

Ceri Morris Director of Planning
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council
The Quays
Brunel Way
Baglan Energy Park
Neath
SA11 2HZ

24th of July 2020

Dear Sirs,

**RE: GWRHYD SPECIALIST STONE QUARRY, GWRHYD ROAD, PONTARDAWE,
SWANSEA SA9 2SB . PERMISSION P2017/0036.
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 SECTION 73 APPLICATION**

Please find attached documentation in support of an application to vary Conditions 7 and 8 of planning permission P2017/0036.

Also attached is a cheque for £190 to cover the application fee.

Yours sincerely



DAB Higgins

[Agent for Artisan Specialist Stone. Gwrhyd Qaurry]

Attachments:

- Supportive text document
- Fee cheque

PROPOSAL

Due to the excessive quantity of previously tipped waste deposits, arising from earlier operations, there is still a problem with respect to the available working space for the dimensional stone operation.

The winning of stone is undertaken in compliance with the approved geotechnical designs and in accordance with the requirements of the Quarries Regulation 1998 (rev. December 2013). This compliance immediately places significant working space constraints upon the dimensional stone operation.

It is a requirement to operate the quarry adopting safe face heights, suitable protection adjacent to excavated faces, safe gradients for access haul roads and adequate operating space within the quarry void.

It is therefore proposed that the current permission for aggregates production and export from site is extended by a further 24 months period from 6 August 2020 to 6 August 2022.

PROPOSED AMENDED CONDITIONS

Condition 7

Amended Condition

(7) The maximum amount of mineral leaving site shall not exceed 1450 tonnes per week being the combined output from site of dimensional blockstone, masonry products and aggregates.

- a) Consisting of 750 tonnes per working week for the duration of the planning permission; and*
- b) An additional 700 tonnes per working week for a limited period of 24 months from the date of the planning permission*

Conditions 8a, 8b , 8c, with the deletion of conditions 8d and 8e

- 8a) No more than 2 heavy goods vehicles with a carrying capacity exceeding 20 tonnes but no greater than 24 tonnes shall depart from the site in any working day, and no more than 10 per working week*
- 8b) No more than 5 heavy goods vehicles with a carrying capacity exceeding 3 tonnes but no greater than 20 tonnes shall depart from the site in any working day*
- 8c) For a limited period of 24 months from the date of this decision, no more than 7 additional heavy goods vehicles with a carrying capacity exceeding 3 tonnes but no greater than 20 tonnes shall depart from the site in any working day.*

Conditions 8(d) and 8(e) to be deleted.

GWRHYD SPECIALIST STONE QUARRY

GWRHYD UCHAF QUARRY

TEMPORARY PERMISSION P2017/0036 DATED 6 FEBRUARY 2018

SECTION 73 APPLICATION FOR A TIME EXTENSION FOR THE PROCESSING OF WASTE TIPS, REMOVAL FROM SITE OF CRUSHED STONE PRODUCTS AND A FLEXIBLE RE-ALLOCATION OF LORRY MOVEMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH VARIOUS PRODUCTS.

July 2020

BACKGROUND

Due to significant operational problems which arose due to limited operating space available within the quarry as the working extends to depth, planning permission was granted (6 February 2018) for the processing of waste arising from the dimensional stone operation.

Quarry development phase plans which took into account the space necessary to enable a safe efficient operation to be undertaken indicated the requirement to remove up to 50,000m³ of material from site. This volume of material equates to approximately 140,000 tonnes.

Permission was granted on 6 February 2018 for a 30 months period from this date but, due to contractual complications and poor weather condition, operations did not commence until 14 August 2018.

The contractual problem arose due to the application having to go to full planning committee rather than being determined by office delegated powers which introduced a significant initially unforeseen delay in the permission forthcoming.

As a direct result of this delay the originally selected contractor withdrew from the agreement as his business had become subject to a take-over which resulted in a re-focussing of their interest and a withdrawal from the proposed operation. As can be appreciated, it took time to engage the current contractor to undertake the aggregates operation, hence the delay in the start date.

During the period to date, the combined average weekly output has varied between approximately 600 and 1,021 tonnes, which is less than that permitted in Condition 8. For the period week ending February 19 to week ending January 20 a total of 30,282 tonnes of product left site, i.e. an average of 2,523 tonnes per month. This tonnage represents the combine tonnage for dimensional stone product and aggregates.

The permitted aggregates tonnage alone for this period would have been 73,500 tonnes.

The implications of the significantly reduced total output tonnage to date is that the anticipated additional operational room which was expected to have been created has not been.