

Louise Tully

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

12<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Dear Examining Authority,

I would like to comment on the application by Snowdonia Pumped Hydro Limited for an order granting development consent for the Glyn Rhonwy pumped storage scheme.

My concerns are summarised below:

**REGULATION:** Mitigation of environmental and other risks associated with the scheme will depend on effective monitoring and regulation. Assurance is sought that regulation and enforcement, particularly by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) will be effective. Why is a Development Consent Order is being sought before necessary discharge permissions are granted by NRW?

**MUNITIONS:** Previously classified information has now been released in the Developer's documentation about known and unknown ordnance remaining on site. A level of uncertainty about UXO, including chemical weapons has arisen which needs clarification in regard to risk to public health, safety and the environment.

**WATER MONITORING:** Large volumes of water will be discharged from the quarries in both constructional and operational phases and could carry harmful chemicals. This could have a profound effect on downstream water catchment areas. Proposals for monitoring and controlling this discharge are inadequate

**GRID CONNECTION:** The Developer gives assurances that the connection to the national grid will be underground, but there is no legal obligation. Financial and technical considerations could result in pylons being used. There should be a legal obligation to make the connection underground

**RECREATIONAL:** Llanberis area is very popular for outdoor recreation, including fishing and watersports for local people and visitors. Any degradation of the environment arising from this scheme, particularly water quality for swimming or fishing, could have a negative effect on this important part of the local economy.

**NOISE: During construction:** Blasting rather than tunnelling may be necessary, and a continuous conveyor may be used to move excess material uphill. The impact of this noise has not been adequately addressed. **During operation:** The potential negative impact on human health of long term exposure to low frequency noise/vibration has not been adequately addressed.

**ACCESS:** Some recreational users of the area around the site have indicated that the “land swap” being offered as part of this scheme is not a satisfactory arrangement. The land around Cefn Du has an excellent network of well used footpaths.

**CONSTRUCTION ISSUES:** The upper site will be accessed along a narrow country road. Some residents of Waunfawr area are concerned about disturbance they will suffer but feel their views were not adequately represented by the local Community Council at the time of a flawed consultation process.

**FLOOD RISK:** Risks due to flooding are not considered adequately with regard to residents directly in the flowpath. They do not adequately address the possibility of catastrophic and sudden loss of containment for example due to large scale collapse of a quarry wall into upper or lower ponds. There is high possibility of unexpected flowpaths connecting the whole quarry system deriving from earlier documented and undocumented quarry workings. Residents below Q6 on the A4086 need assurance that the local water table will not be raised by seepage from the quarries, thereby affecting their properties. Residents downstream of the Dinorwig scheme are already subject to rapid river level changes from unannounced releases of water into the system. These risks are not adequately addressed for the Glyn Rhonwy scheme.

Yours Faithfully,

Louise Tully