



Ministry of Housing,  
Communities &  
Local Government

North Yorkshire Council

By Email

**Please ask for:** Declan Lau  
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**Your ref:** NY/2025/0030/ENV  
**Our ref:** PCU/RTI/U2750/3377621  
**Date:** 26 February 2026

Dear North Yorkshire Council

### **Town and Country Planning Act 1990**

**Application by Europa Oil and Gas Limited for Construction of a temporary wellsite for the appraisal of gas, including drilling operation, proppant squeeze and flow testing operation and site restoration at Land East of the Mill Yard, Burniston Mill, Coastal Road, Burniston, Scarborough, YO13 0DB (application no: NY/2025/0030/ENV)**

I refer to the above application which has been the subject of third-party requests to call in for determination by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government.

The Secretary of State has carefully considered the policy on calling in planning applications, as set out in the Written Ministerial Statement dated 26 October 2012. The policy makes it clear that the power to call in a case will only be used very selectively. This policy also gives examples of the types of issues which may lead him to conclude, in his opinion that the application should be called in.

The Secretary of State has decided not to call in this application. He is content that it should be determined by the local planning authority.

In considering whether to exercise the discretion to call in this application, the Secretary of State has not considered the matter of whether this application is EIA Development for the purposes of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The local planning authority responsible for

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determining this application remains the relevant authority responsible for considering whether these Regulations apply to this proposed development and, if so, for ensuring that the requirements of the Regulations are complied with.

The Article 31 Direction issued pursuant to the Secretary of State's letter of 29 January 2026 is hereby withdrawn.

Yours sincerely

*Maria Bowen*

**Maria Bowen** (decision officer)  
**Head of Crown Casework**  
**Planning Casework Unit**

*This decision was made by the Baroness Taylor of Stevenage Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing and Local Government, on behalf of the Secretary of State, and signed on his behalf*