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M O O R E H E A D & L A I N G L T D

ENGINEERING, ENVIRONMENTAL and LANDSCAPE SPECIALISTS

20110701smb

2909/5 – Japanese Knotweed

1st July 2011

If telephoning please ask for: Stephen Blunt

North Wales Minerals and Waste Planning Service
c/o Flintshire County Council
County Hall
Mold
CH7 6NF

FAO Hannah Parish, Senior Minerals and Waste Officer

Dear Sirs,

RESTORATION OF FORMER SAND AND GRAVEL QUARRY AT CEFN Y BEDD P/2011/0272

Further to the comments of consultees, and our site meeting on 27th June, we write with further information and explanation about the proposals which we trust will address the points raised.

ERADICATION OF JAPANESE KNOTWEED

A Present status

The site contains stands of Japanese Knotweed along the northern half of its boundary with Park Road, emerging onto the road near the corner of the site. The knotweed is also present within the garden of Lane End and straddling the boundary between this property and the site.

B Purpose of eradication

The purpose of eradication is to prevent spread of Japanese Knotweed into the remainder of the site, where it would interfere with nature conservation and hay production / grazing objectives.

C Eradication method

Eradication will be achieved by:

1. Identifying the extent of the knotweed, and marking the stands including a 7m margin of potential rhizome infestation by means of wooden fence posts with line wire. Orange high-visibility mesh can be used but this is visually intrusive.



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2. Applying glyphosate translocated herbicide by spray application or stem injection, in early September 2011 and allowing the stems to die down fully. Initial clearance by cutting to 150mm above ground will follow in January – early March 2012.
3. Returning to repeat the herbicide application and subsequent clearance in September 2012 and January – early March 2013.
4. Monitoring the areas and repeating the treatment as necessary for the duration of the site's Management Plan.

D Staff briefing and expert support

All staff working on the site will be briefed by means of a tool-box talk, explaining the need to avoid any physical disturbance of the knotweed, the extent of rhizome spread, the consequences of inadvertent spread, the herbicide eradication programme, and how to inspect incoming loads for Japanese Knotweed (which must be rejected as unauthorised material).

The briefing, control programme and any specialist support required will be provided by Richards, Moorehead & Laing Ltd who prepared the WAG guidance publications on Japanese Knotweed.

We trust that these comments provide sufficient explanation of the proposals as they relate to the queries and concerns raised, but please contact us if you have any further queries.

Yours faithfully,

Stephen Blunt

PP.

Ivor G Richards OBE, Managing Director
RICHARDS, MOOREHEAD & LAING LTD

c. Mr John Williams

