7th November 2024

Ms Morag Ferguson Planning Manager, (Development Management) Chief Executive's Department, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Balivanich, Isle of Benbecula, HS7 5LA

Dear Morag,

Planning Approval: 21/00646 – Sub-Orbital Vertical Launch Spaceport Facility, Scolpaig, Balemartin, Isle of North Uist – Condition 13 – Recreation and Public Access to Scolpaig Farm during the Construction Phase.

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MacAulay Askernish Ltd., has been appointed to carry out the Enabling Works Contract at the Sub-Orbital Vertical Launch Facility at Scolpaig. The Enabling Works Contract, includes the upgraded entrance and car parking adjacent to the A 865, the upgrading of the access track to Scolpaig Farm including the upgrade of the causeway between the two parts of Loch Scolpaig, the hard standing at Scolpaig Farm and a portion of the road between Scolpaig Farm and the launch pad. The extent of the work is shown on Fraser Architecture LLP drawing 24-05 (00)21 Revision 1 Site Plan which is also appended.

The Enabling Works Contract is programmed to commence on 18th November 2024 and last for a period of approximately 21 weeks. During this period, the Scolpaig Farm access track and the area around the farm buildings will constitute a construction site and as such, will be closed to the public. Unaffected areas of Scolpaig Farm will still be accessible by way of the alternative routes on the published "wider path network". The closure is required to ensure the safety of the public as per the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015. Details of the closure, the alternative wider path network routes and any amendments, will be publicised on the Comhairle website, cnesiar.gov.uk.

The "Enabling Works" Contract includes the erection of stock proof fencing, 1.2m high, around the proposed launch pad, former farm byres and farm yard at Scolpaig. The stock fencing forms part of the planning approval. Future works, as detailed in the planning application, will be contained within this fenced area. The inclusion of these works will allow later phases of the construction works to be carried out with limited disruption to recreation and public access to Scolpaig Farm.

To ensure the safety of the public, temporary fencing and signs will be erected around the "Enabling Works" Construction Site. This temporary fencing will be removed on completion of "Enabling Works" Contract. In addition to the Contractor's site safety signage, signs showing the extent of the "Wider Path Network" and the restricted access will be erected at key points. Signs will be erected at the entrance adjacent to the A865 and at Scolpaig Farm. Drawings of the proposed "Wider Path Network" sign and Fraser Architecture LLP drawing 24-05 (00)52.2 showing the extent of the construction site fencing and location of the "Wider Path Network" signs are appended.

On behalf of Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, I seek your written confirmation that the proposed fencing, signs and the measures taken to limit future disruption to recreation and public access are sufficient to satisfy the requirements of Planning Condition 13.

Fraser Architecture LLP

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Rosat J. France.

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