Mark Bayliss<br>Miller Homes (North East) Ltd<br>Nautilus House<br>Redburn Court<br>Earl Grey Way<br>Royal Quays<br>North Shields<br>NE29 6AR

Date: $18^{\text {th }}$ November 2016
Our Ref:C7074/6519/CR/CR

Dear Mark

## Re: Former Siemens Factory, Hebburn - Report on Proof Drilling Exercise

## Introduction

Sirius Geotechnical and Environmental Ltd (Sirius) was instructed by Miller Homes (North East) Ltd (Miller Homes) to carry out probe drilling to conclude whether the above site is at risk from shallow unrecorded underground coal workings within the Bottom Hebburn Fell coal seam.

This Letter Report should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Geoenvironmental Appraisal of land at Former Siemens Factory, Hebburn, Gateshead, dated August 2016.

The comments and opinions presented in this letter report are based on the ground conditions encountered during the several phases of intrusive investigation works performed by Sirius. There may be other conditions prevailing on the site which have not been revealed by this investigation and which have not been taken into account by this report. Responsibility cannot be accepted for any conditions not revealed by this investigation. Any diagram or opinion on the possible configuration of strata, or other spatially variable features between or beyond investigation positions is conjectural and given for guidance only.

This Letter Report has been prepared for the use of Miller Homes (North East) Ltd and their representatives. No other third party may rely upon or reproduce the contents of this report without the written approval of Sirius. If any unauthorised third party comes into possession of this report, they rely on it at their own risk and the authors do not owe them any Duty of Care or Skill.

## Previous works

## Mining geology

The site is shown to overlie Devensian Till over Carboniferous Middle Coal Measures strata, comprising interbedded sequences of mudstone, siltstone, sandstone and coal.
The Top Hebburn Fell (THF) coal seam is conjectured on British Geological Survey (BGS) mapping to subcrop northwest to southeast across the centre of the site, dipping to the southeast. This seam is recorded to be thin.

The Bottom Hebburn Fell (BHF) coal seam, recorded on BGS mapping to be circa 6 m below the THF, is conjectured to subcrop west to east across the northern area of the site, dipping to the southeast. This seam is recorded to be between 1.07 and 1.63 m thickness, and present in two or three leaves.

## Intrusive mining investigation previously undertaken

Sirius undertook an intrusive geoenvironmental investigation of the above site in June and July 2016 which included eight rotary open hole boreholes (R0 101 to 106 including RO101A and RO103A) to investigate the mining risk from the THF and BHF coal seams.

From a review of the findings of the initial ground investigation together with a review of the published stratigraphic information it was conjectured that the BHF was encountered in RO103A at 1.1 m thick just southeast of its subcrop at 4.7 m below rockhead and was further encountered in boreholes RO104 and RO105 where it was found up to 1.7 m in thickness including mudstone bands. A second coal seam encountered at 22.7 m bgl in RO105 at 1.2 m below rockhead and 0.3 m thick was conjectured to be the THF seam. The inferred position and the subcrop beneath drift of the THF and BHF coal seams appear to be largely consistent with the published geology and inferred dip and dip direction.

The THF coal seam was considered too thin to have been economically worked. However, the BHF was considered to be of workable thickness.

For typical Coal Measures bedrock (e.g. mudstone), it is generally accepted that there is a risk of surface instability where the thickness of competent bedrock above the worked coal seam is less than 10x the seam thickness. The BHF was found of workable thickness and with insufficient competent rock cover across the central and southern part of the site, from its inferred subcrop position in the north west until it generally had sufficient competent bedrock cover toward the south and south east.

However, there was no evidence uncovered of any working of the BHF beneath the site from the boreholes drilled. Furthermore, there were no mine entries on or close to the site, and the majority of the site was underlain by a significant thickness of drift, and therefore, historic early mining through drifts, adits or bell pits was considered unlikely.

Therefore, it was considered that the overall risk to the site from unrecorded shallow workings was low. However, the risk could not be ruled out with certainty on the basis of eight boreholes alone and a programme of proof drilling was recommended, targeting the central and south-eastern part of the site where the risk from coal (if worked) was considered to be greatest. The approximate area requiring proof drilling was determined from the inferred position of the BHF subcrop, dip of the seam and depth to bedrock, and this is shown the Drawing No. C7074/01 presented in Appendix A.

## Proof Drilling Exercise

## Scope of Investigation

Sirius were instructed by Miller Homes to conduct probe drilling to confirm if workings were present within the BHF coal which is present beneath the site. The investigation targeted an area extending from the inferred subcrop position of the BHF in the north west to the central and south-eastern part of the site where the risk from the coal (if worked) was considered to be greatest, as shown on Drawing No. C7074/01 presented in Appendix A.

The aim of the proof drilling was to investigate for the presence of workings rather than prove competent cover.

The investigation took place between $31^{\text {st }}$ October and $7^{\text {th }}$ November 2016 and comprised the advancement of 19 rotary open hole boreholes using air mist and water flush (RO01, RO03 and RO04 to RO20) to a maximum depth of 40.3 m below ground level ( m bgl). Water flush was used for boreholes in the north east of the site which were situated within 50 m of residential properties. Rotary borehole logs are appended to this Letter Report.

In addition, ten windowless sampler boreholes (WS201 to WS210) were drilled in the south east of the site for the installation of monitoring wells for further gas monitoring. Six additional gas monitoring rounds are to be undertaken over a three month period, and results will be reported under separate cover once completed.

## Proof drilling findings

Drillers logs are appended to this letter. The depths of strata on the record sheets are recorded from current ground levels at each location, unless indicated otherwise.

Depth to rockhead was found to vary across the site from 9.9 mbl (RO06) in the north east of the site to 19.4 m bgl (ROO4) in the north of the site. Coal was found to absent in the north-west of the site to a depth of up to 40 mbgl , indicating the subcrop of the BHF was possibly a little further south than inferred. Intact coal seams varying in thickness from 0.1 m to 0.8 m (RO016 in the centre west) were identified towards the south and south east, although it was locally absent (RO14) and often interbedded with mudstone. In RO11 an intact seam of coal up to 1.3 m thick was identified although with a 0.4 m thick band of mudstone in its centre.

Towards the southern and south eastern extent of the proof drilling exercise the BHF coal seam generally comprised of thin coal bands interbedded with mudstone.

No broken ground, voids, loss of air or water flush or any other evidence of workings were encountered within any of the holes drilled during the proof drilling exercise.

## sirius

## Conclusions

This proof drilling exercise along with the mining investigation undertaken previously by Sirius has not identified any evidence of coal workings at shallow depth beneath the site. Furthermore, as previously discussed there are no recorded mine entries on or close to the site, and the majority of the site is underlain by a significant thickness of drift, and therefore, historic early mining through drifts, adits or bell pits is considered unlikely

This proof drilling exercise has provided a much more detailed assessment of the nature of the BHF coal seam beneath the site, which indicates that it is inter-persistent and often of thin unworkable thickness and/or interbedded with mudstone, which in turn lowers the overall likelihood that it may have been worked.

Therefore, based on the evidence obtained, the site is not considered to be at significant risk from unrecorded underground coal workings, and remedial measures are not considered necessary.

In the unlikely event that any suspected mining features are uncovered during the site preparation/construction works (i.e. shaft, adit) then Sirius should be contact immediately for advice.

We trust that this is satisfactory. However, should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely


Chris Rudd
Regional Manager
For and on behalf of
Sirius Geotechnical \& Environmental Ltd
Encs: Probe Hole Drillers Logs
Drawing No. C7074/01 - Exploratory Hole Location Plan











|  |  |  |  |  | BOREHOLE RECORD |  |  |  | BH No. |  | RO08 <br> Sheet 1 of 2 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | Site: Former Siemens Factory, Hebburn |  |  |  | Contract No: C7074 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  | Client: Miller Homes (NE) Ltd |  |  |  | Date: 04/11/2016 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Method: Rotary openhole drilling using air mist flush. |  |  | Scale: 1:150 |  |  |  |
| SAMPLE DETAILS |  |  |  |  |  | STRATA RECORD |  |  | Logged By: JW Checked By: CR <br> Driller: Geocore Ltd.  |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Depth } \\ \text { From }- \text { To }(m) \end{gathered}$ | TCR | SCR | RQD | FI | $\left\|\begin{array}{c} \text { Ground } \\ - \text {-water } \end{array}\right\|$ |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { Depth } \\ & (\mathrm{m}) \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
|  | TCR | SCR | RQD | Fi |  | MADE | ROUND: Concrete <br> ROUND: red brick and co y CLAY. <br> ded SANDSTONE and MU |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0.30 \\ & 0.60 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| Remarks and Groundwater Observations: <br> 1. No groundwater encountered. 2. Drilled with air mist flush. 3. Cased to 4.5 m . |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | GL(m AO |  | Fig No. |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Eastings: |  |  | RO08 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Northings |  |  |  |  |







|  |  |  |  |  |  | BOREHOLE RECORD |  |  | BH No. |  | R011 <br> Sheet 2 of 2 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Site: | Former Siemens Factory, Hebburn |  | Contract No: C7074 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Client: Miller Homes (NE) Ltd |  |  | Date: $03 / 11 / 2016$ |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | Method: Rotary openhole drilling using air mist flush. |  |  | Scale: 1:150 |  |  |  |
| SAMPLE DETAILS |  |  |  |  |  | STRATA RECORD |  |  | Logged By: JW $\quad$ Checked By: CR <br> Driller: Geocore Ltd |  |  |  |
| $\begin{gathered} \text { Depth } \\ \text { From - To }(\mathrm{m}) \end{gathered}$ | TCR | SCR | RQD | FI | $\begin{array}{\|c\|c\|c\|c\|c\|c\|c\|} \hline \text {-water } \end{array}$ |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Depth } \\ & (\mathrm{m}) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c} \hline \text { Level } \\ \text { (m AOD) } \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Legend |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | $\frac{\text { Brown }}{\text { Grey } S A}$ | ANDSTONE. |  | $31.10$ |  |  |  |
|  | TCR | SCR | RQD | FI |  |  | End of Bore |  | 33.30 |  |  |  |
| Remarks and Groundwater Observations: <br> 1. No groundwater encountered. 2. Drilled with air mist flush. 3. Cased to 1.5 m . |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | GL (m AOD) $\quad$ Fig No. |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Eastings: |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Northings: |  | RO11 |  |  |
















