

My Ref: SCH/SJW/GO2012

Your Ref:

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2012

Mike Grundy  
Manager – Planning, Policy and Development Control (Floor 2)  
Staffordshire County Council  
Wedgwood Building (Block A)  
Tipping Street  
Stafford  
ST16 2DH

SENT BY EMAIL (HARD COPY BY POST)

Dear Mr Grundy,

**Request for an EIA Scoping Opinion on behalf of UK Surface Coal Mining Ltd  
Great Oak Surface Coal Mining and Restoration Scheme, land at Bignall End,  
Staffordshire**

Further to previous discussions with your colleagues, we are writing on behalf of our client, UK Surface Coal Mining Ltd, to seek a formal EIA Scoping Opinion from the Mineral Planning Authority in respect of an EIA to be undertaken on the above development proposal.

To assist in the EIA Scoping please find attached an EIA Scoping Report prepared on behalf of our client, along with a scoping site plan and scoping restoration plan.

The report provides an outline of the proposed mining operations and an outline of the potential restoration and end-uses. The report goes on to set out the main potential environmental effects and technical considerations as well other potentially relevant considerations to be assessed.

We trust that the document and plans provide you with a good understanding of the potential development and how we intend to approach the assessment of the potential impacts and matters to be addressed.

We are more than happy to discuss the content of the attached report with you, including the thinking behind the scheme as well as any other considerations concerning EIA Scoping. In this regard it may be beneficial to arrange a meeting with you and your colleagues in the new-year and perhaps once consultation on the Scoping Request has progressed.

In the meantime, the Company will be contacting local elected representatives, including the local County Councillor, to inform them of the EIA Scoping Request. This notification comes on the back of recent informal engagement to inform the local county Councillor and other local representatives of the initial development feasibility undertaken by the Company on the scheme.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any further information at this stage.

We look forward to receiving the Mineral Planning Authority's formal EIA Scoping Opinion in due course.

Yours sincerely,

**Heaton Planning**

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