

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-575
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00475/17

Mike Hedges AM
Chair - Petitions Committee
National Assembly for Wales
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
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7 March 2017

Dear Mike

Thank you for your letter, on behalf of the Petitions Committee, in which you ask for an update on the circumstances relating to the petition from the United Valleys Action Group. The petition calls upon the National Assembly for Wales to urge the Welsh Government to call in all opencast mining planning applications.

My predecessor, Carl Sargeant, the former Minister for Natural Resources wrote to the Petitions Committee in November 2014 setting out the Welsh Government's position on the petition. The letter, which I have attached for information, sets out the Welsh Government's policy on calling-in planning applications and specifically applications for the mining and working of minerals. I can confirm the Welsh Government's policy has not changed since.

Regards
Lesley

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.