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From: Burns, Graham [mailto:Graham.Burns@salford.gov.uk]  
Sent: 11 March 2016 10:46  
To: Glyn Rhonwy Pumped Storage Scheme  
Subject: 160311\_EN010072\_Graham Burns\_Glynn Rhonwy proposed development

Dear Sir

On Tues 8 Mar I sat in on the preliminary planning meetings for the Snowdonia Pumped Hydro proposed scheme. At one point in the morning meeting we were asked to consider the draft timetable for examination of the application. It was only on reflection later that evening that I recognised an issue with this timetable that I feel will have a significant bearing on the Examining Authorities decision if it is not taken into consideration.

The issue with the timetable is that the area of Llyn Padarn known locally as the 'lagoons', is used far more heavily by local businesses, residents and visitors during the summer months. I note from the meeting and the page on the planning inspectorate website, <http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/3528248>, that the ExA undertook a series of site visits on the 18,19,20 Nov 2015. This time of year is probably one of the quietest times for both the village of Llanberis and the lakeside.

I would urge the ExA to arrange another visit to the area in the summer months, say mid-June, to get a much better idea of the amount of vehicles, people and watercraft using the lagoons and associated car parks.

I am the manager of a North Wales based, Local Education Authority run, residential Outdoor Education Centre (OEC). I am the regional chair of a national organisation, the Association of Heads of OEC, that represents similar organisations nationally. There are over 25 organisation represented by the region each of whom provide adventurous education to groups of 30 - 100 young people a week. We all deliver canoeing, kayaking and raft building type activities on a daily basis and as a consequence the venues we use are extremely important to our sector.

The lagoons area of Llyn Padarn is completely unique in its topography and access arrangements. It has a series of sheltered, shallow, small pools that are interlinked by channels. These provide a wonderful, safe, manageable

environment to introduce watersports to novices and beginners. Connected to these pools is the larger lake, therefore as groups progress in ability and confidence journeys can be made further afield. All of this within the dramatic landscape of Snowdonia. Each of the pools has independent parking access for minibuses and trailers, allowing teaching staff to park close to the waters edge for unloading and loading boats. As there are a number of parking areas the whole venue absorbs many vehicles in any given day. However there is only one access road into all the parking areas. The venue is so much better than any other in North Wales we will regularly travel 40 mins each way, often 3 times a week, to use it.

The proposed development envisages a large amount of construction work in the lagoons area as this is the site of the pump house and associated pipework. The drawings submitted by Snowdonia Pumped Hydro show that the route to the far car park areas could be compromised during the construction phase. This would have a major detrimental effect to the operations of the OEC's who use the lake, as outlined above, as unfettered access to all the car parking in the lagoons area is required to absorb the large number of vehicles that use the area on a daily basis.

To summarise, I would strongly encourage the ExA to carry out a site visit to the lagoons during the summer months to get a more accurate picture of the volume of vehicles and people that regularly use this facility. In addition please can the mitigation proposals for access to all the parking areas during the construction phase and beyond be subject to detailed scrutiny to ensure continuous, uninterrupted access throughout.

I will endeavour to gather pictorial and numerical evidence of the volume of usage by the organisations on whose behalf I am speaking to further illustrate this point.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Kind regards

Graham Burns

Head of Centre

Lledr Hall Outdoor Education Centre  
Pont y Pant  
Dolwyddelan  
Conwy, LL25 0PJ  
01690 750214