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Mr Bob Neville
Planning Officer
Public Protection & Development Management
Cherwell District Council North Oxfordshire
Bodicote House
Bodicote, Banbury
Oxfordshire OX15 4AA

16 October 2020

My Ref: Letters/16-10-20PlanAppl 20/02453/F
Your Ref: Planning Application: 20/02453/F

Dear Mr Neville,

**Planning Application: Hornton Grounds Quarry, Hornton 20/02453/F
A fuel depot including ancillary offices, the installation of plant and hardstanding**

Until recently I was a resident of Wroxton Heath and I am writing to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposal for a fuel storage depot and ancillary offices and buildings at Hornton Grounds Quarry as being inappropriate and out of keeping with the surrounding rural and agricultural area.

The proposal by Certas for a fuel depot to store a significant amount of fuel oil and petrol is beyond comprehension. Environmental safety is paramount. If there were to be a leak it would cause pollution to the underground waterways, and an explosion on site would be catastrophic.

Regarding road safety and numbers of vehicles entering and exiting the A422, this part of the A422 has poor visibility and, in winter, the road surface can be treacherous. The increase in traffic volume 24 hours a day would be damaging to the surrounding area. The safety issues of diesel tankers carrying fuel through some stretches of the A422, particularly through Wroxton and Drayton, then through built-up areas and past schools is far from ideal. Surely it would be better to have an appropriate site nearer the M40?

As has been seen fairly recently of quarrying near to Wroxton, the mud and mess

of HGVs on the adjacent A422 required road cleaning lorries clearing up all day. A 24-hour operation at the proposed site would create much more mess with its associated hazards on the main road. The proposal for nearly 160 movements of heavy tanker lorries per week is excessive and insupportable.

There is a distinct lack of public transport. Note should be taken of crash statistics and a possible increase given the size and bulk of the vehicles, and many more vehicles of employees working at the proposed site arriving daily along the unlit A422 at 5.30am.

Noise pollution. The increased traffic and workings on site seven days a week with heavy goods vehicles moving in and around the site, entering and exiting will be detrimental to the local population and wildlife.

This also applies to air pollution and would have an adverse effect on the local population and wildlife. There is strong evidence that air pollution can cause or contribute to neurological conditions.

Light pollution. This area is a quiet and tranquil place. The ironstone quarry worked during normal working hours. The proposal for 5 metre tall floodlights for this petrochemical fossil fuel depot will light up the sky 24 hours a day like Blackpool illuminations. Also, the lighting on the tankers moving around the site and on the highway would be unacceptable.

The project will be damaging to the quality and livelihood of the occupants of Hornton Grounds Farm.

I understand that several aspects of this application contravene the Local Plan. A similar proposal for Sugarswell Business Park was rejected as should this proposal for many of the same reasons.

I trust that you will take into consideration these comments when reaching a decision about this planning application.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Jacqueline B Bock.

Jacqueline B Bock (Mrs)