



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

The Rt Hon Claire Perry MP
Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth

Department for Business, Energy &
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19 September 2018

Dear Francis,

**RE: DEPARTMENT FOR BUSINESS, ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY
HYDRAULIC FRACTURING CONSENT**

I am writing with regard to your Hydraulic Fracturing Consent application dated 3 August 2018, in respect of Preston New Road well number 2 under licence EXL269 and PEDL165. The Secretary of State has asked me to take the decision on this application. I have now considered the information provided.

I have taken into account all relevant matters. This includes advice I have received from the Infrastructure and Projects Authority in relation to financial resilience (in accordance with Written Statement HCWS428). The Infrastructure and Projects Authority has confirmed its view that:

“Cuadrilla Bowland Limited, as operator of the PEDL 165 Licence and equity investor in the Licence alongside AJ Lucas and Spirit Energy, on a joint and several basis, combined with continuing financial support from its ultimate shareholders, has an adequate level of financial resilience to fund the required investment for the hydraulic fracturing of [the PNR-2 well] up until 30 June 2019.”

I am satisfied that your application has met the thirteen legislative conditions as set out in section 4A of the Petroleum Act 1998 (inserted by section 50 of the Infrastructure Act 2015) and I am otherwise satisfied that it is appropriate to issue Hydraulic Fracturing Consent. Further information is provided in the ‘Consideration of Section 4A Conditions’ document at Annex A.

I therefore grant Hydraulic Fracturing Consent with effect from 18 September 2018 subject to the following condition. Pursuant to section 4A(8), a breach of such a condition is to be treated as if it were a breach of a condition of a well consent.

Condition:

- 1) The arrangements for publication of the results of the monitoring required by section 4A(6)(a) of the Petroleum Act 1998, set out in your letter dated 3 August 2018 which accompanied the application, must remain in place for the period for which this Hydraulic Fracturing Consent remains in force.

Expiration

This consent will expire on the same date as the end of the second term of your Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence (PEDL No.165), unless this consent is withdrawn or extended by notice in writing given by or on behalf of the Secretary of State prior to that date.

This consent may be withdrawn if there has been a breach of the conditions or the Energy Minister considers there to have been a material change in circumstances and it is no longer appropriate for this consent to remain in force. Such circumstances may include (but are not limited to) where any of the permits or consents relied upon by the Department when granting this consent (see Annex A) expire or cease to have effect, or where the area in which any part of the well pad for the relevant well is located becomes a protected area (as defined in Annex A to the Government Response to the Consultation on Surface Development Restrictions for Hydraulic Fracturing – “Policy Statement for Existing Licences” (Department for Energy and Climate Change - June 2016)) or becomes subject to a Government consultation on the scientific case for designation as a European site or a Ramsar site (as set out in paragraphs 3.3-3.4 of that document).

Yours sincerely,



THE RT HON CLAIRE PERRY MP
Minister of State