

Liz Cole  
Natural Resources Wales

20 February 2024  
Our ref: 331201231L003

Dear Liz,

**Re: Vaynor Quarry Transfer Abstraction Licence for Passive Dewatering  
Transfer Abstraction Licence - WA/057/0021/0014  
Licence Variation Reference PAN-020594**

We refer to the above Transfer Licence to Abstract Water issued to Hanson Quarry Products Europe Limited ('the Licence Holder') on 27 September 2022. The licensed area does not cover the whole of the land with planning permission for minerals extraction at Vaynor Quarry and, as a result, we as the Licence Holder's agent made an application to vary the licence (under reference PAN-020594). A decision on that application should have been made by 25 May 2023. There was no agreement in writing to extend this period, however, you did seek further information after this date, which was duly provided.

On 13 December 2023, you confirmed that for an abstraction to be considered a licensable activity, a deliberate action, such as the formation of channels, ditches or adits to intercept water and allow passive drainage of water from an excavation is necessary. You also confirmed that the digging of a quarry itself is not regarded as a form of abstraction. As there are no channels, ditches or adits to intercept water and allow passive drainage of water at Vaynor Quarry, it is clear that a licence is not required at all. Therefore, the application for an abstraction licence under the Water Abstraction (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2017 was not necessary. Consequently, the application to vary its conditions was equally unnecessary.

As such, we can confirm that Heidelberg Materials UK (formerly Hanson UK) wish to withdraw the application to vary, reference PAN-020594, and the company will be submitting an online application to revoke Transfer Licence to Abstract Water - WA/057/0021/0014 in due course.

We look forward to your acknowledgement of the withdrawal of application reference PAN-020594.

Yours sincerely,



Richard Holtham  
SENIOR HYDROGEOLOGIST