

Dear Sirs

We attach a section 73 application relating to the above numbered Planning consent issued on 15 April 2009.

As you are aware, Hygrove Aggregates has acquired Cwm Nant Lleici quarry. You will also be aware that only three years remain for mineral extraction under the existing consent.

The previous owner, Aggregate Industries, had been beset with various legal issues followed by the Covid-19 pandemic both of which resulted in a significant fall in output from the quarry. Once the legal issue regarding ownership was resolved and Hygrove acquired the quarry, Aggregate Industries withdrew and removed its plant and equipment from the quarry.

There remains approximately 11.8 million tonnes of high quality aggregate which can be extracted under the above referred to consent.

However there is a need for Hygrove to make a significant investment of several millions of pounds in plant to enable the quarry to become operational again and the remaining reserves extracted. In order to justify this investment an extension of the working life of the quarry is needed, hence the current application. To be clear, this is not an application to extract additional mineral over and above that permitted under P2006/0853 or an application to increase the daily output from the quarry as permitted under the aforementioned consent but simply an application to extend the time permitted for the extraction of the remaining mineral, the extraction of which is already consented.

Cwm Nant Lleici quarry is acknowledged as being of UK-wide significance in terms of supplying the highest specification aggregates that are needed to reduce skidding-related accidents on Britain's roads. If the quarry were not granted the extension of time applied for, in order to extract only the volume of mineral which is already consented, there will be a very significant reduction in the output of strategically important aggregates (which would be contrary to national and local Planning Policy) and a need for increased output from other sites within South Wales.

Premature closure of the quarry would effectively sterilise a very important part of a strategic mineral resource, again contrary to both national and local policies for Mineral Safeguarding, and the long-term provision of these essential minerals would therefore be seriously compromised.

Consenting to the extension of time will ensure that existing supply capacity is maintained.

Yours faithfully

Ben Francis

On behalf of Hygrove Aggregates Limited