

From: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: FW: Potential Bedwas Tip Reclamation Project  
Date: 05 March 2024 15:56:00  
Attachments: [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
Importance: High

---

H [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email. We are aware of the proposed scheme and officials met with the developer in November to learn about the project. Our general policy on disused tip reclamation is to identify potential opportunities to turn disused tips into beneficial assets for communities. Therefore, it follows that we do not object in principle to a private developer proposing to undertake such a project, **however** - we are clear that any such proposals must follow the usual processes and protocols required by the planning system. Both the Minister for Climate Change and the First Minister have reiterated this in the Senedd.

In terms of the Coal Policy, we maintain a strong policy opposition against coal extraction. Our objective is to bring a managed end to the extraction and use of coal. This has not been relaxed to allow tip reclamation projects. The [Coal policy statement \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#) states *"All proposals for the extraction of coal, **including any secondary coal products produced during mining operations**, which are destined for energy markets, must clearly demonstrate why they are needed in the context of climate change emission reduction targets. Energy markets include, but are not limited to, the domestic consumption of coal products and electricity generation...."*

*"...However, in wholly exceptional circumstances, Welsh Government would consider the further extraction of coal. Each proposal would be considered on its individual merits, but must clearly demonstrate:*

- Why the extraction is required to support industrial non-energy generating uses for coal.*
- Why the extraction is needed in the context of decarbonisation and climate change emission reductions targets, or to ensure the safe winding-down of mining operations or site remediation.*
- How the extraction contributes to Welsh prosperity and our role as a globally responsible Wales.*

*Decisions will be made on the specific circumstances of each case based on its climate impact, with the presumption being against extraction."*

We understand that no formal application has yet been submitted to Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) on the proposed scheme in Bedwas, and that the developer is currently undertaking its statutory 'pre-application consultation', which neither CCBC nor Welsh Government are involved with. In recent weeks we have received some correspondence from members of the public regarding the proposals, though we are signposting these individuals to the appropriate route to contact the developer directly with their views.

Should a planning application be submitted, could potentially be caught by Welsh Government's Coal and Petroleum Notification Direction. The Direction states that *where a local planning authority does not propose to refuse an application for coal and petroleum development, the authority must notify the Welsh Ministers.*

Many thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 28, 2024 11:52 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Potential Bedwas Tip Reclamation Project  
**Importance:** High

Good morning,

I work for the Commercial Development Team within Natural Resources Wales and we have been approached by ERI Reclamation Ltd regarding a potential project involving Bedwas Tip. I understand that you have been in conversation with Piers Thomas and would welcome your confirmation that Welsh Government are broadly supportive of this project.

The project was first suggested over 2 years ago but was put on hold due to a change in the Coal Policy and the Developer has now re-engaged with NRW as the Coal Policy appears to have been relaxed to allow tip reclamation projects.

An early reply would be appreciated.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]



**Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.**

Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.



