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For the Attention of Sarah Westwood  
Case Officer  
Ribble Valley Borough Council

[By Email: [planning@ribblevalley.gov.uk](mailto:planning@ribblevalley.gov.uk)]

29 September 2011

Dear Ms Westwood

**PLANNING APPLICATION: 3/2011/0662**

**Erection of a research and development building; Calder Vale Business Park, Simonstone Lane, Simonstone, Lancashire, BB12 7NX**

Further to my letter of 14 September 2011, I have now received a copy of a letter from GRM Development Solutions (dated 13 June 2011) which assesses the risk that coal mining presents to the proposed development. The Coal Authority would like to make the following observations on this additional information to supplement the comments in my letter of 14 September 2011:

**The Coal Authority Response: Material Consideration**

The fact that an assessment of coal mining risks has been undertaken is welcomed. The letter from GRM Development Solutions summarises the results of intrusive investigation works which have been undertaken at the application site.

**The Coal Authority Recommendation to the LPA**

The Coal Authority is satisfied with the broad conclusions of the GRM letter, which are informed by the site investigation works; that coal mining legacy issues are not likely to be significant within the application site and are therefore unlikely to pose a risk to the proposed development. Accordingly, The Coal Authority is able to **withdraw its objection** to this planning application and no specific mitigation measures are required at this stage to address coal mining legacy issues. However, further more detailed consideration of ground conditions and/or foundation design may be required as part of any subsequent building regulations application.

The above consultation response is provided by The Coal Authority as a Statutory Consultee and is based upon the latest available data and records held by The Coal Authority on the date of the response. The comments made are also based upon only the information provided to The Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by The Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the Applicant for consultation purposes.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

*D Berry*

**David Berry** *B.Sc.(Hons), MA, MRTPI*  
**Planning Liaison Manager**