktree-environmental.co.uk **Web:** www.oaktree-environmental.co.uk

office instead and within a restricted timeframe. The timeframe proved inconvenient for us due to prior commitments and no meeting took place. We then, unsuccessfully, attempted to re-arrange the meeting to a mutually convenient date, whilst also requesting the Council to defer the application's hearing at the said Committee in order to leave time to act on the meeting's outcomes. This request was declined.

Had it been possible to rearrange the meeting and secure a deferral of the planning application's consideration, this may have gone some way to our client reviewing his situation and reaching the position outlined in this letter at an earlier juncture.

I would welcome the Environment Agency's confirmation that the position as described above would enable the withdrawal of its objection to the proposal.

Yours sincerely

John Williams Dip EM MSc MA MRTPI
Principal Planner

Copy to Mr. Andrew Ryall
 Bath and North East Somerset Council
 Planning and Transport Development
 Bath & North East Somerset Council
 PO Box 5006
 Bath
 BA1 1JG