

Fairlie Community Council

Gordon Craig
NAC Planning
Cunninghame House
Irvine

Application 17/01273/PP

To vary Condition 1 of PP16/00268/PP
To use the site for "Large Marine Structures"

Dear Mr Craig,

Fairlie Community Council has concern over the terminology and feels that it is too general a term and needs to be much more specific. Whilst currently, there may be no intention for Peelports to bring "structures" into Hunterston Construction Site which might be considered exceptionally environmentally detrimental to the area, (other than the oil and gas industry ones) FCC would appreciate NAC Planning tightening up the terminology. It is better this is considered now than have disagreement, at a later date, over interpretation of what is meant by a "large marine structure". An iceberg could be termed a "large marine structure", as could an old rusting toxic ship or the remains of a submarine with its reactor compartment removed. So Fairlie Community Council objects to this variation of condition 1

It could be advantageous to any developer or licensee of this site, bordered by SSSI and part of the most beautiful waterway in Northern Europe, to promote any proposed facility as open for **any type** of "marine structure" in need of decommissioning.

Fairlie Community Council appreciates the need for employment opportunities in North Ayrshire, it also realises that Hunterston needs to compete with other yards.

Many jobs here are in the tourist and leisure industries and rely on the beauty and attractiveness of the area being maintained. Given the potential for private profit as well as job creation within the huge decommissioning/scrap recycling sector, many developers in this sector would jump at the chance to find an area attractive to investors. An area with planning conditions open to misinterpretation or environmental regulations that are not stringent enough could be a cheaper, and hence more attractive option for many developers. Many companies site these "facilities" in third world countries. FCC has been told that 21st Century state of the art technology will ensure that there is no unacceptable light, noise or hazardous chemical pollution. A NA Councillor has been to see a facility in Shetland and speaks positively of it. This is as may be, but our community has had no presentation from Peelports or NAC about whether a facility like the Shetland one is proposed or not. We have no doubt that there are conversations taking place between NAC, Scottish Enterprise and Peelports. FCC would appreciate an interim update from NAC and a presentation from Peelports.

Bearing in mind, that in the past, I have been told informally by a Scottish Enterprise representative that SE would put **anything** at Hunterston, I am somewhat cynical about it being concerned too much about our environment.

Fairlie Community Council's expectation is that, faced with the prospect of potentially significant and environmentally detrimental industrial development, our Local Authority NAC will be astute and competent enough to ensure it has scrutinised conditions for "loopholes" and "weeded out" conditions that are unenforceable.

Yours sincerely, Rita Holmes (chairwoman FCC)

