Dear Dan,

NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT RELATING TO THE PHASING OF EXTRACTION AND ASSOCIATED SOIL STORAGE IN THE COLLYWESTON QUARRY EASTERN EXTENSION BULLIMORES SAND AND GRAVEL LTD

I am writing further to your monitoring site visit (12 March 2015), your monitoring report (23 March 2015) and subsequent correspondence. Specifically we seek to address your request for a Non-Material Amendment application relating to the phasing of extraction and associated soils storage in the Collyweston Eastern Extension.

We note that our follow up exchanges suggested that the regularisation of the current phasing and associated soils storage is likely to be acceptable subject to being addressed through a Non Material Amendment application.

This letter sets out below a justification for the current phasing and soil storage and is supported by the following plans:

- Site Location Plan - PL/NMA/002; and
- Extent of Working Plan - HPL/EE/001.
The current phasing and associated soil storage is not compliant with condition 16 (phasing) and condition 14 (soil storage) of permission ref. no. EN/06/1279C due to the fact that as workings have progressed in the eastern extension during the last 3 years, increasing thicknesses/quantities of overburden have been encountered by the operating company. The excessive amounts of soil encountered resulted in the company diverging from the permitted scheme of phasing and soil storage for the site as the operations have pursued the most economically accessible limestone reserves.

As you are aware, the overall consequence of the excessive overburden in the Eastern Extension is that it has become un-economic to continue to extract from this area. Therefore, in order to sustain limestone aggregate supply, as well as maintaining the supply of building stone and specialist Collyweston “slate log” from Collyweston Quarry, a planning application for a Western Extension was submitted to the County Council. As you knew, this has a committee resolution to grant planning permission subject to S106 legal agreement with the County Council to secure the cessation of working in the eastern extension site area, and to secure its early restoration in-line with an agreed (revised) restoration scheme and appropriate aftercare regime. The S106 is well progressed and it is therefore likely that permission will be granted when this is completed in the near future.

In terms of the cessation of working in the Eastern extension, it is proposed to cease limestone extraction by October 2016. The accompanying plan (Drawing No. HPL/EE/001), outlines the final 3 phases of limestone extraction in the Eastern extension area with the final phase of the quarry to be worked Spring 2016 – October 2016. This will allow mineral supply to continue whilst the switch to the western extension I being established.

In terms of soils storage, as shown in Drawing No. HPL/EE/001, the company stores the soils along the perimeter of the working areas of the Eastern Extension. As the company have only worked around one third of the eastern extension, the location of the soil bunds aid with regards security and health & safety in terms of establishing where the eastern quarry edge is. The storage of the soil in these locations is quite remote from sensitive receptors and there is no amenity issues. Therefore, there is no particular sensitivity or environmental concerns over their storage, which is quite conventional for a quarry operation of this kind.
Therefore, given the benefit of maintaining mineral supply and the lack of environmental amenity impact, it is considered that this non material amendment is acceptable in planning terms.

I trust that the above and enclosed drawings assist the Council in determining the application. If you require any further information or clarification of detail, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours Sincerely,

Liam Toland
Heaton Planning Ltd