

Leader of the Council
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19th December 2008

The Right Hon Ed Miliband MP
Secretary of State
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
LONDON
SW1A 2HH

Dear Secretary of State

The Cabinet of Cumbria County Council met on 9 December 2008 and decided to make a without commitment expression of interest in the MRWS repository siting process for the Copeland area. It further decided to extend this expression of interest to the Allerdale area should Allerdale Borough Council make its own expression of interest. Please treat this letter as our formal expression of interest.

The Cabinet's decision takes into account the views of Council members expressed at a meeting of the full County Council on 20 November 2008. The report to Cabinet on 9 December is appended and this includes a summary of the discussion at full Council on 20 November.

The decision to make an expression of interest is supported by a 'soundings' process undertaken by the County Council with key stakeholders and local partners between August and October 2008. A summary of responses to this 'soundings' process is attached to the appended Cabinet report. Copies of all written responses have been posted on Cumbria County Council's website and can be viewed at www.cumbriacc.gov.uk.

We look forward to receiving your acknowledgement of the County Council's without commitment expression of interest and we look forward to discussing with your officials early in the New Year, how we progress stages 2 and 3 of the process.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Stewart Young'.

Stewart Young
Leader of the Council