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Issue 4

## Areas of Search for Minerals, Policy 7 Mineral Safeguarding Areas and Mineral Consultation Areas

### Statement of behalf of Aggregate Industries UK Limited

Cumbria Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Repeated Site Allocations Policies and Proposals Map Inspector's Issues and Questions

#### Issue 4

Policy 7: omission: extension to Holmescales Quarry

4.4 What evidence is there of a change in circumstances to suggest that the DPD would be unsound if the proposed site was not added to policy 7?

High PSV (Polished Stone Value) resources are vital for the maintenance, repair and improvement of the built environment. The wearing courses on the nation's motorways and A-roads rely on a steady and adequate supply of high psv aggregate. Increase in motorway speed limits will increase the importance of high psv surfacing. High PSV resources are scarce and in the North West of England, Cumbria is the only county where high psv resources exist.

Since the previous Hearing there is now greater certainty in relation to the following, on the basis of SCRIM performance in the highway (as opposed to high psv laboratory testing).

The premature closure of Holmescales Quarry (reserve now less than 100,000 tonnes) will simply bring forward the potential need for greenfield quarries to be developed in or fringing the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

The DPD is unsound because it is not justified (the omission of Holmescales is not the most appropriate strategy). The evidence justifies the inclusion of the Holmescales Area of Search, even if that is on the basis of no increase in output or the requirement for access improvements.

The DPD is not effective because the cross-boundary and national issues raised in relation to strategic high psv resources have not been addressed. The ripple effect of high psv decisions in Cumbria may extend to Shropshire and South Wales.

The DPD is not consistent with national policy on the basis that the future delivery of sustainable development may be adversely affected by looming shortages of high psv aggregates.

Ghyll Scaur Quarry Area of Search has been drilled. The resource of High PSV stone is estimated to be approximately 6.7 million tonnes, the eventual saleable tonnage maybe significantly lower than this.

In the Yorkshire Dales National Park, anticipated quarry closures will increase the pressure upon the few remaining high psv quarries in Cumbria.

Ingleton Quarry 2018  
Dry Rigg Quarry 2021  
Arcow Quarry 2015

In addition the Natural England Lakes to Dales Landscape Designation Project proposes to extend the Yorkshire Dales National Park boundaries, which will constrain further high psv resources to the east of Junction 37 of the M6.

The Highways Agency are increasingly specifying on the basis of SCRIM data. A fleet of Sideway force Coefficient Routine Investigation Machines (SCRIM) is used to continually measure the skid resistance of the trunk road network.

Holmescales is potentially of National importance.