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Gareth Rees
Environmental Protection Officer
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Council Offices
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13 November 2012

Dear Mr Rees

LOCAL AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT: 2012 UPDATING AND SCREENING ASSESSMENT

Thank you for consulting the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs on NW Leicestershire DC's Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment. Please find comments on the report attached.

The report provides update with respect to air quality management in the District since the last Air Quality Report was issued. The Council has considered all the major factors that may have an impact on local air quality including monitoring data, new and proposed developments and existing sources. The report indicates that the annual mean objective for nitrogen dioxide is not being achieved within the 5 previously declared AQMAs. However concentrations outside of the AQMA are all below the objectives at relevant locations. So there is no need to proceed to a Detailed Assessment. The Council is undertaking a further assessment for the AQMA declared at Copt Oak. The Council is also carrying out detailed assessments of Castle Donington AQMA and Kegworth AQMA. There is no explanation of why the detailed assessments are being undertaken and why a further assessment is being carried out. Making this information available in future report will add context to the proposed actions.

The USA also includes an Action Plan Progress Report. All Actions within the plan have either been completed or are awaiting action by the Highways agency. The Council is currently in the process of drafting a revised air quality action plan in conjunction with Leicestershire County Council Highways Department and is ensuring actions are included within the LTP3 implementation plans.

On the basis of the evidence provided the conclusions of the USA are accepted. We look forward to receiving the Council's 2013 Progress Report by the due date which is the end of April 2013. We also look forward to receiving the revised Action Plan, Detailed Assessment Report and the Further Assessment Report when they are available.

Yours sincerely



Tutu Aluko

ATMOSPHERE AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME