

## Document reference: ED92

### Examination into the Cumbria Minerals & Waste Development Framework: Repeated Site Allocations Policies and Proposals Map

#### Inspectors Issues and Questions

#### ISSUE 4 – Policy 7: Areas of Search for Minerals, Policy 8: Mineral Safeguarding Areas and Mineral Consultation Areas

##### Policy 7: omission: areas around Moota Quarry

CEMEX have prepared this statement to provide clarity to the Inspector on the latest reserve position at Moota Quarry to provide a context to the questions that he has raised with regard to Areas of Search.

Permitted reserves at the site and under the control of CEMEX are due to be exhausted by 2015 after which the site will close unless further reserves are identified and permitted. The Company has not made representations on replacement reserves to date as part of the MWDF process because up to now it was unable to do so. However, it has recently secured an option on adjoining land and has commissioned drilling to take place over the next 3 weeks. A further 2 to 3 weeks will required to complete laboratory testing. Concurrent with this we have commissioned ecological, air quality, noise and vibration assessments. If geological appraisal evaluation is positive from a qualitative and quantative perspective then it is Company's intention to submit a planning application to the County Council in the short term.

In answer to your point 4.6 securing an extension at the site would protect local jobs and maintain a local quarry provide local materials within a radius of 10 miles thus preventing materials being unsustainably hauled over longer distances. It would add to the land-bank but it would not add to productive capacity because it would just represent continuity of production.

Possible extensions around Moota Quarry to our knowledge have not been subject to sustainability appraisal and consultation [point 4.8]. However, the Inspector will appreciate that it is not always possible for a Company to align its business objectives with the timetable set by development plan production. Had the plan been at its early stages then there would be greater synchronization between identification, verification and promotion of a defined area for consideration. So identification of an area of search around the quarry would benefit the Company if it decided to bring the site forward following detailed its assessment work because possible extensions to the quarry have not been promoted as Preferred Areas. To this end, we should be able to provide evidence to you as to the mineral potential of the areas being investigated [point 4.7].

We would be pleased to update the Inspector further on the results of the geological investigation and our application programme in person on the hearing date of 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012, if so invited.