

Mrs G Gilpin
Gilpin Demolition Ltd
The Sidings, Station Park
Haytor View
Heathfield
Devon
TQ12 6RQ

ABG Lucombe House
County Hall
Exeter
Devon
EX2 4QD

Tel: 01392 382880
Email: sue.penaluna@devon.gov.uk

14 February 2012

Dear Mrs Gilpin,

Habitats Regulations Assessment – Blast Test vibration trials at Whitecleaves Quarry, Buckfastleigh

I enclose for your information a copy of the screening document for Habitats Regulations Assessment for the blast test vibration modelling trials due to take place tomorrow (15th February) 2012 and I am also sending you a copy of this letter by e-mail for your immediate reference.

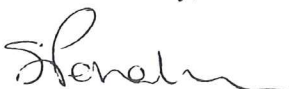
I understand that you were anxious to have written confirmation from Devon County Council that these trials did not require formal consent or further assessment before they took place.

After consideration of the proposals put forward by BAM Ritchies (Management Form AF39: Activity Plan dated 31st January 2012 - attached to the enclosed HRA document), the County Council as "Competent Authority", (advised by Kestrel Wildlife Consultants and Natural England), can confirm that the required screening exercise has found that the blast trials are not likely to have a significant effect, "alone" or "in combination" on the South Hams SAC.

I must stress that this assessment has only considered the blast test vibration modelling trials and does not constitute the HRA for the current planning application or for full blasting activity. It is understood that the results of this modelling will be used to inform the HRA for the current planning application at Whitecleaves Quarry and also the blasting scheme required by Condition 13 of the Review of Old Mineral Planning Permission (ROMPs) consent for the winning and working of minerals at the quarry.

I trust this clarifies matters and will enable you to proceed.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs S Penaluna
For Head of Planning Transportation and Environment