



RE: Letter of Objection for planning application 3/2021/0660

To whom it may concern,

I am contact you with regards to the planning application number 3/2021/0660, Grid reference: 369068 450229.

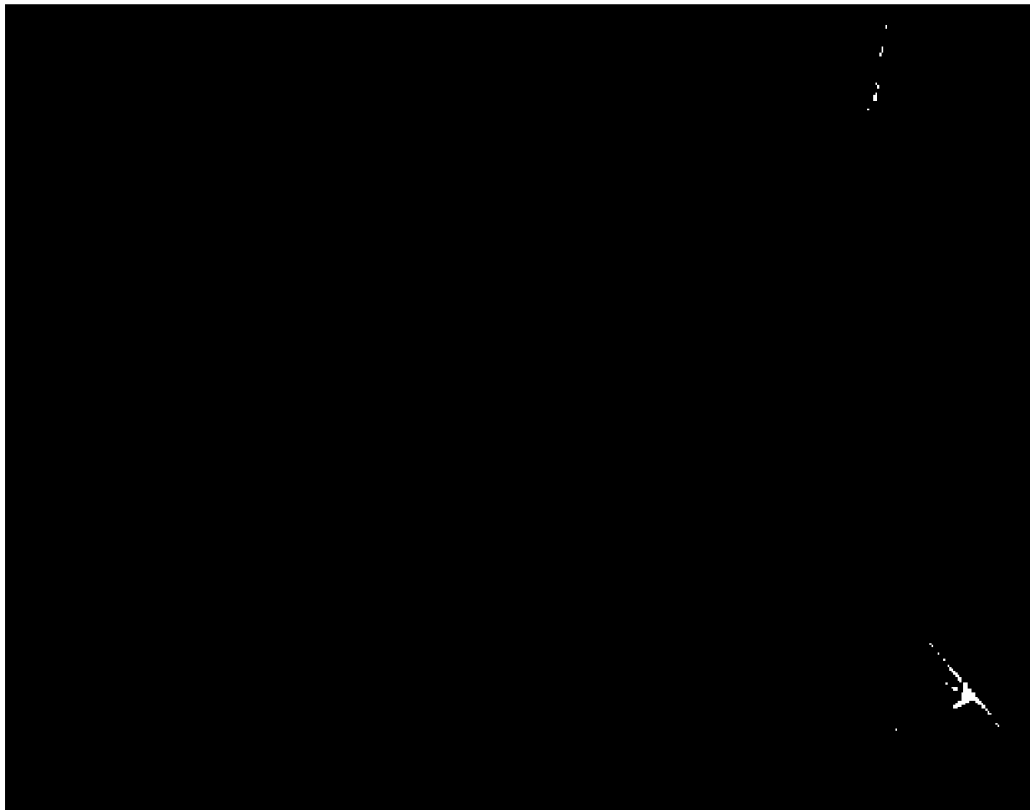
We have been in contact with United Utilities following the proposed works for the Bowland section of the Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Project, which I believe will have significant implications on our residential dwelling, the local environment and economy, and the health and welfare of those in the area.

I shall first convey my own personal grievances with the proposal, and how it will undoubtedly cause serious problems for both my home life and business.

The proposed boring from Newton-in-Bowland, plans to go through While we have been reassured that boring activity should not present that much disturbance to us above ground, there are several aspects of our lives that it will undoubtedly affect.

The estimated 24m buffer strip, which is the estimated boring path has moved since the original proposal United Utilities approached us with in 2019. At this stage, preliminary ground works in the form of geophysical vibriosis monitoring was done in order to estimate the ground composition prior to works. The original path and plan followed Backlane and went right by This plan has however changed in the new proposal and as such, in the planning application.

From the map below, the new bore route is closer which raises concerns with regards to building subsidence. United Utilities have stated that this is "Unlikely" but as they do not know what sort of terrain they are entering, anything is possible. If they hit rock, the vibrations alone even 100m down have the potential to cause on ground issues with building foundations. What happens if subsidence occurs when the Although this is an upsetting thought, our main concern with the works is our water supply.



I am afraid that the new pipeline plan is dangerously close to [REDACTED]. As stated previously, the original plans we were sent followed the roadside, but this map indicates that the tunnelling will be [REDACTED]. Therefore, these plans will more than likely enter our water aquifer, which the water table sits approximately from 90ft to 285ft deep, with a 110ft sleeve.

It is concerning that the preliminary geophysical surveying that took place to determine the land profile will not be a true guideline for the actual ground they will be entering, as the vibriosis machine followed the road, again, which is where United Utilities stated the tunnel would be going. As the entry point for the tunnel is less than 2000m away from the farm, the depth the borer will be when it reaches this point has the potential to compromise our water source. Being in a rural place, we do not have the option to go onto mains water.

Water is, if not the most important thing required by anyone. We not only rely upon it for our residence, for clean drinking water and cleaning, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Water is essential for maintaining [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] which is again crucial for meeting our biosecurity targets, which we are required to meet [REDACTED]

What if they enter the water aquifer and contaminate the water? They could for example release Sulphur, an element that is frequently found in the ground in our area. This has the potential to poison an entire herd of cows over night? [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] What will happen if they compromise the water source? I dread to think about the [REDACTED]

I would also like to raise the point of what happens if something happens to the boring machine? It is not unheard off that sometimes they hit a layer of slurry and disappear, or what if they need to access the machines if it breaks down and can not be reached without excavating the land above? They are proposing to do the entire Bowland stretch without ventilation holes, but what if they need to create some? It is all well and good saying we will not see the works as it is happening underground, but what happens if it goes wrong, as so many things do? I am certain they will need to monitor progress overground through our fields. What machinery they will be using? or how many men will be on site for these sort of monitoring requirements? They have the potential to destroy historic traditional stone wall boundaries, public access [REDACTED] winter.

Another huge concern is that United Utilities are not even doing the work themselves. They are subbing it out to contractors, what if one of the contractors goes bust and works are halted, spreading the works out for a longer period? Again, not unheard of in these big projects. Who is going to keep an eye on contractors? Will they have the same environmental ethos that United Utilities imply they have? Will they have the same due diligence for the locals, the land and the landscape?

This is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We are lucky enough to hold some of the rarest calcareous flushes in the district on our land, what mitigation could be put in place should they destroy these areas? Areas which once gone can take years and years to re-establish, sometimes never again if the ground is disturbed? Not just the areas of botanical interest, this area is home to many rare and beautiful birds? Curlews and Lapwings successfully fledge on our fields, we are lucky enough to sometimes see the hen harrier circling the farm, we have barn owls, tawny owls and little owls in the woods around our house. Not to mention the hundreds of passerine songbirds and bat species that live in the area. The amount of noise pollution from constant heavy goods vehicles carting away the excavated material is going to have a huge impact on the local wildlife.

And what about tourism? Newton in Bowland is a cycling hotspot. There are groups of cyclists that come over Waddington fell and round Backlane daily, how is the increased road activity going to affect them? How is it going to affect the local economy? The area is a tourist destination, people come from all over the world to spend time in the beautiful countryside, in the peace and quiet. Again, the level of noise pollution and air pollution is going to deter what is an important income for many locals.

Furthering the concerns with noise and air pollution, what about the health and welfare of locals? The amount of dust, as well as the particulates created by the influx in traffic, particularly heavy goods machinery, is going to be unhealthy as well as unpleasant. They again mention little noise pollution, but the vehicles passing by your house all day is going to cause disturbance. Furthermore, even though several new routes are planned to be installed prior to works to prevent traffic and congestion issues, there will undoubtedly be congestion. What happens when these large vehicles towing heavy cargo of excavated rubble meet the already existing agricultural machines on these small single-track roads with steep inclines? Farmers rely on 24/7 access for in-fields operations, for cultivation, for moving livestock. All it takes is two machines to have an accident and then the road is blocked and there is no access whatsoever. I have a job alongside the farm business, will this affect my journey to work? I am certain it will.

I understand that the works United Utilities have proposed is for consumers and supplying water to those who need it, and while this is an honourable task, they need to think about the long-term ramifications of this project, which I honestly, after speaking with several liaison officers, gather they are out of their depth.

Yours sincerely,

