

12 December 2005

Director of Planning  
Bedfordshire County Council  
County Hall  
Cauldwell  
Bedfordshire  
MK42 9AP

For the attention of Mrs Dwyer

Dear Sir

**Willington Quarry – Octagon Farm North  
Permission Ref 23/1999  
Extension of time for Completion of Mineral Extraction**

I enclose the Company's planning application for the formal variation of condition 3 of the above permission for the completion of extraction of the remaining sand and gravel reserves within this permission area.

The permission was issued on 13<sup>th</sup> November 1999 for the area edged red on the plans and contained an estimated 1.3 million tonnes of sand and gravel. The commencement of operations was notified under condition 3 as being 28<sup>th</sup> March 2000. The permission provides for the completion of mineral extraction within 6 years of that date, thus expiring on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

The extraction of sand and gravel at Willington has also been taking place in other subsequently approved parts of the site;

Dog Farm North	Ref 2002/21	Issued 11 December 2002
Castle Mill Airfield	Ref 11/2004	Issued 29 April 2004

A complete working and restoration scheme has been adopted so that the workings are co-ordinated across the various planning permissions covering the Willington Quarry site.

This dovetailing of operations has resulted in approximately 400,000 tonnes of sand and gravel remaining to be worked within the 1999 permission. The areas are highlighted on the plans and can be summarised as follows:

1. Under hopper and field conveyor/soil storage bunds.
2. Under soil storage area adjoining Castle Mill airfield.
3. Within phase 4a – south of bypass.
4. Within phases 5, 6 and 7

Cont..

The combined working of the 1999 permission and the Castle Mill Airfield permission means that these remaining minerals will be worked over the next 2 – 3 years. The proposed new end date for completion of mineral extraction is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008.

This proposed new date is well within the existing time limits for completion of all operations on the 1999 permission. Condition 5 requires all infilling to be completed within 8 years (commenced 2.6.03) and final restoration completed with a further year. This final end date of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012 is still on target to be achieved. The extended date for completion of extraction does not prejudice the end date for final restoration under the 1999 permission.

I would be grateful for your acknowledgement of the application. Please contact me if you require any further information at this stage.

Yours sincerely  
for LAFARGE AGGREGATES LTD

**T D Deal**  
**Senior Planning and Estates Manager**  
**East Midlands**