

David Parrish [via email]

Planning, YDNPA

19 September 2019

Objection to Planning Application C/45/307Q – Ingleton Quarry Variation of Conditions 2, 3, 4, 8 and 25 attached to planning permission C/45/307L, to continue winning and working mineral until 31st December 2025 and to complete restoration by 31st December 2026

Dear Mr Parrish

Friends of the Dales (Yorkshire Dales Society) objects to the proposal to extend, yet again, the operational life of Ingleton quarry.

The previous application (C/45/307L) submitted in May 2015 sought and secured an extension of the May 2018 scheduled closure of the quarry until May 2020. We are advised in this application that the previous extension was needed to enable the extraction of an average of 400 kt p.a., i.e. 2 million tonnes over the 5 years. Having actually extracted 1.3 million tonnes over this period, leaving 0.7 million tonnes, we are now told that a further 5 years is needed to extract around 275 ktpa, i.e. 1.4 million tonnes. These sums don't add up.

This quarry should, as per the existing permission, close to schedule and be restored rather than Hanson getting its sales estimates wrong and returning time and again to seek extensions, prolonging this blight on the landscape and disturbance by HGV movement of the peace in the Dales.

Hanson use the argument that this 5-year extension is needed to fill the gap until Horton quarry is producing gritstone and exporting by rail. We have been urging Hanson since 2012 to get on with this Horton rail-link and they have dragged their feet. Now they wish to extend operations at Ingleton quarry whilst they get their act together at Horton. What would they have done if their sales from Ingleton had gone to plan and the reserves were exhausted by 2020? The commercial drive of keeping some customers supplied until Horton is available is not a justifiable reason for continuing to damage a National Park, particularly given that such material is available from outside protected areas.

Hanson should progress the rail link at Horton with urgency. If the rail siding can be in place in 2020, surely export of gritstone can start sooner than 2025.

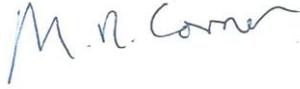
Continued overleaf./...



CAMPAIGN • PROTECT • ENJOY

Regarding rail movement, the current paltry minimum requirement of 8% of Ingleton output to move by rail ought to be raised to a more meaningful level, say 25%, should any extension be granted.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. R. Corner". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M'.

Mark Corner, Chair

Friends of the Dales is a working name of the Yorkshire Dales Society which was founded in 1981 and is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. Friends of the Dales is free of political and financial affiliations. We work to ensure that the Government, the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, and other relevant agencies deliver their obligations to care for the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales, an internationally important area. We do this by considering major planning applications and policy development affecting the Yorkshire Dales and adjacent areas. We offer a year round programme of walks and talks so that everyone can enjoy and learn more about this beautiful area and why it needs protection. We have a membership of around 1,300 individuals, families, businesses and organisations.