



Applied Ecological Services

LIMITED

Brian Hunter,
The Banks Group Limited,
Inkerman House,
St. John's Road,
Meadowfield,
County Durham

Gary Tudor
3rd March 2011

Dear Brian,

Reference: Hazelhead Windfarm, near Holmfirth, West Yorkshire – Ecological Walkover

Further to your instruction an ecological walkover of the above site was undertaken on the 8th of February 2011. The aims of the walkover survey were to determine if there had been any changes in habitats types located in the site, and/or if any protected species had occupied the site since the previous surveys had been undertaken by White Young Green (WYG) in 2006. In accordance with original area surveyed by WYG in 2006, the area of the ecological walkover survey was also extended outside of the application boundary to include all land located within the ownership boundary.

The results of the walkover survey generally agreed with the findings of the WYG (2006) surveys (see Drawing No. HJB/574/PA15, attached), there have been no significant changes in habitat types located in the site since the previous surveys were undertaken, with three minor exceptions. 1. There has been some minor encroachment of mainly coniferous saplings and occasional silver birch into the acid grassland situated in the northwest of the site. These saplings have originated from those mature trees located in the mixed plantation woodland situated in the west of the site. 2. The occurrence of rhododendron on the disused tip located in the east of the application boundary has increased since 2006. 3. Some minor waterbodies situated in the south of the site had merged forming more extensive aquatic habitats. The merging and extension of the waterbody areas was possibly a direct result of recent snow melt and therefore should be regarded as a seasonal occurrence.

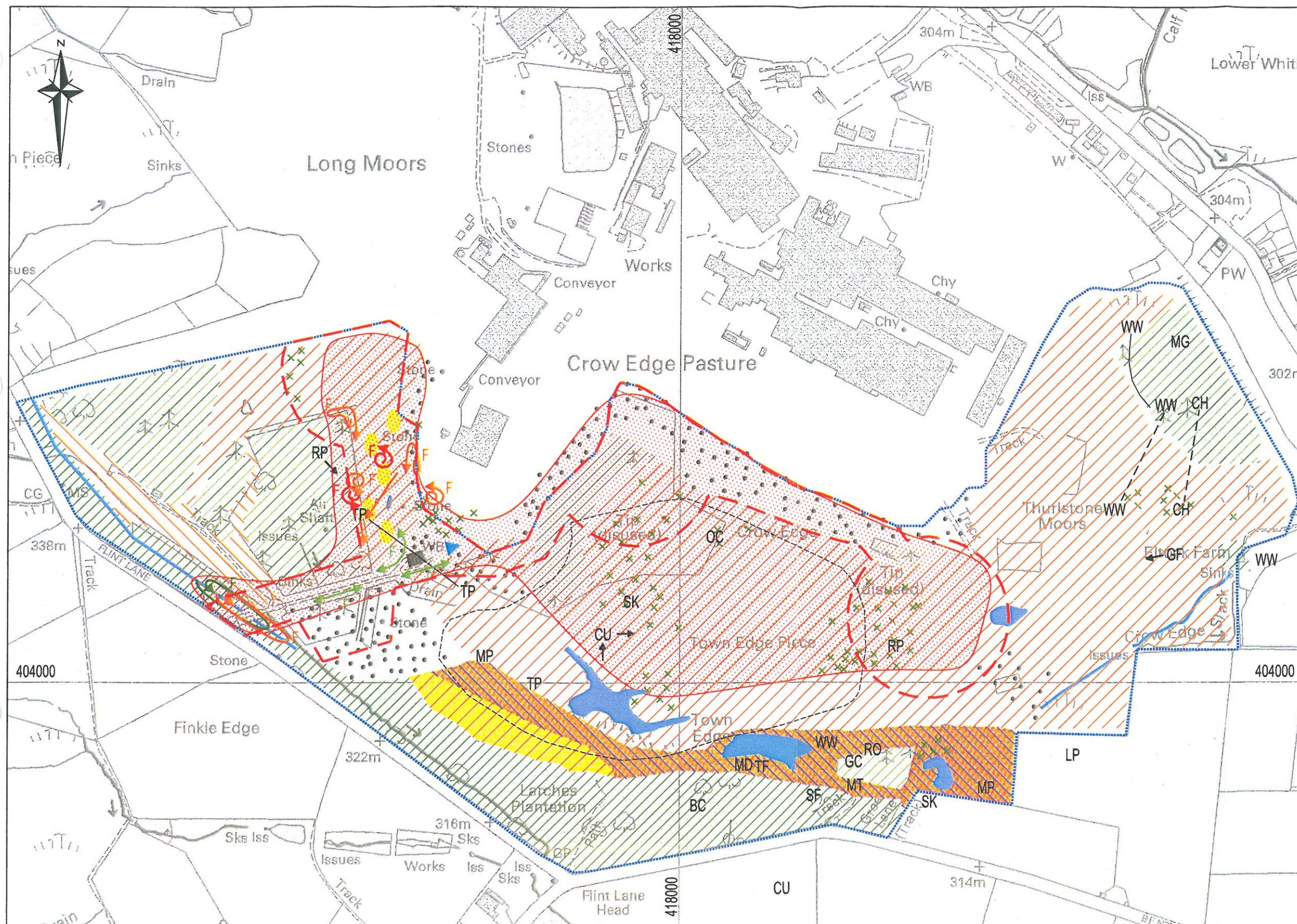
In relation to protected / notable species there were no characteristic field signs found in the site, including woodland areas that any such species had colonised the site. Brown hare and Grey partridge, both species not previously recorded in 2006, were observed in the site, neither of these species would be affected by the development.

All woodland / plantation areas checked in the site were free of protected / notable species, but these areas will attract a wide range of birds during the breeding season (end of March – end of July, inclusive). It is therefore recommended that any tree felling be undertaken before the end of March unless checked by a suitably qualified ecologist.

Yours sincerely



Gary Tudor MIEEM, CBiol, MSB



LEGEND

Phase 1 Vegetation and Habitat

- Land in Applicants Control
- Planning Application Boundary
- Extent of landfill
- Broad-leaved plantation woodland
- Coniferous plantation woodland
- Mixed plantation woodland
- Scattered scrub
- Acid grassland
- Heathland / acid grassland mosaic
- Marshy grassland
- Standing water
- Watercourse
- Bare ground
- Building (weighbridge)

SCALE: 100m

Rev.	Drawn	Chkd.	Date

BANKS

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Development Division Midlands Area

Project		Hazlehead Windfarm	
Title		ECOLOGICAL FEATURES / BASELINE CONDITIONS	
Drawn: VP		Checked : RP	
Scale:	Date: 18/07/06	O.S. Ref.	SE10SE
Consultant:		Drawing Number:	
WHITE YOUNG GREEN ENVIRONMENTAL		E008742-3504-Figure 6.1	
			
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Drawing number		HJB/574/PA15	

Breeding Bird Survey 2006

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|--|
| OC Oystercatcher | MG Magpie | TP Tree pipit |
| LP Lapwing | GF Greenfinch | MP Meadow pipit |
| CU Curlew | TF Tufted duck | SK Skylark |
| RO Robin | MD Mallard | — Same bird |
| GC Goldcrest | MT Mistlethrush | - - Different birds in song at the same time |
| WW Willow warbler | BC Blackcap | ↘ Flying over |
| SF Spotted flycatcher | RP Redpoll | |

Bat Survey

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Area covered by bat survey transects | Myotis - heard but not seen | 55kHz Pipistrelle - foraging |
| 27/06/06 | 05/07/06 | |
| 45kHz Pipistrelle - foraging | 45kHz Pipistrelle - foraging | |
| 55kHz Pipistrelle - foraging | 55kHz Pipistrelle - flying | |