

From:

Subject: Application 2022/62/91911/E
Date: 23 August 2022 13:15:01

Dear Sirs

Objection to proposed planning application at Cliff Hill Denby Dale

I note following a recent meeting neighbourhood the proposal contemplates the mining extraction of the land of coal prior to development. The land was changed from greenbelt to facilitate what was considered a shortage of affordable housing in the area. Could you please explain to me why the developer is now seeking to mine the land for coal. Specifically I refer you to the following:

Kirklees publication Draft Local Plan

Para 15.11

National planning guidance does not support the opening of new opencast coal sites unless they meet strict criteria regarding environmental impact **or provide overwhelming community benefits**. The Coal Authority and the British Geological Society have identified areas where surface coal exists and where coal has been identified by prospecting and all these areas which fall within the Green Belt will be safeguarded.

Para 15.16

Minerals sites employ a wide range of mechanical machinery to extract, process and transport the minerals including excavators, heavy vehicles, screens and crushers. Mineral extraction also involves the excavation of significant areas of land, the siting of associated buildings and the storage of spoil, restoration material and worked mineral.

Para 15.17

As a consequence, mineral extraction can result in noise, dust, vibration, heavy vehicle movements, changes to ground and surface water regimes, injury to visual amenity and the setting of heritage assets and damage to landscape character and local ecological systems. In addition the subsequent beneficial use of the site can be prejudiced. It is therefore essential that in order to assess proposals for mineral extraction sufficient information is provided so that the likely impacts associated with the development and any proposed mitigation can be fully considered

Para 217 National Planning Policy Framework

Planning permission should not be granted for the extraction of coal unless: a) the proposal is environmentally acceptable, or can be made so by planning conditions or obligations; or b) if it is not environmentally acceptable, then it provides national, local or community benefits which clearly outweigh its likely impacts (taking all relevant matters into account, including any residual environmental impacts).

It appears both the Council's own plan and that of the National Planning Authority is being ignored. Please advise how this is to be allowed in apparent contravention of legislation. Please also advise how, if this is to be allowed, the developer will deal with the risk of neighbouring properties (very close to the proposals) arising from compaction, vibration and excavation.

Proposed site access

I have concerns about road and pedestrian safety arising from limited visibility splays. Has the Highways Agency conducted its own independent enquiries?

Flooding potential

The field currently provides a barrier for flooding. Further construction than that already commenced will lead to further flooding. The drains on Wakefield Road cannot currently deal with storms.

Threat to wildlife

Bats are nesting and present in the field (video evidence available if required). Many other forms of wildlife present will be killed. Please advise what is to be done about this.

Kind regards
