

1 December 2022

Mrs Heather Morrison  
Planning Department  
Copeland Borough Council  
The Copeland Centre  
Catherine Street  
Whitehaven  
Cumbria, CA28 7SJ

Direct tel: 019467 76576

Your Ref:

Our ref: PLC/BCC/1899

Dear Heather,

**PLANNING PERMISSION: PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED DEMOLITION –  
CALDER CONTROL ROD MECHANISM WORKSHOP (CRMW)**

Sellafield Limited proposes to demolish a redundant control rod mechanism workshop (CRMW) located within the Sellafield site. The building is of conventional construction which is broadly rectangular in plan and was constructed in 1956 as a building to store CO<sub>2</sub> gas for the Calder Hall reactors.

By 1991, gas storage had been moved to bulk storage tanks located at the south end of the building with part of the north end of the CRMW being converted to a control room for these facilities. The CO<sub>2</sub> Valve House plant was also added to the east side of the building at same time as the bulk storage tanks and this also forms part of the demolition task.

Another section of the building was also converted at the same time to be a decontamination and maintenance facility for equipment from the Calder Hall reactors, with changerooms added for access and egress. In 2008 the bulk storage tanks were removed and this project is to clear the rest of the redundant facilities from the site.

**Building Construction**

The building is approximately 38m long, 9m wide and 5m high and externally the building has metal cladding to the longitudinal elevations. The gable elevations are constructed from brickwork supported at the sides and to a central wind post. There are a number of lifting beams internally serving the loading bay on West elevation.

The building is now redundant and has reached the end of its useful life. Sellafield Limited is currently undertaking option studies into future development options on the CRMW site. At present, the proposed future use is not confirmed and the CRMW requires demolition to remove unnecessary maintenance works.

Given the future redevelopment at the site, the proposal is to remove the building superstructure and retain the existing concrete foundations until a future development design is confirmed. Any future development proposals will be presented to relevant stakeholders and will be subject to formal planning application and consent from the Local Planning Authority.

I therefore enclose four hard copies copy of the following for your approval:

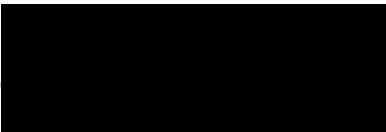
- Application for Prior Notification of Proposed Demolition - Form
- Summary Information Report
- Calder Land Clearance Ecological Impact Assessment\*
- Location Plan - 1 BE 3032299 Rev D

\*includes the information previously contained in the ecology and habitat report.

From the Scale of Charges for Planning Applications, the fee payable is £96.00, which has been sent separately.

Please note a Site Notice of Application for Prior Approval for Demolition of Building erected at the entrance to the Sellafield site and a Statement of Display of a Site Notice has been produced. I have appended both for completeness.

Yours sincerely

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Martin Chown  
Chief Executive Officer