

29th September 2006

Leicestershire County Council
Planning Group
County Hall
Glenfield
Leics LE3 8TE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICE		
0 2 UCF 2006		
HEAL	REFER 1	REFER 2
LW	LW	

Dear Sirs

Consultation on Leicester Minerals Development Framework – Preferred Options

On behalf of my wife and me, I would like to comment on Site 6 – North Kilworth.

The site was included in the previous Minerals Plan because it was put forward by the owners of the land, who wished it to be developed, rather than being included because the Council officers felt that it met the then criteria for development. I understand that this approach was taken because, in the previous Minerals Plan, sites were selected on sound planning criteria and then landowners were not prepared to co-operate. At the Public Enquiry stage of the last Minerals Plan, the Inspector included planning restrictions regarding transport to and from the site which further emphasized the lack of suitability of the site.

With regard to the Planning Application submitted by Aggregate Industries (and subsequently withdrawn), a very comprehensive assessment was made by the Director of Community Services dated 20th January 2005. This clearly set out the reasons to recommend refusal of the application. The reasons remain equally valid today in the context of the new Plan.

We therefore greatly appreciate the approach that has been taken to evaluate sites for possible inclusion in the new Plan. Having had sight of the letter from North Kilworth Parish Council, dated 17th September 2006, we can only support the views put forward regarding the assessment scores and agree with their conclusions.

It remains our view that the North Kilworth site is not suitable for inclusion in the Plan and that the Council should remove any reference to the site in the New Plan, thereby removing the uncertainty once and for all.

26th September 2006

Leicestershire County Council
Planning Group
County Hall
Glenfield
Leicester
LE3 8TE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICE		
02 OCT 2006		
HEAD W	REFER 1 PW	REFER 2

Dear Sirs,

Consultation on Leicester Minerals Development Framework – Preferred Options

Your findings that Site 4 (Husbands Bosworth) and Site 6 (North Kilworth) have strongly negative effects are welcome. However we would like to make the following points in relation to North Kilworth:-

1. SA 01 – Bio-Diversity

We think this should be graded as a strongly negative assessment in view of the potential damage to the water quality in North Kilworth.

2. SA 06 – Water Quality

We think this should be rated strongly negative. Although Severn Trent no longer take drinking water, changes will have a potentially devastating effect on ground water flows and be detrimental to the nature reserve in North Kilworth.

3. SA 09 – Air Quality

We think this should be graded moderately negative due to a substantial rise in road traffic and vehicle movements. Have you any idea of the traffic on the main road through North Kilworth or on Pincet Lane? Much would depend on the direction the bulk of the traffic would go from the site, the air quality would definitely be affected in villages and towns en route.

4. SA 14 – Waste Minimisation

We think this should be graded moderately negative. Any such activity involving excavation of virgin aggregates has a slight to moderate impact on waste minimisation and reduces the economic attraction of aggregate recycling.

5. SA 19 – Human Health

We think this should be graded moderately negative – on the basis that such activities will result in significant production of CO₂, SOX and NOX from transport related activities. If the development proceeded there is likely to be a measurable increase in congestion and risk of accidents on roads in this already dangerous area. (There have been two serious accidents in the last two weeks).

6. SA 21 – Risk of Flooding

As there is no comprehensive underground water survey, we think this should be adjusted to slightly negative impact.

The mineral reserves at North Kilworth are poor – and this in itself reinforces the case for not developing at North Kilworth.