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Mr Peter Day
Minerals and Waste Planning
Oxfordshire County Council

20 March 2017

Dear Peter and Team,

Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy Proposed Main Modifications

Thank you for the opportunity to make comments on the Proposed Main Modifications.

The comments below are made on behalf of Earthline Ltd and are primarily made in respect of implications of the Plan in respect of the limestone resource at Shipton on Cherwell.

My comments are as follows: in respect of the Main Modifications listed:

MM11: It is helpful that this text makes reference to sales figures for 2015, though I suggest that limestone sales are likely to continue at rates of 900,000 – 1,000,000 million tonnes per annum which will mean there is likely to be a future requirement for additional limestone reserves to meet minimum landbank requirements.

MM14: It is disappointing that the LAA 2014 apportionment figure is still used in Policy M2 as the basis for estimating limestone production in this policy since it is known from the more recent AM15 survey that sales of limestone continue (0.93 million tonnes in 2015) to be much higher than the 0.584 figure used.

MM20: Inclusion in Policy M3 of text to indicate that sites for extensions to existing quarries outside these strategic resource areas may also be allocated in the Minerals and Waste Sites Plan is supported

MM21: The priority for extension sites expressed in policy M4 is supported.

MM22: This policy is supported as the interim position for the consideration of applications before the minerals sites plan is adopted.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on these Modifications.

Yours sincerely

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Rob Dance
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