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Your ref:

Our ref: LN/RS/NH

Date: 25 June 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

ONSHORE OIL AND GAS SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT – NOTIFICATION OF SCOPING CONSULTATION

The Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities of Lancashire County Council, Blackpool Council and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council (the Joint Authorities) intend to prepare a Supplementary Planning Document on Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution.

The first stage in the preparation of the Supplementary Planning Document is to consult with key stakeholders on the scope and level of detail that should be included in the Supplementary Planning Document. The purpose of this document is to advise stakeholders of the issues that the Joint Authorities consider should be addressed by the Supplementary Planning Document. This provides the opportunity for key stakeholders to comment and to contribute any further issues and information that may be relevant for inclusion.

Later in the year there will be an opportunity to make detailed comments on a consultation draft Supplementary Planning Document.

Purpose of the Supplementary Planning Document

A Supplementary Planning Document is a document which can be prepared to add further detail to the policies in the local plan and provide further guidance on particular issues. It cannot introduce new planning policies; they can only be contained in a local plan.

It is intended that the Supplementary Planning Document will provide guidance on the interpretation and application of the policies in the adopted Joint Lancashire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy and Site Allocation and Development Management Local

Plan, describing how these policies can be applied to developments for onshore oil and gas exploration, production and distribution.

The Supplementary Planning Document will relate to the implementation of the following Local Plan policies:

- CS5: Achieving Sustainable Minerals Production
- CS9: Achieving Sustainable Waste Management
- NPPF1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development
- DM1: Management of Waste and Extraction of Minerals
- DM2: Development Management

Proposed Structure of the Supplementary Planning Document

The main aims and objectives of the Supplementary Planning Document are to:

- Provide further guidance on the interpretation of policy contained within the adopted Minerals and Waste Local Plan
- Provide a reference document for the residents of Lancashire new to the subject explaining the planning and other regulatory processes, providing links to relevant publications and sources of information

It is suggested that the Supplementary Planning Document will include the following sections:

- An introduction to the planning system and process, and the division of responsibilities within the wider regulatory process
- An introduction to oil and gas processes, and links to relevant other sources of information
- An illustration of the licensed oil and gas areas
- A summary of the development plan and the most relevant planning policies
- A description of the main phases of development and the main planning considerations associated with these
- A description of the principal issues associated with oil and gas proposals, the land use planning objectives that are relevant, and the necessary supporting information

How to Make Comments

Consultation at this stage is intended to inform the scope and general content of the Supplementary Planning Document and is targeted at key stakeholders, though anybody may respond to the consultation. This consultation seeks to ensure any issues which may influence the content of the document are identified at the beginning of the drafting process.

If you have any suggestions to make on the proposed structure and content of the Onshore Oil and Gas Exploration, Production and Distribution Supplementary Planning

Document, please send them, with your name and address, to the address below before the end of the 25 July 2014:

Planning Team
Lancashire County Council Environment Directorate
Room C4
PO Box 100
County Hall
PRESTON
PR1 0LD

lmwf@lancashire.gov.uk

Next Steps

An eight week consultation on the Supplementary Planning Document will take place in the autumn. Key proposed dates for the next step in the production of the Supplementary Planning Document are described below:

- This consultation – 27 June to 25 July
- Preparation of SPD following scoping – Summer
- Reports to Joint Advisory Committee for Strategic Planning and the responsible Executive Member at each of the Joint Authorities – September 2014
- Consultation on SPD – October – November 2014

The Supplementary Planning Document is planned for adoption in February 2015.

These dates are indicative and may be subject to change, please check the Council's website for up to date information (www.lancashire.gov.uk/mwdf).

If you require any assistance on this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully



Louise Nurser
Planning and Development Manager