Dear Sir/Madam

CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW EARTH BANK LAGOON FOR THE STORAGE OF DIGESTATE PRODUCED AT THE ANAEROBIC DIGESTION PLANT AT WILCROSS FARM, WATT CLOSE FARM BURNLEY ROAD, GISBURN, CLITHEROE, BB7 4JJ.

I refer to the above application and our previous letter dated 20 December 2013.

Our objection to this application relates specifically to the lack of evidence of, or reference to, soil samples taken in relation to this proposal. We understand that that soil samples have now been taken and are currently being analysed, but that these will not be available for review prior to the determination of the application. The applicant is aware of the fact that further works may be required to ensure the impermeability of the lagoon should ground conditions be shown to be inappropriate. As the application will be determined in the absence of the permeability results, we withdraw our objection subject to the inclusion of the condition below which meets the following requirements:

CONDITION Prior to the commencement of development, permeability testing of the ground within the footprint of the proposed lagoon shall be undertaken and the results submitted to the local planning authority. Where the in situ soils are not shown to be suitable for the proposed development, full details of a scheme for lining the lagoon with an impermeable barrier shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The development shall proceed in accordance with the approved scheme.

REASON To ensure the proposed development does not pose a risk of pollution to surface and ground waters.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the applicant/agent.
Yours faithfully

Mr Alex Hazel  
Planning Advisor - Sustainable Places Team

Direct dial 01772 714065  
Direct e-mail nwnorthplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk

cc Windle Beech Winthrop Chartered Surveyors