

From: SBowleyPC@aol.com [mailto:SBowleyPC@aol.com]
Sent: 10 June 2016 10:03
To: Batelaan, Elise - E&E
Cc: Day, Peter - E&E
Subject: Re: Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy – Consultation on Additional...

Dear Elise - I wish to respond on behalf of Earthline Ltd who operate three quarries in Oxfordshire producing limestone, sand and recycled aggregates.

1. Preliminary Assessment of Minerals Site Options

(i) Site SS-03 (CR11) Hatford South Extension: The proximity of SSSI's has not been an issue with previous applications at Hatford so we question the assessment.

(ii) Site SS-08(CR16) Shellingford Western extension: As above. A planning application is being prepared for this site. The description that the site is within the IRZ of several SSSI's is inconsistent with the pre-app advice received from OCC (dated 14 April 2016) that only notes that the site is on the outermost IRZ of Fernham Meadows. The preliminary assessment therefore appears flawed.

(iii) Site SS15 (CR11) Hatford North extension: This mineral would be processed at the existing quarry and be exported via the existing access onto the B4508 and onwards to the A417. Sandy Lane would not be used as an access and this needs to be made clear.

2. The sites nominated at Shipton on Cherwell have not been reviewed. We have previously discussed and I understand the details are being included on your website and will be subject to preliminary assessment. I look forward to receiving the assessment in due course. This site has also been subject to pre-application consultation, and you may wish to read this to ensure consistency.

3. LAA Interim Update 2015

Thank you for subsequently sending the AM15 Quarry Sales and Reserve figures for Oxfordshire following my discussions with Peter Day. My comments relate to Crushed Rock.

The Draft LAA reveals a production figure of 1.06 million tonnes for 2014, which is more than double the figure for 2013. We were concerned that this may be considered as a 'spike' (Para 5.16) when company experience is that the high demand is continuing. In response to my question on current demand I received the following response:

Demand hasn't dropped off since the rail link , Oxfordshire has on of the largest housing projects (Didcot) plus many other large housing and commercial projects ; and demand is high in Wilts , Hants, Berks , which are also supplied with limestone and as there are no deposits in these county's it comes from the next nearest available source and rail heads can't keep up with demand.

The recent AM15 survey shows sales of 0.93 million tonnes in 2015 which is consistent with the companies understanding of the current position, which is likely to continue.

The LAA 2014 apportionment figure of 0.58 million tonnes is clearly too low in the light of current production and therefore needs to be reviewed as part of the Core Strategy. Can I suggest it might be helpful to consult with the local industry to take this forward.

Stephen Bowley

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