



J Haine  
Team Leader Development Management  
Planning and Environment Service  
Lancashire County Council  
PO Box 100  
County Hall  
Preston  
PR1 0LD

13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear Mr Haine,

## **CUADRILLA BOWLAND LIMITED – UPDATE TO WORKS**

On behalf of Cuadrilla Bowland Limited ('Cuadrilla'), I am writing in accordance with the following condition 14:

*A report shall be submitted to the County Planning Authority by not later than 7th December 2023 and at six monthly intervals thereafter until the date of completion of restoration describing the works that have taken place over the previous six-month period to progress the plugging and abandonment of the boreholes and restoration of the site. As well as physical works on the exploration site, the report shall also contain details of the actions that have taken place to gain regulatory approval from the North Sea Transition Authority, Environment Agency and Health and Safety Executive for the plugging and abandonment of the boreholes and surrender of the environmental permit.*

The following information is provided to satisfy the programme with further context.

### **Regulatory Approvals**

All regulatory approvals remain in place for the suspended boreholes. Notification to the HSE is 21 days prior to the plugging and abandonment works and Environment Agency is a 1-month notification. Therefore, there are no further updates.

The North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA) has issued a well plug and abandonment notice for the two exploration wells at the Preston New Road site. The notice from the NSTA requires both wells to be plugged and abandoned by the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

### **Procurement of Work Equipment**

Initial rig procurement has started with the intention to join a wider programme of wellbore abandonments across the UK with other operators. Work continues to co-ordinate the decommissioning programme,

resources, and equipment with a target date of summer 2024 to begin abandoning the wellbores at Preston New Road.

### **Surrender of Permits**

At this early stage of the plugging and abandonment programme there is no further update to the Environment Agency permit surrender process. An application cannot happen until the wells have been decommissioned and post abandonment monitoring has commenced. Any application submitted now would be rejected by the Environment Agency.

It remains Cuadrilla's intention to restore the site back to its original condition by 30th June 2025.

I trust the above information provides a satisfactory overview of the planned programme of works. If you require further information, please contact me.

Yours sincerely



**Nick Mace**  
**Cuadrilla Resources**