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22 March 2010

Dear Mrs Davidson

**DIRECTION UNDER PARAGRAPH 1(3) OF SCHEDULE 8 TO THE PLANNING
AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004 POLICIES CONTAINED IN
HERFORDSHIRE MINERALS LOCAL PLAN 2007**

I am writing with reference to your application of 17 September 2009 applying for a direction under paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 in respect of policies in Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan Adopted March 2007.

The Secretary of State's Direction (Schedule 1) is attached. Those policies not listed in the Direction will expire on 27 March 2010

The Secretary of State's assessment of whether saved policies should be extended is based upon the criteria set out in Planning Policy Statement 12 and the Department for Communities and Local Government Protocol on saving policies.

The extension of saved policies listed in this Direction does not indicate that the Secretary of State would endorse these policies if presented to him as new policy. It is intended to ensure continuity in the plan-led system and a stable planning framework locally, and in particular, a continual supply of land for development.

Local planning authorities should not suppose that a regulatory local plan style approach will be supported in forthcoming Development Plan Documents. Authorities should adopt a positive spatial strategy-led approach to DPD preparation and not seek to reintroduce the numerous policies of many local plans.

The exercise of extending saved policies is not an opportunity to delay DPD preparation. Local planning authorities should make good progress with local

development frameworks according to the timetables in their local development schemes. Policies have been extended in the expectation that they will be replaced promptly and by fewer policies in DPDs. Maximum use should be made of national and regional policy.

Following 27 March 2010 the extended policies should be read in context. Where policies were adopted some time ago, it is likely that material considerations, in particular the emergence of new national and regional policy and also new evidence, will be afforded considerable weight in decisions.

Signed by the authority of the
Secretary of State

Tim Freathy
Deputy Regional Director of Development & Infrastructure
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