

Issue Specific Hearing 1 – 6 September 2023

Requirement 21 - Decommissioning and restoration

7000 Acres believes that a decommissioning plan should be submitted within 3 months of cessation of operations, rather than the 12 months suggested by the Applicant.

There is doubt as to what would trigger decommissioning. 7000 Acres believes that there should be a defined point at which decommissioning should be initiated. At the present the decision to start the decommissioning process is at the gift of the Applicant. For example, the scheme might become uneconomical after 20 years but the Applicant would not be required to decommission and restore the site for a further 20 years.