

Undertaking # 32 A

To provide an explanation for the reduction in the Undertaking 32 estimate of the amount of explosives applied per tonne of rock fractured as compared to the estimates provided earlier

In Section 11.2.5 of the EIS (Volume VII, p.14) it is stated that the quantity of explosives used will be in the order of 0.4 kg per tonne blasted. This statement has been made in the context of the discussion of malfunctions and accidents. The quantity reflects a generic and typical value used in the industry.

In Undertaking # 32 Bilcon stated that the quantity of explosives used will be in the order of 0.23 kg per tonne. This is the value considered adequate for the specific rock characteristics on-site. As discussed, this value is still a generic amount relating to fracturing 1 tonne of rock and needs to be confirmed through on-site test blasts. It also does not take into account site characteristics that influence propagation of sound waves and vibration. Test blasts will need to confirm the exact ratio of quantity of explosives vs quantity of rock fractured without exceeding applicable sound and vibration guidelines.