

# 1. Covering Letter

Land adjacent to  
Dinnington Road, Woodsetts

Construction of a well site and creation of a new access track, mobilisation of drilling, ancillary equipment and contractor welfare facilities to drill and pressure transient test a vertical hydrocarbon exploratory core well and mobilisation of workover rig, listening well operations, and retention of the site and wellhead assembly gear for a temporary period of 5 years on land adjacent to Dinnington Road, Woodsetts, Rotherham.

June 2018

13 June 2018

**Delivered by post**

Chris Wilkins  
Planning, Regeneration and Transport Services  
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council  
Riverside House  
Main Street  
Rotherham  
S60 1AE

Ref: INEM3011

Dear Chris

**PLANNING APPLICATION FOR VERTICAL HYDROCARBON EXPLORATORY CORE WELL, LAND ADJACENT TO DINNINGTON ROAD, WOODSETTS, ROTHERHAM**

Further to recent discussions, I am pleased to enclose a planning application submitted on behalf of INEOS Upstream Ltd. This application seeks temporary permission for:

*Construction of a well site and creation of a new access track, mobilisation of drilling, ancillary equipment and contractor welfare facilities to drill and pressure transient test a vertical hydrocarbon exploratory core well and mobilisation of workover rig, listening well operations, and retention of the site and wellhead assembly gear for a temporary period of 5 years on land adjacent to Dinnington Road, Woodsetts, Rotherham.'*

As the Council is aware, this application is a re-submission of an application originally submitted on 25 October 2017 (RB2017/1577). The application was reported to the 8 March 2018 Planning Board meeting with an officer recommendation of refusal on ecological grounds. Members resolved to add a further reason for refusal relating to highway safety. This decision was issued on 9 March 2018.

The decision to re-submit this application comes following additional survey work that has been undertaken, as well as the outcomes of the Inquiry into an identical proposal near Harthill, which the Council will be aware was approved at Appeal despite very similar reasons for refusal. This application provides the original assessment documents, as well as clarifications and supplements submitted after the application and additional breeding bird survey work which has been undertaken subsequent to the decision being made.

The application comprises a binder containing the following documents:

- This covering letter
- Application forms, ownership certificate and checklist

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- A summary document called **“Our Proposals: Explained”**
- A document describing **“The Proposals”** and detailing the nature of mitigation measures embedded within the proposed development.
- The **“Application Drawings”** which are listed in the drawing schedule at **Annex 1** of this letter.
- A **“Planning Statement”** which draws together the findings of the technical assessment work, considers this against relevant policy context and sets out the planning balance in favour of this application being approved.
- A **“Planning Statement Addendum”** which draws together the subsequent clarifications and further information that was provided during the course of the application and summarises the findings.
- An **“Environmental Report”** which sets out the findings of the technical assessments undertaken to consider the effects of the development.
- A **“Statement of Community Involvement”** which sets out the feedback on the scheme from the meetings held with Rotherham Metropolitan Council, Woodsetts Parish Council and the public consultation event held on 25 September 2017.

We also confirm that the applicant has complied with the requirements of Article 13 of the Development Management Procedure Order<sup>1</sup>, including serving notice on the relevant landowners, publishing a notice in the Worksop Guardian and displaying a site notice. A copy of each of these notices is enclosed at Appendix 1 of the Application Forms Document.

## **EIA SCREENING**

The applicant submitted a formal request for a Screening Opinion pursuant to Regulation 6 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 on 24 July 2017. The Council confirmed that the application does not require EIA on 4 October 2017. The Council’s Screening Opinion, concluding that the proposed development is not EIA Development, is enclosed at **Appendix 2** of the submitted Planning Statement. There have been no material changes in circumstance which would suggest that this does not remain the case. We trust that the enclosed will enable validation of the application, and we look forward to receiving confirmation to that effect.

Yours sincerely



Matthew Sheppard  
**Director**

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<sup>1</sup> The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

## Annex 1: Application Drawings Schedule

- P304-S21-PA-1001 Pre-Site Access Plan
- P304-S21-PA-00 Strategic Location Plan
- P304-S21-PA-01 Application Site Plan
- P304-S21-PA-04 Existing Ground Plan
- P304-S21-PA-05 Proposed Site Entrance & Highway works
- P304-S21-PA-06 Proposed Site Layout Plan - Construction
- P304-S21-PA-07 Proposed Site Layout Plan - Drilling Stage
- P304-S21-PA-08 Proposed Site Layout Plan - Listening Stage
- P304-S21-PA-09 Proposed Site Restoration
- P304-S21-PA-10 Proposed Lighting Plan - Drilling & Coring
- P304-S21-PA-11 Proposed Drainage Plan
- P304-S21-PA-12 Proposed Site Layout Plan - Suspension
- P304-S21-PA-13 Proposed Internal Access Plan
- P304-S21-PA-16 Proposed Sections & Details
- P304-S21-PA-17 Proposed Site Layout Plan - Possible workover
- P304-S21-PA-21 Parameter Sections - Develop. & Establish
- P304-S21-PA-22 Parameter Sections - Drilling & Coring
- P304-S21-PA-23 Parameter Sections - Suspension
- P304-S21-PA-24 Parameter Sections - Work over of Well
- P304-S21-PA-25 Parameter Sections - Listening Stage
- P304-S21-PA-26 Parameter Sections - Abandonment
- P304-S21-PA-30 Fence Details
- P304-S21-PA-31 Lighting Examples