

Monday 9 July 2012

Day 8 1000 hours

SESSION 17 MINERALS (Policies SP12, DM19 and M4)

1. How does the Plan translate national minerals planning policy down to the local authority level? Should the Plan seek to identify a **minimum** 10 year landbank? Is there merit in seeking to pursue up to 6 million tonnes of minerals and aggregate extraction over the lifetime of the Plan? Should the county accommodate a proportion of the minerals allocated to the Brecon Beacons National Park? If not, why not?
2. Does the Plan adequately distinguish between energy generating and non-energy minerals and aggregates?
3. What is the logic for the minerals safeguarding areas? Are they soundly drawn?
4. What is the logic for the Minerals Buffer Zones identified in Policy M2 and the sites identified in Policy M4? Why are these zones identified in different policies? Are these buffers soundly based?
5. What is the logic for the identification of areas in Policy M3 where minerals or aggregates working will not be acceptable? In identifying areas where minerals and aggregates working would not be acceptable, should the Council have taken account of the county's proximity to the Brecon Beacons National Park? If not, why not?
6. Should mining legacy areas or coal mining referral areas be shown on the constraints map?
7. Is the drafting of Policy SP12 soundly based? What is the logic for criterion (e) of this policy? Is the term "acceptable proven safe limit" clear in its intention? Why does the FC version of the Plan distinguish between residential areas and areas that are "deemed exceptions"? Should the policy state more positively that prior extraction will be encouraged on appropriate sites including housing sites? If not, why not?
8. Does Policy DM19 contain significant overlaps with other national policies? If so, what does this policy add in its current form that is not contained elsewhere?

Attendees: CCW (10), Gryphonn Quarries (26) Confederation of UK Coal Producers (45), Coal Authority (50), Welsh Govt (03).

Optional: Brecon Beacons NPA (46)

Close 1300 hours