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The logo for Cuadrilla Resources Limited, featuring the word "Cuadrilla" in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font on a dark blue rectangular background.

Lancashire County Council
Planning Department
County Hall
PO Box 100
Preston
Lancashire
PR1 0LD

Date: 19 July 2017

Dear Mr Mullaney,

RE: Becconsall Exploration Site – Planning Application for Time Extension

We are writing with regards to our existing Becconsall exploration site at Banks.

Please find enclosed a planning application under section 73 of the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)* to vary condition 1 of the extant planning permission (ref: LCC/2017/0016) to allow additional time to plug and abandon the existing borehole and restore the site back to its previous agricultural use. The extant planning permission requires these works to be completed by 31 August 2017 but it is not going to be possible to meet this deadline due to the presence of a nesting Little Ringed Plover (*Charadrius dubius*), which is listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). This was identified during a nesting bird survey that was undertaken on 16 June 2017 in response to condition 3 of the extant permission. The nest contained 4 eggs and was found approximately 12 metres to the north east of the well head. Therefore, it would not be possible to undertake the plug and abandonment works without disturbing the nest. As it typically takes 25 days for the eggs to hatch and a further 27 days before the young have fledged, then this leaves insufficient time to complete the works before the 31 August 2017 deadline.

The request to extend the time for completing the plug and abandonment works represents a reasonable timescale when the existing nesting bird and wider wintering bird restrictions are taken into consideration.

We look forward to receiving confirmation that the application has been validated. In the meantime, if you have any queries do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Nick Mace
HSE & Planning Manager.
Cuadrilla Resources Limited.

Enc. Planning application



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