

Date: 01/07/2026

Our Ref: BC2026/02086

Andrew Gilruth

By email only: agilruth@moorlandassociation.org



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Dear Andrew Gilruth,

This letter responds to your correspondence of 6th May regarding how the description of NEER155 as “rigorously peer reviewed” can be substantiated.

As explained in my previous letter, Natural England considers that the process followed to produce NEER155 meets the Natural England publication guidance to ensure quality assurance. In addition, Natural England considers NEER155 to be a thorough evidence review of the best available evidence because of the combination of using recognised methodology, external expert scrutiny, internal technical review and formal governance sign off.

Natural England considers that our response to your previous correspondence constitutes an appropriate and proportionate response to the concerns that you have raised. We are confident that our peer review process was appropriate.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marian Spain".

Marian Spain

Chief Executive

Natural England

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