

Gentet, Matthias

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 January 2016 15:16
To: Tulloch, Rob
Subject: Air Studios - additional objection and follow up

Dear Mr Tulloch,

I wrote to you on the 31st of May, 2015, to add my voice to the great many urging you and Camden Council to reject the egregious and culturally damaging application made by Mr and Mrs Jeffreys to install a "super-basement" on their property. The damage is likely already done. Clients are already worried about recording at Air in case there is further "exploratory" work going on, which will destroy any chance of recording usable material - and it is the film company that would have to eat that loss. Budgets are shrinking - I'm sure you are familiar with that in the present British economy - and film companies are unlikely to take risks with hundreds of thousands of pounds that are unrecoverable should several days of recording be rendered unusable by excessive background noise. The recent "exploratory" work that was clearly audible in the studio, as widely reported, confirms that the petitioner's assertions are nonsense and that there is no way that this will not directly impact the studio operations.

The people who pay your salary - the taxpayers - have spoken in overwhelming opposition, and it is your duty to heed that opposition when it is overwhelming. It is not done lightly, or with prejudice against Mr and Mrs Jeffreys, but the balance here is between their private wishes and an entire section of the British music industry, including the livelihoods of many hundreds of people.

It is clear that whilst DCMS cannot properly or legally intervene that there is considerable concern, as you will have noticed from their carefully worded correspondence. Convene an emergency meeting of whichever body it is within Camden Council that has the authority to put an end to this charade, be that your superiors or whomever, such that a rejection of this meritless application can be made rapidly, hopefully with considerable weight such that it will not be refiled and this will cease to be held over Air Studio's heads. Whether or not you've already done irreparable damage by failing to act sooner remains to be seen. This is not an ordinary application, and continuing to handle it as such threatens the livelihoods of many people. To continue to treat it as ordinary and to let it trickle its way through a clearly underfunded and short-staffed bureaucratic process itself causes damage, and I urge you to act now, or to step aside and pass it up to somebody who can.

Sincerely,

Stephen Barton