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Alan Edgar  
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Your ref: 17/0149/PP  
Our ref: NA-EAY-024  
19 July 2017

Dear Mr Edgar

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997  
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATIONS)  
(SCOTLAND) DIRECTION 2009  
RESTORATION OF FORMER POWHARNAL SURFACE MINE BY MUIRKIRK,  
INCLUDING NATURE CONSERVATION, AGRICULTURAL GRAZING, ENHANCED  
PUBLIC ACCESS AND CIRCULATION, WATER COURSE REALIGNMENT AND  
LANDSCAPING AT POWHARNAL OPENCAST & GASSWATER OPENCAST COAL  
SITE, CRONBERRY, CUMNOCK**

I refer to your Council's letter of letter of 29 June 2017 with which a copy of the planning application relating to the above development was notified to Scottish Ministers in accordance with the above mentioned Direction.

It is not Scottish Ministers' intention to intervene in this application by either issuing a direction restricting the granting of planning permission or by calling in the application for their own determination. Accordingly, your Council are hereby authorised to deal with the application in the manner it thinks fit.

A copy of Planning and Architecture Division's assessment report into this application will shortly be available on our website at <https://beta.gov.scot/publications/planning-decisions-index/>

Yours sincerely

ALEX KERR

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