

T: 0131-244 7073 F: 0131-244 7555  
E: Alex.kerr@gov.scot

Alan Edgar  
Senior Planning Officer  
Development Management  
East Ayrshire Council

[Alan.Edgar@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:Alan.Edgar@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Your ref: 17/0149/PP  
Our ref: NA-EAY-024  
3 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 am writing to acknowledge receipt of your Council's letter of 29 June 2017 relating to the above development, notified to the Scottish Ministers in accordance with category 1 to the Schedule of the above Direction. I also acknowledge receipt of the committee report which was received electronically today. I can't access the consultation response from the coal authority on the web site, but the hardcopy documentation has arrived and a copy has been enclosed.

The period within which the Scottish Ministers may require your authority to refer the application to them for decision is 28 days from 3 July 2017, provided that the period may be extended before it expires if necessary to allow the Scottish Ministers to complete their consideration of the proposal.

Yours sincerely

ALEX KERR

Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6QQ  
[www.scotland.gov.uk](http://www.scotland.gov.uk)

