

**Briefing**

**Hill Top – Proposed Surface Coal Project, Clay X**

**19 March 2012**

**Briefing for Planning Committee Members**

**Derbyshire County Council**

## Summary

- Who are we? Background & Experience
- Rationale for the proposed scheme
- Progress so far - Design & Impacts
- Planning & Community Gains
- Communications & Plans for next few months



## Background

- The Biwater Project & Incidental Coal

### *The team*

- Bryn Hopkinson – Consultant – principal on the Biwater Scheme
- Steve Langford – MD Coal & Restoration Expertise
- Christian Smith – Planning expertise re UK Coal
- Local Farmers & Landowners



## Foundry, Coal & Restoration



## Good Neighbours : Biwater

- 9 hectares open cast
- 250,000 tonnes of crushed material – M1 widening works
- 3 million tonnes overburden excavated
- 95,000 tonnes coal extracted
- Engineered restoration
- Close proximity to housing - tight environmental monitoring regime
- No noise complaints
- No dust complaints



## Rationale for the Scheme

- Poor Agricultural Land
- Energy & Need for Coal
  - *Government - fossil fuels, including coal, will continue to play an important role in the UK's energy mix;*
  - *Strong national need for indigenous coal supplies*
  - *Benefits - flexibility & security of supply;*
- Economics
  - *A positive effect on the local & regional economy;*
  - *Supporting economic growth*
  - *Local employment, business rates to NE DDC, local expenditure, etc*

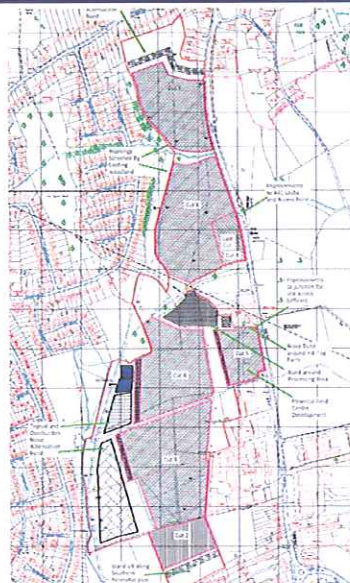


## Where is Hill Top ?





## Outline & Schematic Layout



## Exploration Completed



## Outline Figures

- Circa 30 hectares in size
- 170,000 tonnes of coal
- 5 million cum overburden
- 3 year duration – earth works & coaling
- Series of cuts – transitional for 6 months – progressively worked and restored minimising impact
- Mitigation measures (*noise bunds, dust control, visual screen*)
- 1 year final restoration programme



## Environment & Local Amenities

*We take this very seriously*

*Provectus have been good neighbours in the past*

- EIA Reg's (*Scoping Opinion*);
- Pre-application feedback - MPA
- Full suite of Environmental Assessment Work
  - *Preliminary assessment work - noise;*
  - *Dust – manageable, good record*
  - *Transport – access from A61/modest levels of HGV traffic*
  - *Continuing environmental assessment work*
  - *Close liaison with statutory consultees, locals, MPA*



## Restoration, Planning & Community Gains

- Agricultural restoration strategy- improvements
- No plans for 'built development'
- Improved footpaths & public access
- Enhanced drainage & local flood alleviation
- Local employment – 10-12 direct jobs for 3 years
- Community gains – integrated approach
- Community funds
- On-going consultation with District Council and local community – potential benefits, Clay Cross regeneration aspirations
- Ashover Light Railway



## Plans

- Early Consultation & Community Involvement
  - Mail shots
  - Public Exhibitions & Open Meetings
  - Web site
- Environmental baseline & EIA
  - Amendments to scheme design
- Planning Application & Environmental Statement
  - Formal consultation process

