



Scottish Environment LINK
2 Grosvenor House
Shore Road
Perth
PH2 8BD

Tel: 01738 630804
Fax: 01738 643290

enquiries@scotlink.org
www.scotlink.org

Gordon Watson
Planning and Rural Development Director
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park
Headquarters
Carrochan
Carrochan Road
Balloch, G83 8EG

27 September 2011

Dear Sir


2011/0166/MIN - Development of an underground mine to extract gold and silver with associated service and production building, plant, storage area, Tailings Management Facility (TMF), recirculation pond and gauging station, diversion of burn, access roads, bridge and car parking. Further revision of proposals Ref 90/01102/DET/S and Ref 2010/0017/MIN

Many Scottish Environment LINK members have been long-term supporters of National Parks in Scotland and specifically supported the creation of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. Scottish Environment LINK members also continue to push for the creation of additional National Parks in Scotland. National Parks and National Park Authorities should be exemplars in the protection and enhancement of Scotland's natural and cultural heritage.

We do not wish to comment on the detailed merits or overall acceptability of the above application. However, the proposal would represent a significant industrial development in one of Scotland's National Parks and the decision of the National Park Authority could set an important precedent for similar development elsewhere. We therefore hope that the National Park Authority will give appropriate weight to the 4 aims of the National Park when considering this application and, as required by the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000, give greater weight to the first aim, to conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area¹. We also note that the first condition of identifying a National Park is that the area is of outstanding national importance because of its natural heritage or the combination of its natural heritage and cultural heritage². Before reaching a

¹ Section 9(6) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000

² Section 2(2)(a) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000

Scottish Environment  The voice of Scotland's environment movement

Registered Office: 2 Grosvenor House, Shore Road, Perth PH2 8BD. A Scottish Charity under Scottish Charity No SC000296.
Scottish Environment LINK is a Scottish Company Limited by guarantee and without a share capital under Company No SC250899.



decision on this proposal, the Authority must ensure it has considered whether this proposal is compatible with the nationally important, outstanding natural and cultural heritage of the area.

We trust that Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority will make the right decision, taking into account the national importance of any major development in the National Park and the precedent it may set for future development in Scotland's National Parks.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aedán Smith', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border.

Aedán Smith
Convener of LINK Planning Task Force

This letter is supported by the following organisations:

Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland
Badenoch & Strathspey Conservation Group
Buglife
Froglife
John Muir Trust
Mountaineering Council of Scotland
Plantlife
RSPB Scotland
Scottish Campaign for National Parks
Woodland Trust Scotland