

# Brynrhyd Solar Farm



## Consultation Report

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

JUNE 2021



# **PLANNING APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, MANAGEMENT AND SUBSEQUENT DECOMMISSION OF A SOLAR FARM**

## **CONSULTATION REPORT**

### **BRYNRHYD FARM**

#### **ON BEHALF OF BRYNRHYD SOLAR FARM LTD**

#### **TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 (AS AMENDED) PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004**

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## **CONTENTS:**

Page No:

1.	INTRODUCTION	1
2.	NON-STATUTORY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT	7
3.	STATUTORY CONSULTATION - LIST OF STATUTORY CONSULTEES	8
4.	STATUTORY PRE-APPLICATION PUBLICITY	14
5.	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	29
6.	RESPONSES FROM STATUTORY CONSULTEES AND CONSEQUENT ACTIONS	29
7.	RESPONSES FROM COMMUNITY AND CONSEQUENT ACTIONS.	35
8.	CONCLUSION	43

## **APPENDICES:**

APPENDIX 1:	STATUTORY SITE NOTICE MARCH 2021
APPENDIX 2:	COPIES OF THE SPECIALIST CONSULTEES LETTERS
APPENDIX 3:	COPIES OF THE COMMUNITY CONSULTEE LETTERS
APPENDIX 4:	COPIES OF THE OWNER / OCCUPIERS LETTERS
APPENDIX 5:	STATUTORY ADVERT MARCH 2021
APPENDIX 6:	STATUTORY LEAFLET MARCH 2021
APPENDIX 7:	DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE ACT
APPENDIX 8:	CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE
APPENDIX 9:	NATIONAL GRID RESPONSE
APPENDIX 10:	CADW RESPONSE
APPENDIX 11:	THE COAL AUTHORITY RESPONSE
APPENDIX 12:	WELSH WATER RESPONSE
APPENDIX 13:	NATIONAL RESOURCE WALES RESPONSE
APPENDIX 14:	THE CANAL AND RIVER TRUST RESPONSE
APPENDIX 15:	REBECCA EVENS MP RESPONSE
APPENDIX 16:	TONIA ANTONIAZZI MP RESPONSE
APPENDIX 17:	LLANEDI COMMUNITY COUNCIL RESPONSE
APPENDIX 18:	PONTARDDULAIS TOWN COUNCIL RESPONSE
APPENDIX 19:	COUNCILLOR TINA HIGGINS RESPONSE

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 This document and its accompanying appendices constitute the pre-application Consultation Report prepared to support a planning application for development of national significance for the construction, operation, management and subsequent decommission of a solar farm at Brynrhyd Farm.
- 1.2 Developments of National Significance ('DNS') applicants are required to undertake pre-application consultation for a period of not less than 42 days in accordance with The Developments of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016.
- 1.3 This document details how the applicant, Brynrhyd Solar Farm Ltd, has complied with the provisions of the Order and associated legislation in relation to its statutory duties for pre-application consultation for the renewable scheme at Brynrhyd Farm.
- 1.4 A full description of development is included within the accompanying Environmental Statement and Design and Access Statement ('DAS') that should be read in conjunction with this document.

### **Overview of the Consultation Process**

- 1.5 Table 1.1 provides an overview of the phased approach the applicant adopted for the pre-application consultation process, and these are detailed in the subsequent sections of this document.

<b>Consultation Phase</b>	<b>Key Dates</b>	<b>Description</b>
Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Direction	2 October 2020 to 4 November 2020	Applicant submitted request for a Screening Direction under Regulation 6 (1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017 on 2 October 2020. The Planning Inspectorate issued their Screening Direction on 4 November 2020.



Pre-application advice	17 November 2020	Applicant submitted a request to Carmarthenshire County Council for pre-application advice
Notification	February 2021	In February 2021, the applicant gave formal notification to the Planning Inspectorate of its intention to submit a planning application.
Acceptance Period	From 9 March 2021 to 8 March 2022	Notice of Acceptance provided by Planning Inspectorate on 9 March 2021. Notice of acceptance is valid for 12 months and the statutory consultation and submission of application must be made by 8 March 2021.
Statutory pre-application consultation	From 19 March 2021 to 30 April 2021	The statutory pre-application consultation was carried out for 42 days, starting on Friday 19 March 2021 and finishing on Friday 30 April 2021. Responses were also accepted following the expiration of this period.
Post-Statutory Engagement	1 May 2021 onwards	Consultation continued between May 2021 and June 2021 to keep stakeholders informed of progress and to keep consultees informed on final minor refinements to schemes.

## **Legislative Context**

- 1.6 Following the notification stage and prior to submitting a full DNS application, the proposed application must be publicised and consulted on for a period of at least six weeks. Detailed guidance on the requirements for pre-application consultation is contained in the Welsh Government's Developments of National Significance: Procedural Guidance, February 2016.
- 1.7 The minimum consultation requirements are set out in The Developments of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016 (as amended); Articles 7, 8 & 9.
- 1.8 In accordance with Article 8 of the Order the applicant must publicise a proposed application by: -

(a) giving requisite notice -

(i) by site display in at least one place on or near the land to which the proposed application relates for not less than 42 days;

(ii) in writing to any owner or occupier of any land adjoining the land to which the proposed application relates; and

(iii) by publication of the notice in a newspaper circulating in the locality in which the land to which the proposed application relates is situated; and

(b) publishing the following information on a website maintained by the applicant, for not less than 42 days beginning with each day on which each of the notices referred to in subparagraph (a) or article 9(2) are given -

(i) the draft application form published by the Welsh Ministers under article 12(1)(a) (or a form substantially to the like effect), including the particulars specified in or referred to in the form;

(ii) a plan which identifies the land to which the proposed application relates;

(iii) any other plans, drawings and information necessary to describe the development which is the subject of the proposed application;

- (iv) a copy of the notice required by article 6 which has not lapsed under paragraph (3) of that article;
- (v) the design and access statement required by article 14;
- (vi) subject to article 12(3), the particulars or evidence required by the Welsh Ministers under section 62(3) of the 1990 Act (applications for planning permission);
- (vii) where applicable, a statement referred to as the environmental statement for the proposed development; and
- (viii) a written statement about any secondary consent connected with the proposed application in respect of which the applicant considers a decision on that consent is to be made or should be made by the Welsh Ministers, together with the draft application form and documents associated with such consents.

1.9 In accordance to Article 9 of the Order, the applicant must: -

- (1) The following persons or descriptions of persons are specified for the purposes of section 61Z(4) of the 1990 Act –
  - (a) any community consultee;
  - (b) any specialist consultee; and
  - (c) any relevant person.
- (2) Where an applicant is required to consult a community consultee or a relevant person, the applicant must give the community consultee or the relevant person requisite notice in writing of the proposed application.
- (3) Where an applicant is required to consult a specialist consultee, the applicant must give the specialist consultee requisite notice in writing of the proposed application and enclose each of the documents referred to in article 8(1)(b) or provide a link to a website on which those documents can be found.
- (4) The applicant must have complied with paragraphs (2) and (3) and have given the specialist consultee time to respond in accordance with article 10(1) before an application is submitted.

1.10 Article 9 of the Order stipulates: -

(1) The following persons or descriptions of persons are specified for the purposes of section 61Z(4) of the 1990 Act—

(a) any community consultee;

(b) any specialist consultee; and

(c) any relevant person(1).

(2) Where an applicant is required to consult a community consultee or a relevant person, the applicant must give the community consultee or the relevant person requisite notice in writing of the proposed application.

(3) Where an applicant is required to consult a specialist consultee, the applicant must give the specialist consultee requisite notice in writing of the proposed application and enclose each of the documents referred to in article 8(1)(b) or provide a link to a website on which those documents can be found.

(4) The applicant must have complied with paragraphs (2) and (3) and have given the specialist consultee time to respond in accordance with article 10(1) before an application is submitted.

(5) In this article, "requisite notice" ("hysbysiad gofynnol") means—

(a) in relation to a community consultee or a relevant person notice in the appropriate form set out in Schedule 1; and

(b) in relation to a specialist consultee notice in the appropriate form set out in Schedule 2, or in a form substantially to the like effect.

1.11 This document duly provides: -

- An account of the non-statutory and statutory consultation, publicity, deadlines set, and activities undertaken, including:
  - i. Copies of all notices and publications used during consultation;
  - ii. Declarations that the relevant notices and publication requirements comply with the Act and Order;



- iii. The addresses of those given notice of the proposed application;
  - A summary of all issues raised by any person consulted under Section 61Z(3) of the Act and Articles 8 and 9(2), including confirmation of whether these issues have been addressed and, if so, how; and
  - The particulars of all responses received from persons consulted under Section 61Z(3) or (4) of the Act, including copies of responses from specialist consultees; and the account taken of these.

1.12 The remainder of this document is structured as follows:

- Section 2 – Non-statutory Consultation and engagement
- Section 3 – Statutory Consultation – list of statutory consultees
- Section 4 – Statutory pre-application publicity
- Section 5 – Number of responses
- Section 6 – Responses from Statutory consultees and consequent actions
- Section 7 – Responses from Community and consequent actions
- Section 8 – Conclusions

## 2. NON-STATUTORY CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

- 2.1 The preliminary work included pre-application request with Carmarthenshire County Council and an EIA screening request with PINS Wales.
- 2.2 This section provides a summary of the pre-application activities undertaken prior to the stage when the Planning Inspectorate were formally notified on the development in February 2021.
- 2.3 A request for pre-application advice was submitted to Carmarthenshire County Council's on 17th November 2021. The Council issued their pre-application advice during the formal consultation period which started on 19th March 2021.
- 2.4 On 2 October 2020, the applicant submitted to the Planning Inspectorate a request, made under regulation 31(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017 (as amended) ["the Regulations"], for the Welsh Ministers to make a screening direction as to whether or not the development proposed is "EIA Development" within the meaning of the Regulations. On 4 November 2020, the Planning Inspectorate released its Screening Direction which deemed the development to be EIA development.
- 2.5 The assessment concluded that *"The proposed solar farm is in an area where there may be cumulative impacts with other solar developments. There are also sensitive ecological receptors within the site and in the area. The information provided in the Screening Request shows that the north western fields within the site contain priority habitat, i.e. species rich grassland which may support marsh fritillary butterfly, breeding skylark and meadow pipit. The evidence before me shows that further investigation is required and on balance, I find that there are likely significant effects in regards to cumulative landscape and visual impacts and ecology. Having carefully considered the screening request and the consultation responses, I find that this proposal is EIA development."*

### 3. STATUTORY CONSULTATION - LIST OF STATUTORY CONSULTEES

3.1 Under Article 9 of the Order, the applicant must specifically consult certain **community consultees**, **specialist consultees** and **relevant persons**. This section of the report provides a full list of those consulted as part of the statutory pre-application consultation.

#### Community Consultees

3.2 Under Article 2 of the Order, the interpretation of 'community consultees' is defined as: -

- |  |
|--|
| (a) each county or county borough councillor representing an electoral ward in which the land to which the proposed application relates is situated; and |
| (b) each community council in whose area the land to which the proposed application relates is situated.   |

3.3 The application proposal is located within the sole administrative area of Carmarthenshire County Council and within the administrative boundary of Llanedi Community Council.

3.4 A schedule of all community councils consulted as part of the statutory pre-application consultation is set out below: -

<b>Community Council</b>
Llanedi Community Council (as host community council)
Llanon Community Council (as adjoining community council)
Pontarddulais Community Council (as adjoining community council)
Llandybier Community Council (as adjoining community council)

3.5 Each councillor was identified using the County council's website. A schedule of ward councillors consulted as part of the pre-application consultation process is set out below: -

<b>Electoral Ward County Councillor</b>
Councillor Gareth Thomas
Councillor Tina Higgins

### Specialist consultees

3.6 Under Article 2 of the Order, the interpretation of ‘specialist consultees’ is defined as: -

“specialist consultee” means, in circumstances where the development to which the application or proposed application relates falls within a category set out in the Table in Schedule 5, the authority, person or body mentioned in relation to that category.

3.7 Schedule 5 of the Order provides the following schedule of authorities, bodies or persons: -

DEVELOPMENT	CONSULTEE
Development likely to affect land in the area of another local planning authority	The local planning authority concerned
Development, in relation to which an application for planning permission has been made to the Welsh Ministers under section 293A of the 1990 Act (urgent Crown development: application), where that development is likely to affect land in the area of a community council	The community council
Development within an area which has been notified to the local planning authority by the Health and Safety Executive for the purpose of this provision because of the presence within the vicinity of toxic, highly reactive, explosive or inflammable substances (otherwise than on a relevant nuclear site) [...]	The Health and Safety Executive
Development within an area which has been notified to the local planning authority by the Office for Nuclear Regulation for the purpose of this provision because of the presence within the vicinity of toxic, highly reactive, explosive or inflammable substances on a relevant nuclear site and which involves the provision of— (i) residential accommodation; (ii) more than 250 square metres of retail floor space; (iii) more than 500 square metres of office floor space; or (iv) more than 750 square metres of floor space to be used for an industrial process, or which is otherwise likely to result in a material increase in the number of persons working within or visiting the notified area	The Office for Nuclear Regulation
Development likely to result in a material increase in the volume or a material change in the character of traffic—	The Welsh Ministers



(i) entering or leaving a trunk road; or (ii) using a level crossing over a railway	
Development likely to result in a material increase in the volume or a material change in the character of traffic entering or leaving a classified road or proposed highway	The local highway authority concerned
Development likely to prejudice the improvement or construction of a classified road or proposed highway	The local highway authority concerned
Development involving— (i) the formation, laying out or alteration of any means of access to a highway (other than a trunk road); or (ii) the construction of a highway or private means of access to premises affording access to a road in relation to which a toll order is in force	The local highway authority concerned
Development which consists of or includes the laying out or construction of a new street	The local highway authority
Development, other than householder development, within an area which has been notified for the purpose of this provision to the local planning authority by the Coal Authority because of the presence of land instability risks from coal mining	The Coal Authority
Development involving or including mining operations	The Natural Resources Body for Wales
(i) Development which has a direct physical impact on a scheduled monument. [...]	The Welsh Ministers
Development involving the carrying out of works or operations in the bed of or on the banks of a river or stream	The Natural Resources Body for Wales
Development for the purpose of refining or storing mineral oils and their derivatives	The Natural Resources Body for Wales
Development relating to the retention, treatment or disposal of sewage, trade-waste, slurry or sludge (other than the laying of sewers, the construction of pumphouses in a line of sewers, the construction of septic tanks and cesspools serving single dwellinghouses or single caravans or single buildings in which not more than ten people will normally reside, work or congregate, and works ancillary thereto)	The Natural Resources Body for Wales
Development relating to the use of land as a cemetery	The Natural Resources Body for Wales The water and sewerage undertaker concerned
Development— (i) in or likely to affect a site of special scientific interest; or (ii) within an area which has been notified to the local planning authority by the Natural Resources Body for Wales and which is within two kilometres, of a site of special scientific interest, of which notification has been given, or has effect as if given, to the local planning authority by the Natural Resources Body for Wales [...]	The Natural Resources Body for Wales

Development involving – (i) any land on which there is a theatre; (ii) residential development (excluding householder development) within 50 metres of a theatre (not falling within paragraph (i)); or (iii) a proposed theatre.	The Theatres Trust
Development which is not for agricultural purposes, is not in accordance with the provisions of a development plan and involves— (i) the loss of not less than 20 hectares of grades 1, 2 or 3a agricultural land which is for the time being used (or was last used) for agricultural purposes; or (ii) the loss of less than 20 hectares of grades 1, 2 or 3a agricultural land which is for the time being used (or was last used) for agricultural purposes, in circumstances in which the development is likely to lead to a further loss of agricultural land amounting cumulatively to 20 hectares or more	The Welsh Ministers
Development within 250 metres of land which— (i) is or has, at any time in the 30 years before the relevant application, been used for the deposit of refuse or waste; and (ii) has been notified to the local planning authority by the Natural Resources Body for Wales for the purposes of this provision	The Natural Resources Body for Wales
Development which— (i) is likely to prejudice the use, or lead to the loss of use, of land being used as a playing field; or (ii) is on land which has been: (aa) used as a playing field at any time in the 5 years before the making of the relevant application and which remains undeveloped; or (bb) allocated for use as a playing field in a development plan or in proposals for such a plan or its alteration or replacement; or (iii) involves the replacement of the grass surface of a playing pitch on a playing field with an artificial, man-made or composite surface	The Sports Council for Wales
Development likely to affect— (i) any inland waterway (whether natural or artificial) or reservoir owned or managed by the Canal & River Trust; or (ii) any canal feeder channel, watercourse, let off or culvert, which is within an area which has been notified for the purposes of this provision to the local planning authority by the Canal & River Trust	The Canal & River Trust
Development— (i) involving the siting of new establishments; (ii) consisting of modifications to existing establishments covered by Article 11 of Directive 2012/18/EU(23); or (iii) which is new, including transport routes, locations of public use and residential areas in the vicinity of existing establishments, where the siting or development may be the source of or increase the risk or consequences of a major accident	The control of major accident hazards competent authority
Development – (i) on land designated as Flood Zone C2; (ii) involving or including emergency services development or highly vulnerable development on land designated as Flood Zone C1 or on land that has been notified to the local planning authority by the Natural Resources Body for Wales for the purpose of this provision.	The Natural Resources Body for Wales
Development— (i) involving new residential development (including single units); and (ii) which is major development not falling within paragraph (i).	The water and sewerage undertaker concerned

3.8 With reference to Schedule 5 of the Order and taking into consideration the specific parameters of the development, it was decided to consult with the following organisations: -

<b>Specialist and other Consultees</b>
Carmarthenshire County Council
National Resource Wales
Cadw
Elgan Jones - Casework Officer the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings
Dyfed Archaeological Trust
Dwr Cymru (Welsh Water)
Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB) - Carmarthenshire County Council
National Grid Plant Protection
The Canal & River Trust
The Health and Safety Executive
The Coal Authority
Agricultural Land Use & Soil Policy Advisor, Welsh Government
The Welsh Minister for Economy and Transport
The Welsh Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism
The Welsh Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs
Highways Department, Carmarthenshire County Borough Council

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## **Identification of Relevant Persons**

- 3.9 The DNS Order requires that 'relevant persons' be consulted through the statutory pre-application consultation process. Relevant persons deal with the need to consult those who would otherwise be responsible to make a decision on any secondary consents that are tied in with the DNS application submission. In this respect, Carmarthenshire County Council were consulted as 'specialist consultee' and 'relevant person'.



#### **4. STATUTORY PRE-APPLICATION PUBLICITY**

4.1 Section 61Z(3) of the Act requires applicants to publicise the proposed application in such a manner as is reasonably considered likely to bring it to the attention of a majority of the persons who own or occupy premises in the vicinity of the land. The applicant advertised a consultation period running from Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The formal consultation lasted for 42 days but the applicant still accepted consultation responses after 30<sup>th</sup> Friday 2021.

4.2 In accordance with Article 8 of the Order the applicant has:

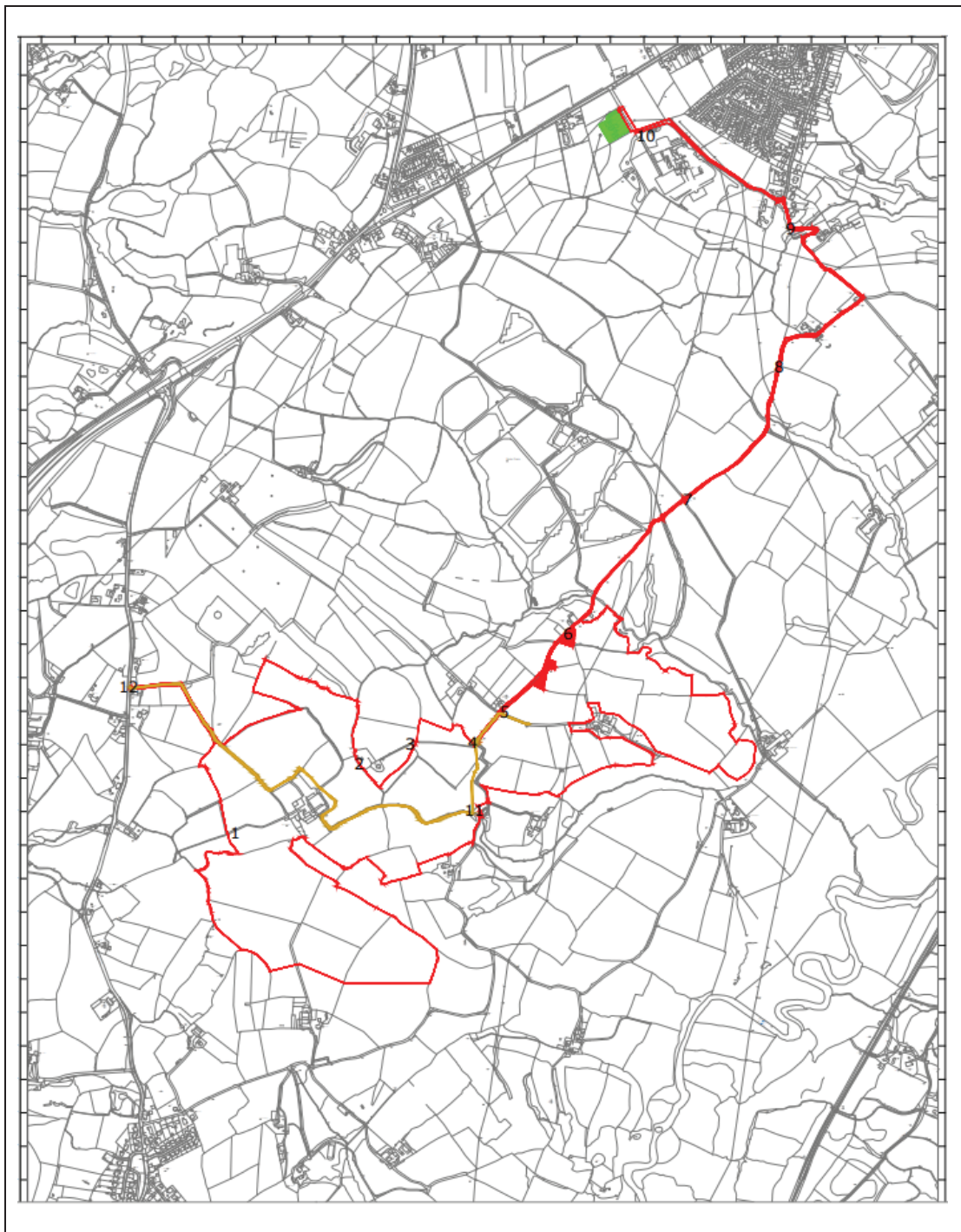
- Displayed up to 6 bilingual site notices from 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021 for a minimum of 42 days;
- Served written notice on owners or occupiers of land adjoining the site,
- Published a bilingual notice in the local newspaper (South West Evening Post (Carmarthenshire edition), appearing in the weekly edition published on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019).
- Published all documents specified in Article 8(1)(b) on a website for a period of not less than 42 days.

##### **Requisite Site Notices**

4.3 Pursuant to Section 8(1)(a)(i), which requires the display of a site notice, in at least one place on or near the land to which the proposed application relates, a total of twelve notices were erected on the afternoon of Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021.



4.4 A copy of the site notice is provided at Appendix 3.


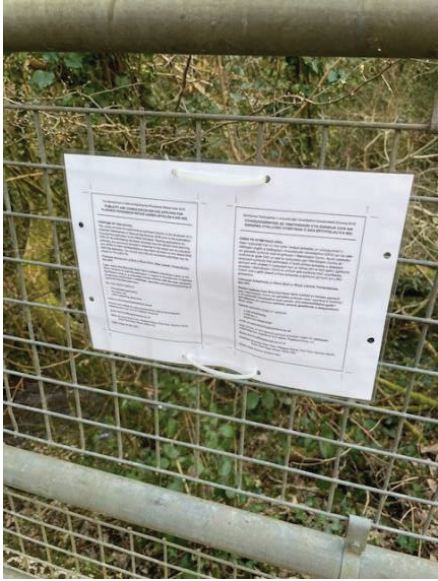
4.5 The locations are shown on the illustration below:-





4.6 The locations are set out below along with a photograph of the notice on display.



No	Location (coordinates)	Photo

1	(NGR: E: 258882 , N: 208046 N: )	
2	(NGR: E: 259270, N: 208243)	



3	(NGR: E: 259415 , N: 208300)	
4	(NGR: E: 259605 , N: 208302)	



5	(NGR: E: 259670 , N: 208396)	
6	(NGR: E: 259877 ,N: 208645)	

7	(NGR: 260230 E: ,N: 209039)	
8	(NGR: 260518 E: , N: 209461)	

9	(NGR: E: 260548 , N: 209845)	
10	(NGR: E: 260048 , N: 210177)	

11	(NGR: E: 259614 , N: 208086)	
12	(NGR: E: 258578 ,N: 208474)	

### **Written Notice**

- 4.7 As required under article 8(1)(a)(ii) and 9(2) and 9(3) Letters and Notices were sent out to owners or occupiers of land adjoining the land to which the proposed application relates together with community, relevant persons and specialist consultees. The consultation packs were released on 19th March 2021. The consultation pack varies for each consultee.
- 4.8 Specialist consultees, relevant persons and community consultees each received consultation packs containing: -

- Covering letter
- Notice

4.9 Owners / Occupiers within and on land adjoining the application site received the following information pack: -

- Covering Letter
- Notice
- Site Location Plan

4.10 Schedule of letters and date sent is set out below: -

<b>Name or Address</b>	<b>Consultee type</b>	<b>Date posted</b>
Carmarthenshire County Council	Specialist consultee / relevant person	19th March 2021
National Resource Wales	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
Cadw	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
The Health and Safety Executive	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
The Coal Authority	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
The Welsh Minister for Economy and Transport	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
The Welsh Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021



The Welsh Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
Highways Department, Carmarthenshire County Borough Council	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
Dyfed Archaeological Trust	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
Dwr Cymru (Welsh Water)	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
National Grid Plant Protection	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
Agricultural Land Use & Soil Policy Advisor	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
Casework Officer the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB) - Camarthenshire County Council	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
The Canal & River Trust	Specialist consultee	19th March 2021
Llanedi Community Council	Community consultee	19th March 2021
Llanon Community Council	Community consultee	19th March 2021



Pontarddulais Rural District Council	Community consultee	19th March 2021
Llandybier Community Council	Community consultee	19th March 2021
Councillor Gareth Thomas	Community consultee	19th March 2021
Councillor Tina Higgins	Community consultee	19th March 2021
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4.11 Copies of the specialist consultees letters are provided at Appendix 2.

4.12 Copies of the community consultee letters are provided at Appendix 3.

4.13 Copies of the owner / occupier letters are provided at Appendix 4.

**Published Documents**

4.14 As required under Article 8(1)(b) a website was created ([www.brynrhydssolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydssolarfarm.co.uk)). The website went live on the morning of 19th March 2021 and remains live. The draft planning application form, documents and relevant notices were available for download during the entire statutory consultation period. The documents made available on the website during the statutory consultation included:-

- Site location plan
- Planning application drawings
- Design and Access Statement
- Environmental Statement
- Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Statement
- Flood Consequence Assessment
- Arboricultural Survey Report
- Agricultural Land Classification
- Coal Mining Risk Assessment

- Phase 1 Ground Conditions Study
- Noise Impact Assessment
- Economic Report
- Transport Statement and Construction Management Plan
- Heritage Assessment
- Notice Under Article 9(3)
- Site Location Plan

### **NEWSPAPERS**

4.15 The South West Evening Post (Carmarthenshire edition) is a local paper which cover the locality and a bilingual notice was published the paper, appearing in their weekly edition published on 19th March 2021. The weekly editions also contained a separate bilingual advert promoting the public exhibition.

4.16 A copy of the advert is presented at Appendix 5.

### **LEAFLET DROP**

4.17 In addition to the statutory consultation requirements, a leaflet was distributed to the nearest 389 addresses surrounding the site. The leaflet was posted on 19 March 2021.

4.18 A copy of the leaflet is provided at Appendix 6.

### **Public Exhibition**

4.19 The applicant was not able to schedule a public exhibition event due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and Government restrictions limiting the amount of people who are allowed to gather indoors.

### **Community Council**

4.20 As part of the statutory notification to the host community council at Llanedi as well as the neighbouring community councils of Llano, Pontarddulais, Mawr and Llandybier, the supporting covering letter advised how the applicant was willing to set up a call with the community council to discuss the scheme.

4.21 In line with paragraph 5.9.26 of Planning Policy Wales, which sets out how the Welsh Government supports renewables and low carbon energy projects which benefits the host community or Wales as a whole, separate discussions have also been undertaken with the community councils with regards to community benefits. The Community Council has expressed a preference for the community benefit being given in the form of financial contributions towards the development of a community centre. The applicant has therefore suggested an amount to contribute and is awaiting a definitive response from the Community Council in this regard. .

#### **Declaration of Compliance with Act / Order**

4.22 Appendix 7 presents the Applicants declaration confirming: -

- That the site notice was displayed around the site to which the proposed development relates for a period in excess of 42 days; and
- That all owners of land within and adjoining the application site have been notified of the proposed development.

## **5. NUMBER OF RESPONSES**

5.1 This section details the number of responses received during the statutory consultation period.

### **Specialist Consultees and Relevant Persons**

5.2 Statutory responses were provided by: -

- Carmarthenshire County Council (as local planning authority and highway authority) [see Appendix 8]
- National Grid [Appendix 9]
- Cadw [Appendix 10]
- The Coal Authority [Appendix 11]
- Welsh Water [Appendix 12]
- National Resource Wales [Appendix 13]
- The Canal and River Trust [Appendix 14]
- Rebecca Evens MP [Appendix 15]
- Tonia Antoniazzi MP [Appendix 16]

### **Community Consultees**

5.3 Communications was received from: -

- Llanedi Community Council [Appendix 17]
- Pontarddulais Town Council [Appendix 18]
- Councillor Tina Higgins [Appendix 19]

## **6. RESPONSES FROM STATUTORY CONSULTEES AND CONSEQUENT ACTIONS**

6.1 This section of the report sets out the responses received from specialist / statutory consultees and consequent actions undertaken by the applicant.

### **National Grid**

6.2 National Grid issued an objection since it was originally considered that the proposals would encroach on the gas pipeline easement. Consequently, the applicant arranged a call to discuss the details of the proposed layout. Following this, National Grid withdrew the objection since it was evident that no development would be within easement. National Grid suggested that any additional protection is agreed with NG and installed with supervision. Further to this, it was also requested that a Deed of Consent is undertaken at least 6 months ahead of Construction commencing and that an Earthing report is sent for review and agreement from NG. The suggested requirements are acceptable to the applicant.

### **Coal Authority**

6.3 The Coal Authority consultee response confirmed that a Coal Mining Risk assessment made an appropriate assessment and recommendations for further investigations in order to establish the risks posed by past coal mining activity and to inform the remedial measures necessary. They also express the expectation that intrusive investigations and any treatment works necessary to be carried out prior to any works commencing in the parts of the site where the mine entries are recorded. This requirement is acceptable to the applicant.

### **Cadw**

6.4 Comments from Cadw of 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 refer to the Heritage Assessment undertaken by Pegasus Group in relation to this proposal. The comments reiterated that the work has assessed the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the above designated historic assets and agrees that this will not be significant. In regards to the identified earthworks, Cadw confirms that while the features are not of such significance to require a redesign of the layout, there is a need for them to be fully investigated and recorded before any damage occurs to them. On this basis, Cadw stipulates that there is a need for appropriate measures to be proposed as part of the application to ensure that these features are properly recorded. This requirement is acceptable to the applicant.

## **Welsh Water**

6.5 Welsh Water noted that the application does not propose to connect to the public sewerage or watermains systems, and therefore there is no objections in principle. It was noted that Welsh Water is a statutory consultee to the SAB application process and will provide comments to any SuDS proposals by response to SAB consultation. It was also advised that the developer must consult Welsh Water before any development commences on site. The comments received from Welsh Water are considered acceptable and the applicant is willing to continue engagement throughout the application process.

## **National Resource Wales**

6.6 A response from National Resources Wales (NRW) was received in April 2021. In regards to protected sites, the response requested that further detail is provided in regards to the foul drainage disposal resulting from the welfare units, hydrocarbons and the management of surface water run-off and ditches during construction. Further to this, it was recommended that a plan/diagram is submitted illustrating the locations of all watercourses on site (including ditches), with buffers included and the proposed layout of the tracks and cable trenches for the site.

6.7 The response also notes that there will be temporary loss of marshy grassland which support have meta-populations of Marsh-fritillary butterfly. There are no details in the CEMP of mitigation and management for this habitat loss so further detail is requested in this regard.

6.8 Having considered the Environmental Statement produced for Brynrhyd, NRW raises a number of issues regarding protected species. In particular, the awareness of bat roosts in buildings immediately adjacent to the site which results in the need for further surveys in order to understand the potential impacts of the development on bats.

6.9 NRW welcomes the 8m buffer between watercourse/ditches and perimeter fencing as a mitigation strategy for otters and water vole. However, further detail was requested in regards to how fencing will be positioned with respect to watercourses and ditches.

6.10 The response acknowledges that the proposals are unlikely to impact dormice populations and welcomes the creation of 518m new hedgerow proposed along the perimeter of the site in locations that currently only have fencing present. It is



advised that details of these mitigation measures are included in future submissions and shown on appropriate plans.

- 6.11 Overall, the NRW response is considered acceptable and the recommended measures. The applicant continues to engage with NRW and will continue to do so in order to ensure that any requirements are satisfied if appropriate.

### **The Canal and River Trust**

- 6.12 The Canal & River Trust (or Glandwr Cymru in Wales) Trust reviewed the proposals and had no objection or comment to make on the basis that the development appears unlikely to have any impact on any inland waterway (whether natural or artificial) or reservoir owned or managed by Canal & River Trust or any canal feeder channel, watercourse, let off or culvert.

### **Carmarthenshire County Council**

- 6.13 Carmarthenshire County Council's response was coordinated and provide by their Planning Service. As part of their response, the Council appended their previous non-statutory pre-application advice (dated 29 April 2-21) together with additional focused comments. The matters raised are summarised below.

#### Acoustics

- 6.14 The Council requested that a Noise Impact Assessment should accompany any planning application in order to assess and quantify any noise impact on third parties. The draft planning application documentation did not include a Noise Impact Assessment, and this is duly updated for the main submission. The Noise Impact Assessment has been prepared by Ion Acoustics.

#### Arboriculture

- 6.15 The Council response recommends the inclusion of a tree survey, including a shading plan, in the submission. An arboriculture report has been prepared by Barton Hyett Associates.

#### Glint and Glare

- 6.16 To ensure the amenity of occupiers of other properties in the vicinity of the site are protected, the council's Public Protection Division duly request that any planning application should be supported by a Glint & Glare Assessment.

- 6.17 The application submission is duly supported by a Glint & Glare Assessment prepared by Pager Power Ltd.

#### Landscape

- 6.18 The Council provided landscape comments as part of the Non-Statutory pre-application advice and the information requested at that stage was either already incorporated into the documents forming part of the statutory consultation or had been commissioned, such as the Residential Visual Amenity Assessment. The Council requested a comprehensive visual assessment from the surrounding area, particularly taking into consideration the Llŵchwr Valley Special Landscape Area (SLA), and this is included within the final Environmental Statement.

#### Built Heritage

As part of its statutory response, the Council advised that the Built Heritage Team was unable to respond to the request for pre-application advice and refers to the Cadw response to the screening. Further to this, the Council response reiterates the historical assets in the vicinity which are potentially affected by the proposal. While the Council refers to the Bronze Age standing Stone c. 60m from the application boundary, they note that the proposals will not cause an impact on the settings of these designated historic assets of such significance. The applicant will submit a Heritage Assessment, prepared by Pegasus Group for consideration.

#### Highways

- 6.19 As part of its formal response, the Highways Planning Liaison team acknowledged how the scope of the submitted Design and Access Statement and the Construction Traffic Management Plan are considered to be broadly appropriate for the development under consideration. The highways response concludes that appropriately worded planning conditions will be required should planning permission be granted in order to approve the precise details concerning the construction programme, delivery vehicle types and temporary internal access road works once the contractor is confirmed.

#### Ecology

- 6.20 The LPA ecologist has been engaged with the process and provided comments within the EIA Screening Opinion in November 2020 which directed the scope of ecological surveys undertaken.

6.21 The applicant continues to engage with the LPA ecologist for the preparation and submission of further surveys required to demonstrate that the necessary measures are in place to ensure that existing ecological features are protected and that a biodiversity net gain is provided.

## 7. RESPONSES FROM COMMUNITY AND CONSEQUENT ACTIONS.

7.1 This section provides a summary of the main issues raised by community consultees including community councils and local residents during the statutory consultation period. In considering the main issues, the changes made to the scheme following the non-statutory consultations must be taken into account. A total of 26 community responses were received.

7.2 The main issues put forward by respondents are: -

- Concerns over the principle and need of development
- Concerns with regards to the visual impacts of the development
- Impacts with regards to the loss of agricultural land
- Impacts on Biodiversity
- Concerns over decommissioning of the scheme
- Position on Community Benefits
- Concerns over the consultation strategy
- Impacts of the project on the Welsh Language
- Consultation materials

7.3 Each issue is discussed in turn below.

### **Concerns over the Principle and Need of Development**

7.4 There is a plethora of Government legislation, guidance and policy which support the transition to a low carbon future and the continued roll out of renewables and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure.

7.5 The Welsh Government adopted the "Future Wales - the National Plan 2040" in February 2021. Future Wales provides a spatial context for facilitating the delivery of development in Wales over the next 20 years. Future Wales will be used to guide both public and private investment. Welsh Government's aim is to ensure investments and developments – whether large or small in scale - contribute to the broader ambitions of the Welsh Government and to the well-being of communities. Therefore, Future Wales will influence how communities develop over the next 20

years and it is important that we have a comprehensive understanding of the positive and negative effects this could have as the plan developed. Future Wales should be read alongside Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and does not repeat PPW, which provides planning policy on an all-Wales basis. Future Wales replaces the Wales Spatial Plan (WSP). Future Wales is the national development framework for Wales and has development plan status.

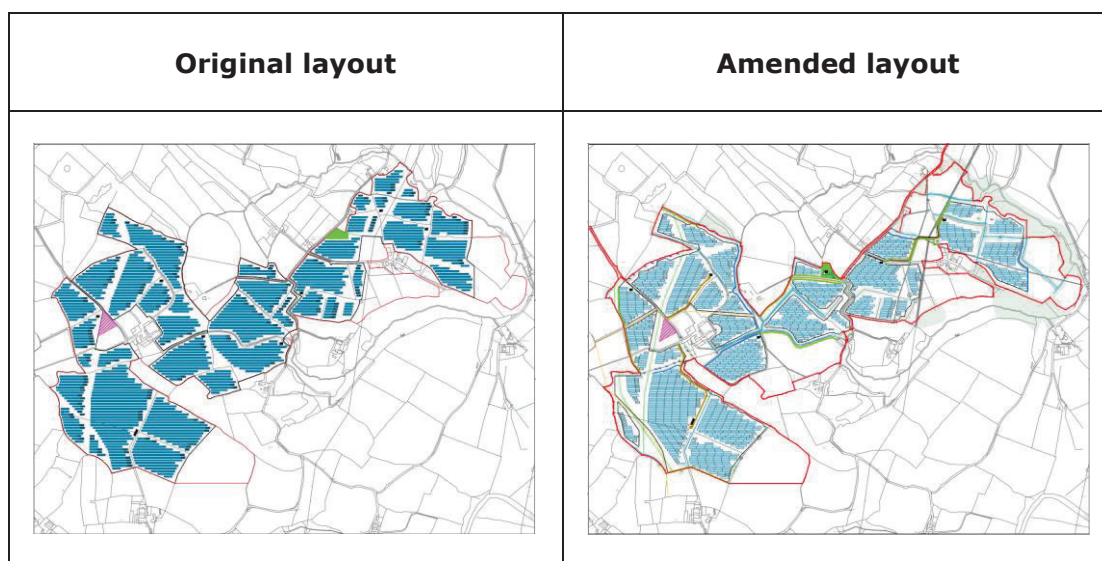
- 7.6 On the issue of alternatives, page 97 of Future Wales states (inter alia) "*The Welsh Ministers have considered alternatives to the need for new large-scale electricity generation infrastructure, including building-mounted installations and energy efficiency measures. Although we believe that these measures have an important part to play in meeting our energy, decarbonisation and climate change targets, they will not enable us to meet these objectives on their own*".
- 7.7 The amplification to policies 17 and 18, at page 96 of Future Wales, identifies how "*Wales is abundant in opportunities to generate renewable energy and the Welsh Government is committed to maximising this potential. Generating renewable energy is a key part of our commitment to decarbonisation and tackling the climate emergency*". It goes on to state how "*As set out in legislation, applications for Developments of National Significance must be determined in accordance with Future Wales, which is the national development plan for Wales*"
- 7.8 Turning to Planning Policy Wales (PPW), the document states how legislation secures a presumption in favour of sustainable development in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise to ensure that social, economic, cultural and environmental issues are balanced and integrated. Section 5.7 of PPW specifically relates to Energy. Paragraph 5.7.3 identifies how the planning system plays a key role in delivering clean growth and the decarbonising of energy, as well as being crucial in building resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- 7.9 Paragraph 5.7.6 identifies how "***The planning system should secure an appropriate mix of energy provision, which maximises benefits to our economy and communities whilst minimising potential environmental and social impacts. This forms part of the Welsh Government's aim to secure the strongest economic development policies, to underpin growth and prosperity in Wales, recognising the importance of decarbonisation and the sustainable use of natural resources, both as an economic driver and a commitment to sustainable development***".

- 7.10 Renewable energy targets are discussed at paragraph 5.7.14 of PPW, to recap the Welsh Assembly will seek that: -
- for Wales to generate 70% of its electricity consumption from renewable energy by 2030;
  - for one Gigawatt of renewable electricity capacity in Wales to be locally owned by 2030; and
- 7.11 With regards to decision taking, paragraph 5.9.14 states how "Planning authorities should give significant weight to the Welsh Government's targets to increase renewable and low carbon energy generation, as part of our overall approach to tackling climate change and increasing energy security. In circumstances where protected landscape, biodiversity and historical designations and buildings are considered in the decision making process, only the direct irreversible impacts on statutorily protected sites and buildings and their settings (where appropriate) should be considered. In all cases, considerable weight should be attached to the need to produce more energy from renewable and low carbon sources, in order for Wales to meet its carbon and renewable targets".
- 7.12 At a local level, Carmarthenshire County Council made its own Climate Change Emergency Declaration during its full council meeting on 20 February 2019. Policy RE3 of the Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan is out of kilter with national policy and identifies how large scale schemes in open countryside would be permitted where there is an overriding need for the scheme which can be satisfactorily justified and the development would not cause harm to the landscape.
- 7.13 The United Kingdom has withdrawn from the European Union Internal Energy Market (IEM). The IEM allows harmonised, tariff-free trading of gas and electricity across Europe (through interconnectors), leading to lower prices and greater security of supply. As wholesale gas and electricity prices in the UK are generally higher than elsewhere in Europe, interconnection has caused a reduction in wholesale prices, and hence consumer prices in the UK. Leaving the IEM has the potential to impact the trade of energy through interconnectors. The Government's Briefing Paper on Energy, Climate Change and Brexit identifies how one potential impact of leaving the IEM is an increase in the cost of energy imports and this in turn would be passed on to UK's householders and businesses. In terms of energy security, it notes how the interest of the United Kingdom should be to increase the flexibility and resilience of the grid, especially with increasing intermittent

renewables. The development proposal would contribute towards the objectives set out in the briefing note.

### **Concerns with regards to the visual impacts of the development**

- 7.14 Some respondents expressed concerns over the visual impacts of the proposed solar PV development within the private views from individual residential properties in the surroundings the site. A separate Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) has been undertaken in response to these requests from the local residents and also in response to the request from the Planning Inspectorate and Carmarthenshire Council within the EIA Screening Direction on 4th November 2021. The RVAA is included within Appendix 6.4 of the LVIA contained within Chapter 6 of the Environmental Statement (ES).
- 7.15 The applicant conducted several on site meetings with local neighbours at their properties to discuss their concerns. Following the consultation process, the applicant has, where practical, agreed to modify the development by implementing the following changes:
- 7.16 The site layout and landscape framework plans were amended in response to the observations and findings of the RVAA including, in particular:
- Relocating the onsite substation c. 300m to the south west along the lane on the northern boundary of the site;
  - Removal of solar arrays within the north east fields to mitigate the visual effects from Dyffryn Fach;
  - Removal of solar arrays within the layout to the south of the site and the inclusion of proposed hedgerows to mitigate the visual effects from Tirgwaidd Farm.



### Impacts with regards to the loss of agricultural land

- 7.17 Respondents questioned why agricultural land was being used for the development of a solar farm. As stated elsewhere in this statement, on the issue of alternatives, page 97 of Future Wales states (inter alia) *"The Welsh Ministers have considered alternatives to the need for new large-scale electricity generation infrastructure, including building-mounted installations and energy efficiency measures. Although we believe that these measures have an important part to play in meeting our energy, decarbonisation and climate change targets, they will not enable us to meet these objectives on their own"*.
- 7.18 Turning to agricultural soil quality, Planning Policy Wales Edition 11 notes that agricultural land of Grades 1, 2 and 3a should be conserved as the "best and most versatile". Footnote 16 of paragraph 3.58 links to the Welsh Government's Predictive Map for Agricultural Land Classification (ALC).
- 7.19 The application is supported by an Agricultural Land Classification Report prepared by Rob Askew Soils which verifies that the application site utilises subgrade 3b land as demonstrated by the national resource Wales predictive agricultural soil classification maps. Therefore, the land is not capable of comprising "best and most versatile" agricultural land.



## **Impacts on Biodiversity**

- 7.20 Various respondents questioned the proposals' ability to offer biodiversity gains, however, the Outline LEMP has been carefully prepared to ensure that there are significant gains, including creation of diverse grassland, new hedgerow planting, installation of bird, bat and dormouse boxes, creation of scrapes for snipe and installation of hibernacula for reptiles. Additionally, conservation grazing by sheep will be applied to part of the site in order to allow the grassland to diversify.
- 7.21 Various respondents raised the issue of wildlife, hedgehogs in particular, passing through the site and the potential for access being restricted due to the perimeter fencing. However, it is noted that the mitigation measures included in the LEMP include provision for this. Specifically, the LEMP notes that fencing which allows fauna to move through the site is provided as part of the proposals. Given that the Environmental Statement has identified the 'Important Ecological Features' and provided mitigation strategies to ensure that no unacceptable damage is caused to these as a result of the development, it is considered that overall, the benefits of the proposals outweigh the potential impact on the identified ecological assets at the site.

## **Concerns over decommissioning of the scheme**

- 7.22 A number of respondents questioned the eventuality of the applicant's company ceasing to exist and the measures in place to guarantee that the solar farm would be removed from site following the proposed 40 year lifespan. At the end of the proposed 40 year period the land will be returned to its original condition. The applicant will either be insured or enter into a bond to guarantee that the scheme is decommissioned at the end of its operational lifespan. Decommissioning can be secured by planning condition.

## **Position on Community Benefits**

- 7.23 Various respondents proposed that there would be no benefits to the local community as a result of the proposed development. However, it is noted that consultation has been undertaken with the host community council with regards to community benefits. As previously stated in this report, the Community Council has expressed a preference for the community benefit being given in the form of financial contributions towards the development of a community centre. The

applicant has therefore suggested an amount to contribute and is awaiting a definitive response from the Community Council in this regard.

### Concerns over the Consultation Strategy

- 7.24 Two respondents noted that the plans provided were not of a legible scale. Despite the plans being provided in industry standard scales, the applicant sent out A1 size paper copies of the Site Location Plan and Draft Site Layout in order to assist with the respondents' consideration of the proposals.
- 7.25 Some respondents made critical comments over the consultation strategy. In response, the applicant considers that it has carried out a robust community consultation strategy which went over and above the requirements of the DNS procedure. Whilst the statutory consultation period closed on 30 April 2021, the applicant still continued to accept responses beyond this date. Taking into consideration how the local community may be unfamiliar with the DNS procedure, the applicant ensured that the website and other consultation materials provided clear advice over the planning application process and this included identifying the stages they were able to provide comments to the applicant and then directly to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 7.26 One respondent asserted that the development hasn't considered the impacts on the Welsh Language.
- 7.27 In response, The Technical Advice Note 20 planning and the Welsh Language (published in October 2017) identifies how **"The Welsh Government is committed to a plan-led system where decisions on planning applications and appeals are made in accordance with an adopted development plan, unless outweighed by other material considerations. Planning decisions should be concerned with the use of land rather than the identity or personal characteristics of the user"**. It goes on to state how **"In determining individual planning applications and appeals, considerations relating to the use of the Welsh language may be taken into account so far as they are material. Section 70(2) TCPA does not give any additional weight to the Welsh language above any other material consideration and decisions on all applications for planning permission must be based on planning grounds only and be reasonable. Planning applications should not routinely be subject to Welsh language impact assessment, as this would duplicate the SA and LDP site selection processes. Provided that the SA**

***has given due consideration to the Welsh Language, an impact assessment at application stage would not be based on any further information than that which has been presented during the plan preparation stage [..]”***

- 7.28 With regards to development management considerations, TAN 20 sets out how the need for a Welsh language impact assessment would be limited to residential schemes (ten or more units) or commercial employment sites which generate new populations. Neither threshold apply to this development proposal which relates to renewable energy. Furthermore, as the development would be unmanned it would not create any new permanent population to the local area which would require consideration by way of a Welsh language impacts assessment.
- 7.29 In line with the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, which requires, amongst other things, the consideration of the Welsh language at every level of the planning system, the applicant has adopted specific steps during the planning application process; these have included: -
- Publication of advertisements in English and Welsh;
  - Publication of a bilingual notice
  - Allowing community the opportunity to communicate directly in Welsh, by email or telephone, directly to a key member of the main project team without the need for any translation service.
- 7.30 The development proposal itself would contribute to the local community by way of community benefits. As stated elsewhere in this report, separate discussions have also been undertaken with the Community Councils with regards to community benefits and the outcome of these are discussed in a separate Community Benefits Note supporting this application submission.
- 7.31 To reflect the linguistic character of the area and to encourage bilingual provision, the permissive footpath will be demarcated with bilingual signposts.
- 7.32 In addition, to reflect paragraph 4.1.2 of TAN 20, the applicant has given the development a Welsh name that is linked to the locality, namely Brynrhyd Solar Farm.

## **8. CONCLUSION**

8.1 This Consultation Report demonstrates that the applicant has carried out the necessary post notification publicity and consultation as set out by Article 8 of the Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016.

8.2 Stakeholders have been engaged from a very early stage and consultation to statutory consultation and engagement. These can be summarised as: -

- Non-Statutory engagement and consultation - Non-statutory discussion with public and statutory consultees through extensive informal consultations.
- Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Direction - Request for a Scoping Direction under Regulation 6 (1) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017 on 2 October 2020. The Planning Inspectorate issued their Screening Direction on 4 November 2020.
- Notification - In May 2021, the applicant gave formal notification to the Planning Inspectorate of its intention to submit a planning application.
- Acceptance Period - Notice of Acceptance provided by Planning Inspectorate on 9 March 2021.
- Statutory pre-application consultation - The statutory pre-application consultation was carried out for 42 days, starting on Friday 19 March 2021 and finishing on Friday 30 April 2021. Responses were also accepted following the expiration of this period.
- Post-Statutory Engagement - Consultation and continued engagement undertaken between September 2019 and June 2021 to keep stakeholders informed of progress and to keep consultees informed on final minor refinements to schemes.

8.3 The consultation responses have been documented and considered throughout the design evolution of the project both during the non-statutory and statutory consultation phases. This has resulted in stakeholders having a clear influence on the development, and this is especially prevalent with regards to the positioning of the arrays within the individual field enclosures whereby significant changes were introduced to the scheme as a direct response to the comments received at the non-statutory stage.

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **STATUTORY SITE NOTICE MARCH 2021**

The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016

**PUBLICITY AND CONSULTATION BEFORE APPLYING FOR  
PLANNING PERMISSION NOTICE UNDER ARTICLES 8 AND 9(2)**

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**PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE:**

This notice provides the opportunity to comment directly to the developer on a proposed Development of National Significance (DNS) prior to the submission of a planning application to the Welsh Ministers. Planning applications for DNS will be publicised by the Welsh Ministers and the relevant local planning authority; any comments provided in response to this notice will not prejudice your ability to make representations to the Welsh Ministers on any related DNS planning application. You should note that any comments submitted may be placed on the public file.

Proposed development at **Bryn-y-Rhyd Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulas, SA4 0FD**

**I give notice that Brynrhyd Solar Farm Limited** is intending to apply to the Welsh Ministers for planning permission in respect of Development of National Significance which is: **a renewable energy scheme with the main elements comprising construction, installation, operation and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar farm.**

You may inspect copies of:

- the proposed application;
- the plans; and
- other supporting documents

online at **[www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk)**

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this proposed development must write to Pegasus Group at:

**Email:** [Brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:Brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk)

**Write:** Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Pegasus Group, First Floor, Equinox North,  
Great Park Road, Bristol, BS32 4QL

**Date:** Friday 30 April 2021



Gorchymyn Datblygiadau o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol (Gweithdrefn) (Cymru) 2016

## **CYHOEDDUSRWYDD AC YMGYNGHORI CYN GWNEUD CAIS AM GANIATAD CYNLLUNIO HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGLAU 8 A 9(2)**

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### **DIBEN YR HYSBYSIAD HWN:**

Mae'r hysbysiad hwn yn rhoi cyfle i wneud sylwadau yn uniongyrchol i'r datblygwr ynglŷn a Datblygiad o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol (DAC) cyn bo cais am ganiatad cynllunio wedi ei gyflwynon i Weinidogion Cymru. Bydd ceisiadau cynllunio ar gyfer DAC yn cael eu hysbysebu gan Weinidogion Cymru a'r awdurdod cynllunio lleol perthnasol; ni fydd unrhyw sylwadau a ddarperir gennych wrth ymateb l'r hysbysiad hwn yn lleihau dim ar eich gallu i gyflwyno sylwadau i Weinidogion Cymru ar unrhyw gais cynllunio DAC cysylltiedig. Dylech nodi y gellir gosod unrhyw sylwadau a gyflwynir gennych yn y ffeil gyhoeddus.

Datblygiad Arfaethedig yn **Fferm Bryh-y-Rhyd, Llanedi, Pontarddulas, SA4 0FD**

**Rwyfyn hysbysu bod: Brynrhyd Solar farm Limited** yn bwriadu gwneud cais i Weinidogion Cymru am ganiatâd cynllunio mewn cysylltiad â Datblygu o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol sydd **cynllun ynni adnewyddadwy gyda'r prif elfennau yn cynnwys adeiladu, gosod, gweithredu a datgomisiynu fferm solar.**

Gallwch archwilio copïau o'r canlynol:

- y cais arfaethedig;
- y planiau; a
- dogfennau ategol eraill

ar-lein yn **[www.brynrhysolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhysolarfarm.co.uk)**

Dylai unrhyw un sy'n dymuno gwneud sylwadau ynglŷn â'r datblygiad arfaethedig hwn ysgrifennu at yr asiant, Pegasus Group, yn:

**Ebost:** [Brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:Brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk)

**Cyfeiriad:** Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Pegasus Group, First Floor, Equinox North, Great Park Road, Bristol, BS32 4QL

**Erbyn:** Dydd Gwener 30 Ebrill 2021

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **COPIES OF THE SPECIALIST CONSULTEES LETTERS**

GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Gary Glenister  
Local Planning Authority  
Carmarthenshire County Council  
County Hall  
Castle Hill  
Carmarthen  
SA31 1JP

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Gary

**Brynyrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
**Consultation before applying for Planning Permission**  
**Consultation closing on 30 April 2021**

Pegasus Group are working as planning consultants for Brynrhyd Solar Farm Ltd ('the Applicant') who intend to submit a Development of National Significance ("DNS") application for the construction, operation, management and decommissioning of a renewable energy scheme on land at Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD.

By virtue of its potential renewable energy generating capacity, this project constitutes a DNS for Wales. The consenting regime for DNS was introduced by The Planning (Wales) Act 2015. The Act requires the Welsh Minister to determine DNS projects, with applications being made directly to them. The process for applying for a DNS is set out by the Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016 and subsequent Regulations.

Under the Order we have a duty to consult with specialist consultees for a minimum of six weeks prior to the submission of the application. As we have identified you as either a specialist consultee under Schedule 5 of the Order or an important non-statutory consultee, we duly request your pre-application consultation response under Article 9(3) of the Order.

Information on how you can provide comments is set out below. We are also required to provide you with a copy of the planning application, plans and other documents under Article 9(3) of the DNS Order 2016. Therefore, the documentation relevant to the application has been made available at: [www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk), where you will be able to access the following documents:

- a. Site location plan
- b. Planning application drawings
- c. Design and Access Statement

First Floor, South Wing, Equinox North, Great Park Road, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4QL  
T: 01454 625945 | [www.pegasusgroup.co.uk](http://www.pegasusgroup.co.uk)

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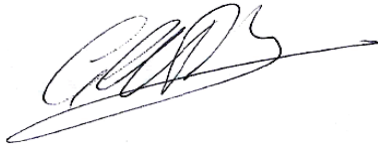
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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Local Highway Authority  
Carmarthenshire County Council  
County Hall  
Castle Hill  
Carmarthen SA31 1JP

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Sir/Madam

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
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**Director**

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Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

David Davies  
Clerk of Llanedi Community Council  
Cwmffrwd Farm  
Llandeilo Road  
Glanamman  
SA18 2DZ

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear David

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**Director**

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Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

The Health and Safety Executive  
Ty William Morgan  
6 Central Square  
Central Square  
Cardiff  
CF10 1EP

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Sir/Madam

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Encs Notice  
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GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

The Coal Authority  
200 Lichfield Lane  
Mansfield  
NG18 4RG

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GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Natural Resource Wales  
Maes Newydd  
Llandarcy  
Neath Port Talbot  
SA10 6JQ

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Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Dafydd Elis-Thomas  
MS Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism  
Welsh Government  
5th Floor  
Tŷ Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Dafydd

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
**Consultation before applying for Planning Permission**  
**Consultation closing on 30 April 2021**

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**Phone:** 01454 625945

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We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Roberts', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Lesley Griffiths  
MS Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs  
Welsh Government  
5th Floor  
Tŷ Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Lesley

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**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
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Yours sincerely

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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Ken Skates  
MS Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales  
Welsh Government  
5th Floor  
Tŷ Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Ken

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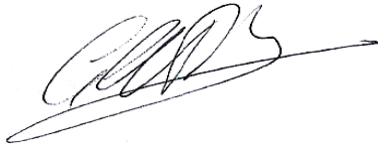


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Yours sincerely

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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Dwr Cymru (Welsh Water)  
Linea  
Fortran Road  
St Mellons  
Cardiff  
CF3 0LT

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Sir/Madam

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**Gareth Roberts**  
**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

The Canal & River Trust  
Canal & River Trust  
First Floor North  
Station House  
500 Elder Gate  
Milton Keynes  
MK9 1BB.

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Sir/Madam

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
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**Director**

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Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

CADW Gwilym Hughes  
Welsh Government  
Ty'r Afon  
Bedwas Road  
Caerphilly  
CF83 8WT

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Sir/Madam

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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Sustainable Drainage Approval Body (SAB)  
Camarthenshire County Council  
Civic Offices  
Crescent Road  
Llandeilo  
SA19 6HW

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Sir/Madam

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
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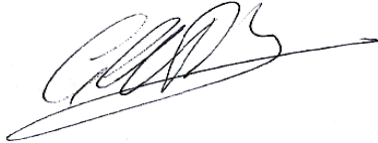


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**Director**

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Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

National Grid Plant Protection  
Cadent  
Block 1  
Floor 1  
Brick Kiln Street  
Hinckley  
LE10 0NA

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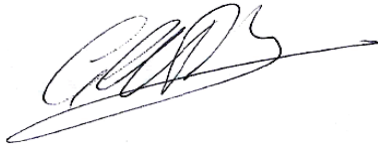
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**Director**

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Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Gwent Archaeological Trust  
Heathfield House  
Heathfield  
Swansea  
SA1 6EL

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Sir/Madam

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Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Arwel Wyn Williams  
Cynghorydd Polisi Pridd a Defnydd Tir Amaethyddol / Agricultural Land Use & Soil Policy  
Advisor  
Land  
Nature and Forestry Division  
Welsh Government  
Victoria Dock  
Caernarfon  
Gwynedd  
LL55 1TH

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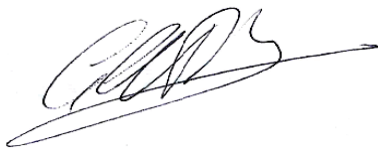
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Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Elgan Jones  
Casework Officer  
The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings  
37 Spital Square  
London  
E1 6DY

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Dear Elgan

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**Online:** [www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk)

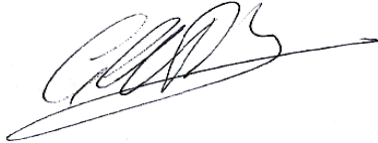


**Phone:** 01454 625945

If you have any questions regarding the process or the content of this consultation, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GR', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Gareth Roberts**  
**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site Location Plan



## **APPENDIX 3**

### **COPIES OF THE COMMUNITY CONSULTEE LETTERS**

GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

David Davies  
Clerk Llanedi Community Council  
Cwmffrwd Farm  
Llandeilo Road  
Glanamman  
SA18 2DZ

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear David

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
**Consultation before applying for Planning Permission**  
**Consultation closing on 30 April 2021**

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Yours sincerely

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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site location plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Councillor Gareth Thomas  
Goitre Fach  
Hendy  
Pontarddulais  
Swansea  
SA4 0YA

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Councillor Thomas

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
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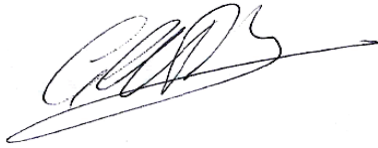
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Yours sincerely

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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site location plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Councillor Tina Higgins  
116 Penygarn Road  
Tycroes Ammanford  
Carms.  
SA18 3PF

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Councillor Higgins

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
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**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
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Yours sincerely

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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notice  
Site location plan



## **APPENDIX 4**

### **COPIES OF THE OWNER / OCCUPIERS LETTERS**



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

David Brian Richards  
Brynryhd Farm  
Llanedi  
Pontardulair  
Swansea

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear David

**Brynryhd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
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**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
**Consultation before applying for Planning Permission**  
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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Trevor Richards  
London House  
Ebenezer Road  
Llanedi  
Pontarddulais  
Swansea  
SA4 0FB

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Trevor

**Brynyrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
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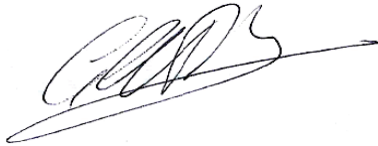
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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Ronald George Richards  
215 Penybanc Road  
Ammanford  
SA18 3QP

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Ronald

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We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GR', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Eirwen Enid Thomas  
Penygraig  
Ebenezer Road  
Llanedi  
Pontarddulais  
Swansea  
SA4 0FB

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Eirwen

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
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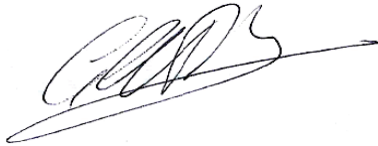
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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Bruce Robert Gill and Patricia Andrea Gill  
Bryntirion  
Llanedi  
Pontardulais  
Dyfed  
SA4 1FE

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Bruce and Patricia

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
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**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
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**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

David Brian Richards  
Bryn Rhyd Farm  
Llanedi  
Pontardulais  
Swansea

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear David

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Richard William Wright and Janet Elvina Wright  
Brynawel Farm  
Penygarn Road  
Tycroes  
Ammanford  
SA18 3PN

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Richard and Janet

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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Leighton John Davies and Jill Davies  
Penrhiw  
Penygard Road  
Tycroes  
Ammanford  
Dyfed

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Leighton and Jill

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We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Christopher Keith Morris  
40 St Audreys Close  
Hatfield  
Herts

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Christopher

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
**Consultation before applying for Planning Permission**  
**Consultation closing on 30 April 2021**

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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Mary Verona Rees  
Erw Wastad Fach  
Tycroes  
Ammanford  
SA18 3PN

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Mary

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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

David Brian Richards  
Bryn Rhyd Farm  
Llanedi  
Pontardulais  
Swansea

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear David

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**Director**

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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Tracey Julia Davies  
Tirgwaidd Farm  
Llanedi  
Carmarthenshire  
SA20 0YD

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Tracey

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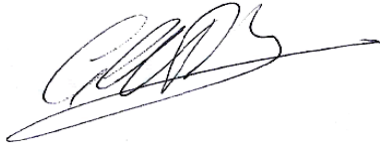
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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Walter Geraint Davies and Mandy Davies  
Brownhill  
Cwmgwili  
Ammanford  
SA18 3RR

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Walter and Mandy

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GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

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Brown Hill  
Chapel Hendre  
Ammanford  
SA18 3RR

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- h. Agricultural Land Classification
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- Notice Under Article 9(3)
- Site Location Plan

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We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GR', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Eifion Rhys Davies  
Cae'r Alaw  
Thornhill Road  
Cwmgwili  
Llanelli  
SA14 6PT

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Eifion

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
**Consultation before applying for Planning Permission**  
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**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Catrin Hannah Jefford  
54 Everswell Road  
Cardiff  
CF5 3DJ

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Catrin

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
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**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
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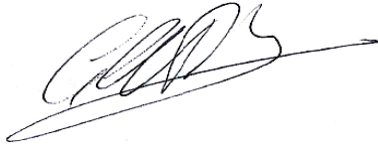
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**Director**

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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Trevor Pryce Roach and Wendy Lilian Roach  
Penygraig  
Lewis Street  
Machen  
Caerphilly  
CF83 8PP

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Trevor and Wendy

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
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**Director**

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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

Lewis John Williams and Nicola Louise Williams  
Brynamllwg  
Ebenezer Road  
Llanedi  
Pontarddulais  
Swansea  
SA4 0FB

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear Lewis and Nicola

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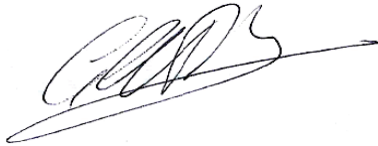
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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

David Brian Richards  
Bryn Rhyd Farm  
Llanedi  
Pontardulais  
Swansea

**BY ROYAL MAIL SIGNED FOR DELIVERY**

Dear David

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Encs Notification  
Site location Plan



GRO/P20-1336

19 March 2021

SPC Acquisitions 5 Limited  
Old Barn  
Nothlands Road  
Warnham  
Horsham  
RH12 3SQ

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**  
**The Planning (Wales) Act 2015**  
**The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**  
**Consultation before applying for Planning Permission**  
**Consultation closing on 30 April 2021**

Pegasus Group are working as planning consultants for Brynrhyd Solar Farm Ltd ('the Applicant') who intend to submit a Development of National Significance ("DNS") application for the construction, operation, management and decommissioning of a renewable energy scheme on land at Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD.

By virtue of its potential renewable energy generating capacity, this project constitutes a DNS for Wales. The consenting regime for DNS was introduced by The Planning (Wales) Act 2015. The Act requires the Welsh Minister to determine DNS projects, with applications being made directly to them. The process for applying for a DNS is set out by the Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016 and subsequent Regulations.

Under the Order we have a duty to publicise and consult with local community, specialist consultees and owners or occupiers of land adjoining the site. The consultation period must run for a minimum of six weeks prior to the submission of the application.

Information on how you can provide comments is set out below. We are also required to provide you with a copy of the planning application, plans and other documents under Article 9(3) of the DNS Order 2016. Therefore, the documentation relevant to the application has been made available at: [www.brynrhydssolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydssolarfarm.co.uk), where you will be able to access the following documents:

- a. Site location plan
- b. Planning application drawings
- c. Design and Access Statement
- d. Environmental Statement
- e. Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Statement
- f. Flood Consequence Assessment

First Floor, South Wing, Equinox North, Great Park Road, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4QL  
T: 01454 625945 | [www.pegasusgroup.co.uk](http://www.pegasusgroup.co.uk)

Birmingham | Bracknell | Bristol | Cambridge | Cirencester | Dublin | East Midlands | Edinburgh | Leeds | Liverpool | London | Manchester | Newcastle | Peterborough | Solent

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- g. Arboricultural Survey Report
- h. Agricultural Land Classification
- i. Coal Mining Risk Assessment
- j. Phase 1 Ground Conditions Study
- k. Noise Impact Assessment
- l. Economic Report
- m. Transport Statement and Construction Management Plan
- n. Heritage Assessment

Alternatively, you can request a OneDrive file via contacting the email below and the application material will be sent to you directly.

Further to this, please find enclosed:

- Notice Under Article 9(3)
- Site Location Plan

### **Development Proposal**

The main elements of the development will be the installation of a ground mounted solar farm with a maximum design capacity of 30MWp (megawatts peak). There will also be electrical connection infrastructure with a point of connection into the local electricity grid via the substation at Heol Ddu, Tycroes.

An operational lifespan of 40 years will be sought. A single substation compound will serve the whole development and this will be required for the duration of the development. The application proposal would also include a package of landscape, ecological and biodiversity benefits.

You may inspect copies of the proposed application; the plans; and other supporting documents online at [www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk). Alternatively, you can request a OneDrive file of these documents using the contact details below and this will be sent to you.

### **How to Respond and /or ask questions**

The consultation period runs until Friday 30 April 2021. If you wish to respond to our consultation, please include your name and contact details in your response.

Any comments over this document must be submitted to Pegasus Group by:

**Email:** [brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk)

**Postal:** Pegasus Group, First Floor, South Wing, Equinox North, Great Park Road, Bristol, BS32 4QL

**Online:** [www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk)

**Phone:** 01454 625945

If you have any questions regarding the process or the content of this consultation, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'GR', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

**Gareth Roberts**

**Director**

**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

Encs Notification  
Site location Plan





## **APPENDIX 5**

### **STATUTORY ADVERT MARCH 2021**

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DERBY LATEST: PAGES 50&51

### A GRAND WEEKEND



WALES SLAM?: PAGES 48&49

# 'I WAS SEXUALLY HARRASSED AT PROTEST'



Alleged incident at march over women's safety on streets: Page 7

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# Public Notices

## Legal Notices

**NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL CASTELL-NEDD PORT TALBOT**  
**(HARBOUR WAY AND HAROURSIDE ROAD, PORT TALBOT)**  
**(TEMPORARY 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT).**  
**ORDER 2021**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council has made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended). The effect of the Order will be to prohibit vehicular traffic from travelling at speeds in excess of 30 miles per hour along the lengths of roads set out in the Schedule below whilst the Order is in force. During such periods as are indicated by traffic signs informing the speed restriction is in force.

The Order is necessary to carry out culvert construction works.

The Order will come into force on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 and shall continue in force for a maximum duration of 18 months or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

**SCHEDULE**

Harbour Way east bound traffic from 100m west of the junction of Harbourside Road for a distance of approximately 600m east along its length.

Harbourside Road east bound traffic from 100m north of junction of Harbour Way in a southerly direction for a distance of 100m along its length.

Harbour Way west bound traffic from 100m east of junction of Oakwood Road in a westerly direction for a distance of 600m along its length.

**DATED 19<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021**  
**M C GRIFFITHS**  
**HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES**

**NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**CYNGOR BWRDEISTREF SIROL CASTELL-NEDD PORT TALBOT**  
**(DRUMMAU ROAD, SKEWEN)**  
**(TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE)**  
**ORDER (NO. 2) 2021**

**NOTICE** is hereby given that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council has made an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended). The effect of the Order will be to temporarily prohibit all traffic from proceeding along the length of road set out in the Schedule below whilst the Order is in force. During such periods as are indicated by traffic signs informing the public that the road is closed.

The Order is necessary for repairs to be carried out to the road and adjoining flood damaged properties.

The Order will come into force on the 25<sup>th</sup> March and shall continue in force for a maximum duration of 17 months or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

**SCHEDULE**

**Drummau Road** from its junction with The Highlands to its junction with Penshannel. The alternative route for pedestrians and disabled access will be via The Highlands, Darren Parc and Penshannel.

**DATED 19<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021**  
**M C GRIFFITHS**  
**HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES**

## Public Notices

The Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016  
**PUBLICITY AND CONSULTATION BEFORE APPLYING FOR PLANNING PERMISSION NOTICE UNDER ARTICLES 8 AND 9(2)**  
**PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE:**

This notice provides the opportunity to comment directly to the developer on a proposed Development of National Significance (DNS) prior to the submission of a planning application to the Welsh Ministers. Planning applications for DNS will be publicised by the Welsh Ministers and the relevant local planning authority; any comments provided in response to this notice will not prejudice your ability to make representations to the Welsh Ministers on any related DNS planning application. You should note that any comments submitted may be placed on the public file.

Proposed development at **Bryn-y-Rhyd Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulas, SA4 0FD**

**I give notice that Brynrhyd Solar Farm Limited** is intending to apply to the Welsh Ministers for planning permission in respect of Development of National Significance which is: **a renewable energy scheme with the main elements comprising construction, installation, operation and decommissioning of a ground mounted solar farm.**

You may inspect copies of:

- the proposed application;
- the plans; and
- other supporting documents

online at [www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk)

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this proposed development must write to Pegasus Group at:

**Email:** [Brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:Brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk)  
**Write:** Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Pegasus Group, First Floor, Equinox North, Great Park Road, Bristol, BS32 4QL  
**Date:** Friday 30 April 2021

Gorchymyn Datblygiadau o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol (Gweithdrefn) (Cymru) 2016  
**CYHOEDDUSRWYDD AC YMGYNGHORI CYN GWNEUD CAIS AM GANIATAD CYLLUNIO HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGLAU 8 A 9(2) DIBEN YR HYSBYSIAD HWN:**

Mae'r hysbysiad hwn yn rhoi cyfle i wneud sylwadau yn uniongyrchol i'r datblygwr ynglŷn â Datblygiad o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol (DAC) cyn bo cais am ganiatad cyllunio wedi ei gyflwyno i Weindogion Cymru. Bydd ceisiadau cyllunio ar gyfer DAC yn cael eu hysbysu gan Weindogion Cymru a'r awdurdod cyllunio lleol perthnasol; ni fydd unrhyw sylwadau a ddarperir gennych wrth ymateb i'r hysbysiad hwn yn lleihau dim ar eich gallu i gyflwyno sylwadau i Weindogion Cymru ar unrhyw gais cyllunio DAC cysylltiedig. Dylech nodi y gellir gosod unrhyw sylwadau a gyflwynir gennych yn y ffeil gyhoeddus.

Datblygiad Arfaethedig yn **Fferm Bryn-y-Rhyd, Llanedi, Pontarddulas, SA4 0FD**

**Rwyfyn hysbysu bod:** Brynrhyd Solar farm Limited yn bwriadu gwneud cais i Weindogion Cymru am ganiatad cyllunio mewn cysylltiad â Datblygu o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol sydd cynllun ynni adnewyddadwy gyda'r prif effennau yn cynnwys adeiladu, gosod, gweithredu a datgomsio y fferm solar.

Gallwch archwilio copïau o'r canlynol:

- y cais arfaethedig;
- y planiau; a
- dogfennau ategol eraill

ar-lein yn [www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhydsolarfarm.co.uk)

Dylai unrhyw un sy'n dymuno gwneud sylwadau ynglŷn â'r datblygiad arfaethedig hwn ysgrifennu at yr asiant, Pegasus Group, yn:

**Ebo:** [Brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:Brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk)  
**Cyfeiriad:** Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Pegasus Group, First Floor, Equinox North, Great Park Road, Bristol, BS32 4QL  
**Erbyn:** Dydd Gwener 30 Ebrill 2021

**MURIEL JARVIS**  
 (Formerly Muriel Perry) Deceased

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 anyone having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the deceased, late of 10 Penre Afan, Baglan Moors, Port Talbot SA12 7RL, who died on 19/02/2021, must send written particulars to the address below by 20/05/2021, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests notified.

**Howe & Spender, Solicitors**  
 Courtland Chambers, 38-42 Station Road, Port Talbot SA1 3 1JS. Ref: JJS/AR019/2

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## **APPENDIX 6**

### **STATUTORY LEAFLET MARCH 2021**



## About Us

Island Green Power is a leading international developer of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Plants, with a focus on large scale solar projects. Island Green Power has over 25 years' experience in the energy industry, 10 of those specifically in the Solar PV sector. Island Green power's mission is to help every country increase their solar energy usage, making more renewable energy possible and saving thousands of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> in the process.

Island Green Power's highly experienced team has successfully developed many projects within the United Kingdom and Ireland and their development tally stands at over 900MW.

## Register for Updates

If you would like to be kept up to date with our plans for Brynrhyd Solar Farm then please visit the website or contact us on the details provided below:

### Email

[brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk)

### Web

[www.brynrhysolarfarm.co.uk](http://www.brynrhysolarfarm.co.uk)

### Address

Brynrhyd Solar Farm,  
C/O Pegasus Group,  
First Floor, South Wing,  
Equinox North, Great Park Road,  
Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4QL

### Tel

01454 625945



## Brynrhyd Solar Farm



This consultation is being coordinated by Pegasus Group on behalf of Brynrhyd Solar Farm Limited.

Community Consultation Leaflet

97mm

Back Cover 100mm

Front Cover 100mm

## **APPENDIX 7**

### **DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE ACT**

GRO/P20-1336

11 June 2021

Philip Thompson  
Team Leader – Major Casework and Chart  
The Planning Inspectorate  
Crown Building,  
Cathays Park  
Cardiff,  
CF10 3NQ

Dear Mr Thompson

**Declaration of compliance with Article 8(1)(a)(i) and Article 8(1)(b) of the Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016.**

On behalf of the Brynrhyd Solar Farm UK Ltd (as applicant and developer) I hereby provide formal declaration that all owners of adjoining land to the application site have been notified of the proposed development. This confirms compliance with Article 8(1)(b) of the Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016 ("the Order 2016"). I also provide formal declaration that site notices were displayed around the site to which the proposed application relates for a period in excess of 42 days. This confirms compliance with Article 8(1)(a)(i) of the Order 2016.

Yours sincerely



**Gareth Roberts**  
**Director**  
**e-mail: [gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:gareth.roberts@pegasusgroup.co.uk)**

**Pegasus Group**

First Floor | South Wing | Equinox North | Great Park Road | Almondsbury | Bristol | BS32 4QL  
**T** 01454 625945 | **F** 01454 618074 | **W** [www.pegasusgroup.co.uk](http://www.pegasusgroup.co.uk)

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## **APPENDIX 8**

### **CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE**



Gofynner am / Please ask for: Gary Glenister Llinell Uniongyrchol / Direct Line: 01554 742172  
E-bost Uniongyrchol / Direct Email: [gglenister@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:gglenister@carmarthenshire.gov.uk) Eich cyf / Your ref:  
Dyddiad / Date: 29/04/2021 Fy nghyf / My ref: **PRE/00148**

### Agent

Pegasus Group  
First Floor  
South Wing Equinox North Great Park  
Road Almondsbury  
Bristol  
BS32 4QL

### Applicant

Island Green Power Ltd C/O Agent

Dear Sir / Madam

**Application No: PRE/00148**  
**Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Services) (Wales) Regulations**

I refer to your submission dated 17/11/2020 for:-

**Proposal:** The development proposal is for a renewable energy scheme of approximately 65 hectares comprising ground mounted photovoltaics. By virtue of its potential generating capacity, which stands at approximately 36MWp (Megawatts peak), this project constitutes a Development of National Significance [DNS]  
**Location:** Bryn y Rhyd Solar Farm, Llanedi, Swansea, SA4 0FD

Further to your Statutory Pre-Application request, please see below the response of the Local Planning Authority. In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Pre-Application Services) (Wales) Regulations 2016, the response is set out under five headings.

**(a) The planning history of the land on which the proposed development is to be carried out, so as far relevant to the proposed application:-**

Nothing relevant to the DNS proposal.

**b) The provisions of the development plan, so far as material to the proposed application:-**

The area is covered by the Carmarthenshire Local Development Plan that was adopted in December 2014. The relevant policies are as follows:-

SP1(i) Sustainable Places and Spaces  
SP2 Climate Change  
SP11 Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency

### Llinos Quelch

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,  
Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



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SP14 Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment  
GP1 Sustainability and High Quality Design  
TR3 Highways in Developments- Design Considerations  
EQ4 Biodiversity  
EQ5 Corridors, Networks and Features of Distinctiveness  
EQ7 Development within the Caeau Mynydd Mawr SPG Area  
RE3 Non-Wind Renewable Energy Installations  
EP3 Sustainable Drainage

Further information on the LDP can be viewed on our website:-  
<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/planning/policies-development-plans/local-development-plan>

**(c) Any supplementary planning guidance, so far as material to the proposed application:-**

Wind and Solar Energy  
Caeau Mynydd Mawr  
Nature Conservation and Biodiversity  
Archaeology and Development

Further information on Supplementary Planning Guidance can be viewed on our website:-  
<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/planning/policies-development-plans/supplementary-planning-guidance>

Useful advice and information on Ecology (including lists of Bat Surveyors and Ecological Consultants can be found on our website:-

<http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/residents/planning/planning-applications/do-you-need-planning-permission>

**(d) Any other considerations which are or could be material in the opinion of the authority**

"Future Wales" National Development Framework provides policies for DNS applications. Policy 17 and 18 in particular provide the highest level policy basis for the determination of DNS applications. Future Wales provides general support for renewable energy and decarbonisation subject to detailed consideration of the criteria in Policy 18.

**(e) An initial assessment of the proposed development on the basis of the information provided under paragraphs (a) to (d).**

The pre application submission has been subject to internal consultation along with limited external consultation and this has been superseded by further information submitted with the PAC which has also been assessed by internal consultees. The following responses have been received.

**Landscape Officer**

The following detailed matters need to be addressed prior to submission of the DNS application and will be fully assessed in the Local Impact Report:

**Llinos Quelch**

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,

Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



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You are welcome to contact me in Welsh or English

## Environmental Statement: Main Statement

### Chapter 4 – The Development

#### Figure 4.1 Draft Planning Application Drawings -

- Figure 1 does not appear to include the location or layout of any access tracks or other areas of hard surfacing associated with either the construction or operational phases. The tracks or other hard standing areas may result in associated impacts to existing hedge line boundaries, trees or woodland and potential surface water/ SAB implications. An area on the drawing is keyed as 'Building compound' details are not provided. Further information to include construction details should be provided to enable full assessment prior to determination.
- Figure 4 Conversion Unit details - Details of the construction materials and any associated surfacing should be provided to enable full assessment prior to determination.
- Drawing GCS0015-1 Rev 7 provides details of a 'typical' switchgear building however it is noted that the specific design of the area keyed as 'substation' (on Figure 1) has not been provided. Details of the access, layout, materials and associated surfacing should be provided to enable full assessment prior to determination.

### Chapter 6 - Landscape And Visual

It is noted that Section 6.3 sets out planning policy considerations the identified relevant policies do not include GP1 of the LDP Sustainability and High Quality Design. It is recommended that this policy should be included within the relevant legislative and policy framework.

Figure 6.2 Potential Error in submission – The Landscape Features Plan appears to have been presented in place of the titled Landscape Framework drawing (Landscape Features Plan is repeated in Figure 6.5). Clarification/ resolution required (it is expected that this drawing would set out clear details of existing landscape elements to be retained, removed and protected and all proposed landscape mitigation measures.

Table 6.10 Summary of Significant Effects, Mitigation and Residual Effects - it is noted that the assessments result in significant residual effects (Major Adverse) including cumulative, to a number of viewpoints, public footpaths and residential properties.

- In terms of viewpoints and public footpaths it is recommended that photomontages (Existing, year 1 and year 15) be provided to demonstrate the nature of impacts for all identified significant residual effects to enable full assessment prior to determination.
- In terms of residential properties it is recommended that a comprehensive Residential Visual Amenity Assessment (RVAA) be provided to enable full assessment prior to determination.

### Technical Appendices

Appendix 6.3 Arboricultural Survey sets provides an effective recording of existing elements in compliance with BS5837:2012. It is however noted that the submission does not include an Arboricultural Impact Assessment which provides description of the impacts to the recorded elements resulting from the proposed development. It is advised that this information should be provided prior to determination. It is further advised that any identified impacts should be covered by: -

- Mitigation proposals for any elements to be removed, clearly defined as part of landscape proposals prior to determination.
- Arboricultural Method Statement for any elements to be retained and subject to construction operations/ activities within the root protection areas, prior to determination or via appropriate condition.

## Ecology

### Llinos Quelch

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,

Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



Mae croeso i chi gysylltu â mi yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg

You are welcome to contact me in Welsh or English

The information has been assessed in terms of the topics within the remit of the LPA and generally the supporting information is adequate to support the DNS application from the LPA's perspective. However it should be noted that SSSIs, SACs, Badgers, Bats, Dormice, Marsh Fritillary, Water Vole and Otter are under NRW's remit so we have no comments on these topics until they have been assessed by NRW as competent authority. Some of these topics may however impact issues under the LPA remit. Until CCC are aware of NRW's comments and any requirements they may have, we will not be in a position to formally agree any of the documents at this stage.

For the topics under the LPA's remit, we have the following observations:

- The documents state that 17.5m of hedgerow is to be removed and replanted, the ES states this is in relation to cable installation but the EPP for access purposes. Clarification whether this is in relation to the access works or cable works would be welcomed. It is also suggested that consideration is given to whether any hedgerows could be translocated. We would advocate that the feasibility of hedgerow translocation is assessed in the first instance, as this would provide suitable mitigation, maintaining the feature, provide better connectivity and decrease the time it will take for the vegetation to reach maturity and establish as a functioning hedgerow over simply replanting.
- We note the presence of invasive species on the application site. We would advocate that long term measures to control and potentially eradicate these be incorporated into the LEMP section PR3. We note that the EPP states that a separate JKMP will be produced but we would advocate this is incorporated into the LEMP.
- We note that the phase one habitat survey plans as submitted appear to not incorporate the locations of Target note 7.
- We note the intention to close the badger sett in relation to Target note 6. This is under NRW's remit, however we note that the ecology report states that there are several areas on site including in the proximity of TN 6 where bedrock is located very close to the surface or bare rock is visible on the surface, consideration should be given to these areas where shallow bedrock occurs. Will traditional installation be feasible in these areas? We would recommend further clarification on this issue to determine if there may be a requirement for piling and drilling in these locations which may result in greater disturbance and noise impacts on sensitive ecological receptors.
- The specified buffer zones for certain features on site appear to vary throughout the submitted documentation. The specified buffers must be consistent throughout all the documents and in line with the recommendations made within the various documents and in line with best practice, we suggest these are as follows. 5 m for hedgerows, 8m for watercourses and ditches, 10 m for woodland and 15m for ancient woodland. We advocate that these are detailed in plan form to support the application.
- The landscape framework drawing in the ES lacks any detail that would be considered appropriate. The scope of this should be agreed with the LPA, but needs to include all appropriate landscape and biodiversity mitigation and enhancement details.
- We would advocate that the soil nutrient status work as specified in section 4.1.2 of the LEMP is progressed prior to the LEMP being finalised to further inform the deliverability of the LEMP proposals and the certainty of success. We consider that the content in relation to section PR1 of the LEMP currently lacks detail and would advocate that management prescriptions are firmed up in relation to the proposal and are not deferred to a separate 'wildflower meadow plan', to ensure that the LEMP document can be conditioned as an approvable and

**Llinos Quelch**

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,

Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



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enforceable document. The ES states that there is a moderate degree of uncertainty regarding the proposal currently.

- We advocate that the botanical survey intervals specified in section 4.1.40 are reviewed to include further intervals in the short term, to inform management prescriptions and deliverability of the proposals.
- Section 4.6 of the ES details the ecology and biodiversity strategy to be delivered, however some of these elements specified are not carried through into the LEMP and other documents including managing grassland areas outside of the array and managing areas to provide suitable conditions for arable flora?
- We note the proposals in relation to species rich grassland and the implementation of swales as detailed in the submitted FCA, the applicant should ensure that the management proposals described in all documents are compatible and the extent of the management proposals fully clarified. We would advocate the incorporation of biodiversity features within any proposed SUDS features.

### Arboriculture Officer

Would recommend a BS 5837 tree survey that covers all trees and hedges on the site. The survey would also include a shading plan

### Public Protection - Public Health

Based on the application details provided I can confirm that Public Health Services have no adverse comments to make in relation to the said application. Please be advised reflected light from solar panels is not deemed a statutory nuisance (under the Environmental Protection Act 1990) in the same manner as artificial light so it is imperative this matter is addressed at this stage, you may wish to consider a glint/glare assessment.

### Public Protection - Noise

Typically for developments of this nature, a BS4142 type condition limiting the noise rating level not exceed background level would be applied.

In order to ensure that the proposed development can comply with such a condition, it is recommended that a BS4142 assessment is undertaken; this should involve measuring background noise levels at the nearest noise sensitive dwelling and comparing predicted noise levels to that background noise level to assess the suitability of the development for the locality.

### Public Protection - Contaminated Land

Further to reviewing the Phase 1 Ground Conditions Desk Study Report No P20-1336 dated March 2021, in relation to the proposed development of a solar farm consisting of 30MW Solar PV Modules to be constructed on 72 Hectare agricultural land at Bryn Y Rhyd Farm Near Llanedi, I note that the information presented in the report to address land contamination is satisfactory and certainly meets with the requirements of a desk study risk assessment investigation.

### Highways

#### Llinos Quelch

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,

Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



Mae croeso i chi gysylltu â mi yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg

You are welcome to contact me in Welsh or English

Should any formal submission be made we will require full details in relation to access and methodologies during the construction period. This will be assessed through the Transport Assessment and Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP).

Large portions of the application site are only accessible via the C2134 county road, otherwise access will need to be made connectively with surrounding agricultural land. Notably there is the access to Brynrhyd onto the B4297 and A483 (Trunk) roads to the west. Please note the C2134 is a rural/country lane and is restricted in terms of width and lacks passing places along its length so this would not be suitable for construction traffic.

It is noted there is an existing solar development as well potential further solar developments in the vicinity. Existing and pending solar development within the vicinity included planning conditions precluding access to the site(s) via the C2134.

### Coal Authority

Our records indicate that there 5 recorded mine entries within the site area identified. We hold no treatment details for these features and they therefore pose a significant risk to surface stability and public safety. There are also coal outcrops recorded as running through parts of the site which may have been subject to unrecorded coal workings at shallow depth.

Where mine entries are present and untreated we would expect these areas to be maintained devoid of solar panels and ancillary equipment due to the risks the past mining features pose to surface stability. As we hold no treatment for the recorded mine entries on site their exact location is unknown and their recorded position may be subject to significant departure from their actual position.

The Coal Authority is of the opinion that building over the top of, or in close proximity to, mine entries should be avoided wherever possible, even after they have been capped, in line with our adopted policy: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/building-on-or-within-the-influencing-distance-of-mine-entries>

Any formal planning submitted should demonstrate how the layout has been designed to take account of the coal mining legacy features recorded as being present. It would be prudent for a competent body to carry out a positional review of the mine entries to inform the layout and any further investigations deemed necessary.

### Built Heritage

Unfortunately the Built Heritage team is unable to respond to consultation at this stage, however I note the following which was sent to Welsh Government at the time of the Screening application. Any Listed Building or Scheduled Ancient Monument issues are being referred to CADW until further notice rather than being considered by this authority under delegated powers.

CADW (Response to Screening)

Our records show that the following historic assets are potentially affected by the proposal.

Scheduled Monuments

CM193 Bryn-y-Rhyd Standing Stone

#### Llinos Quelch

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,  
Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



Mae croeso i chi gysylltu â mi yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg

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GM380 Ring Cairn on Craig Fawr  
GM384 Cairn 250m SW of Banc Llyn-Mawr  
GM386 Earthwork on Graig Fawr  
GM513 Two Burial Chambers on Graig Fawr

#### Listed Buildings

11885 Circular Pigsty at Bryngelli (grade II)  
14813 Pantyffynnon Signal Box (grade II)  
19449 Church of Saint Edi (grade II)  
19451 Plas-Newydd Mill (grade II)  
19453 Plas Mawr (formerly known as Cwrt y Ceidrim) (grade II)  
22211 Capel Hendre and Vestry (grade II)  
81059 Circular pigsty at Craig Fawr Farm (grade II)

In concluding that an EIA was not required on the basis of the above, CADW stated the above designated historic assets are located inside 3km of the proposed development with the nearest, scheduled monument CM193 Bryn-y-Rhyd Standing Stone being some 60m from the application boundary. We have concerns that the proposed development could interfere with the significant views between this Bronze Age standing stone and other contemporary funerary and ritual sites (scheduled monuments GM380, GM384, GM386 and GM513P located to the southeast on Graig Fawr, but currently are of the opinion that this will not cause an impact on the settings of these designated historic assets of such significance to initiate the requirement for an EIA to be produced.

#### Assessment

As an initial assessment of the scheme the LPA has the following comments and concerns,

A full Local Impact Report will be prepared in due course, however from the information submitted for comment at this pre application stage, we have concerns about some of the elements of the scheme which is likely to result in the conclusion of it having a negative impact overall, which will challenge the acceptability of the scheme. As a general point there seems to be inconsistency in terms of site area, length of the permission and the MW of the scheme between pre app and within the PAC documents so this would need to be checked.

#### Landscape and visual impact

The proposal would be a significant development within the receiving landscape. The LPA's background study to the Wind and Solar SPG shows that the landscape can accommodate large scale solar, however the quantum needs to be carefully assessed along with existing, consented and pending schemes. The proposed development is located partially within the Llŵchwr Valley Special Landscape Area (SLA) The ES identifies a major significant adverse effect upon the Llŵchwr Valley LANDMAP Visual and Sensory aspect area, (which forms part of the SLA) however impacts to the SLA are assessed as not significant (despite the SLA being assessed as a higher sensitivity than the LANDMAP aspect area). It is considered that these impacts are not effectively assessed, and the submission does not clarify how the proposed development would enable positive delivery of the policy objectives (LDP EQ6) to 'enhance or improve' the Special Landscape Areas through 'design, appearance and landscape scheme' It is likely that changes to the overall scale and design would be necessary in order to comply with local and national policy.

#### Llinos Quelch

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,

Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



Mae croeso i chi gysylltu â mi yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg

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## Cumulative Impact

The proposed development is located in close proximity to a number of other Solar PV schemes either operational, consented or in the planning process. It is considered that the cumulative impacts of these developments would result in significant adverse impacts which could result in significant challenges to relevant policy objectives in this respect. The cumulative impact is one of the major material considerations in this case so the scale and design of the scheme will need careful scrutiny.

## Residential amenity

The proposed development is in close proximity to residential properties (adjacent field or as close as 30m) and the layout of PV panels does not appear to have considered design phase mitigation through increased buffer zone separation or apparent specific landscape screening proposals (it is noted that the Landscape Framework details do not appear to have not been provided). It is considered that the proposed development would result in potential unacceptable impacts to residential visual amenity. A full residential visual amenity assessment needs to be submitted for assessment.

## Ecology

Subject to the detailed comments above, there are no major ecological issues identified at this stage. However, further work is required so that all the documents are complete and consistent. A detailed analysis of the final documents will be included in the LIR.

## Detailed design matters:

We would be looking for a condition that requires a final layout plan showing the scheme and any micro siting amendments, however details of the scheme have been submitted and we have the following comments.

Fencing - It is noted that deer fencing is proposed which is a softer form of enclosure than more industrial type fencing, This is welcomed.

CCTV - The CCTV cameras are proposed to be mounted with an overall height of 2.5m which is not considered to be excessive. There is however inconsistency as the DAS refers to the CCTV being 3m. The detailed siting and number would be considered at the stage that the final design of the scheme is drafted, As a rule, the minimum number of units should be used and these should be sited so as to minimise views outside the fenced area.

Ancillary Buildings - full details of transformers, inverters, sub stations etc will need to be submitted.

## Conclusion

The LPA is generally supportive of renewable energy in line with Welsh Government targets.

However, in this case, the LPA considers that further information in terms of impact assessment and mitigation proposals, along with amendments to the scheme layout would be required to ensure compliance with local and national policy. As submitted, the LPA as consultee would highlight

### Llinos Quelch

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,

Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



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deficiencies in information as highlighted above and express concerns to the determining body in terms of the landscape and visual impact, cumulative impact and residential amenity impact.

**The above advice is given based on the information currently available, and without prejudice to any formal consultation response that the Council will make through the DNS process. Any subsequent DNS application will be subject to formal determination by the Welsh Government based upon consideration of the merits of the application, current planning policy, legislation, relevant consultation responses and other material planning considerations relevant at that time.**

Should you require any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact the above-mentioned case officer.

**DATED:** 28/04/2021

Yn gywir / Yours faithfully

*Julian Edwards*

**Rheolwr Datblygu a Threftadaeth Adeiledig / Development and Built Heritage Manager**

**Llinos Quelch**

Pennaeth Cynllunio, Y Gwasanaethau Cynllunio, Adran Yr Amgylchedd,  
Heol Cilgant, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6HW

Head of Planning, Planning Services, Environment Department,  
Civic Offices, Crescent Road, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6HW



Mae croeso i chi gysylltu â mi yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg

You are welcome to contact me in Welsh or English

## **APPENDIX 9**

### **NATIONAL GRID RESPONSE**

Gareth Roberts  
Pegasus Group Ltd  
First Floor, South Wing, Equinox North, Great Park Road, Almondsbury,  
Bristol, BS32 4QL

Wayne Smith  
Asset Protection Assistant  
Compliance & Integrity  
Gas Transmission  
National Grid  
Warwick  
Direct Tel: 07811 021561  
Email: wayne.smith@nationalgrid.com

### Planning Work?

Contact us on 0800 688 588\*

Mon-Fri 8am-4pm

(\*Calls may be recorded and monitored)

E-mail: [Plantprotection@cadentgas.com](mailto:Plantprotection@cadentgas.com)

**Electricity Emergency Number:**

**0800 40 40 90\***

**National Gas Emergency Number:**

**0800 111 999\***

\*Available 24 hours, 7 days/week.

Calls may be recorded and monitored.

[www.nationalgrid.com](http://www.nationalgrid.com)

Date : 5/25/2021

Our Reference: XX\_GW3A\_3NWP\_028616

Your Reference: GRO/P20-1336 pt.1 (JP)

Dear Gareth Roberts/Pegasus Group Ltd

### **Ref: SA4 0FD Brynyrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais. Swansea**

National Grid has No Objection to the above proposal which is in close proximity to a High-Pressure Gas Pipeline – Feeder.

I have enclosed a location map to show the location of National Grid high-pressure gas pipeline(s) within the vicinity of your proposal and associated information below.

No Objection with Condition: Following a meeting with the Customer, who outlined the long term timescales for this project (Planned construction to begin in 2024), we are happy to issue a No Objection on the following Conditions: 1) That plans are sent for NG approval prior to planning, 2) Any additional protection is agreed with NG and installed with supervision 3) A Deed of Consent is undertaken at least 6 months ahead of Construction commencing, 4) An Earthing report is sent for review and agreement from NG. We would appreciate the continuation of open discussion and thank the Customer for their co-operation to date.

Yours sincerely  
Wayne Smith

Asset Protection Assistant

## **EAGLES (Electricity And Gas Location Enquiry System)**

Is now available to use simply click on the link to register [www.beforeyoudig.nationalgrid.com](http://www.beforeyoudig.nationalgrid.com), submit details of your proposed works and receive instant guidance and if appropriate maps showing the location of National Grid gas and electric apparatus.

### **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

- No buildings should encroach within the Easement strip of the pipeline indicated above
- No demolition shall be allowed within 150 metres of a pipeline without an assessment of the vibration levels at the pipeline. Expert advice may need to be sought which can be arranged through National Grid.
- National Grid has a Deed of Easement for each pipeline which prevents change to existing ground levels, storage of materials. It also prevents the erection of permanent / temporary buildings, or structures. If necessary National grid will take action to legally enforce the terms of the easement.
- We would draw your attention to the Planning (Hazardous Substances) Regulations 1992, the Land Use Planning rules and PADHI (Planning Advice for Developments near Hazardous Installations) guidance published by the HSE, which may affect this development.
  
- To view the PADHI Document, please use the link below:  
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/landuseplanning/padhi.pdf>
  
- You should be aware of the Health and Safety Executives guidance document HS(G) 47 "Avoiding Danger from Underground Services", and National Grid's specification for Safe Working in the Vicinity of National Grid High Pressure gas pipelines and associated installations - requirements for third parties T/SP/SSW/22. You should already have received a link to download a copy of T/SP/SSW/22, from our Plant protection Team, which is also available to download from our website.
  
- To view the SSW22 Document, please use the link below:  
<http://www2.nationalgrid.com/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=33968>
  
- A National Grid representative will be monitoring the works to comply with SSW22.
  
- To download a copy of the HSE Guidance HS(G)47, please use the following link:  
<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/books/hsg47.htm>
  
- National Grid will also need to ensure that our pipelines access is maintained during and after construction.
  
- Our pipelines are normally buried to a depth cover of 1.1 metres however; actual depth and position must be confirmed on site by trial hole investigation under the supervision of a National Grid representative. Ground cover above our pipelines should not be reduced or increased.
  
- If any excavations are planned within 3 metres of National Grid High Pressure Pipeline or, within 10 metres of an AGI (Above Ground Installation), or if any embankment or dredging works are proposed then the actual position and depth of the pipeline must be established on site in the presence of a National Grid representative. A safe working method must be agreed prior to any work taking place in order to minimise the risk of damage and ensure the final depth of cover does not affect the integrity of the pipeline.
  
- Excavation works may take place unsupervised no closer than 3 metres from the pipeline once the actual depth and position has been confirmed on site under the supervision of a National

Grid representative. Similarly, excavation with hand held power tools is not permitted within 1.5 metres from our apparatus and the work is undertaken with NG supervision and guidance.

### **Pipeline Crossings**

- Where existing roads cannot be used, construction traffic should ONLY cross the pipeline at locations agreed with a National Grid engineer.
- All crossing points will be fenced on both sides with a post and wire fence and with the fence returned along the easement for a distance of 6 metres.
- The pipeline shall be protected, at the crossing points, by temporary rafts constructed at ground level. No protective measures including the installation of concrete slab protection shall be installed over or near to the National Grid pipeline without the prior permission of National Grid. National Grid will need to agree the material, the dimensions and method of installation of the proposed protective measure. The method of installation shall be confirmed through the submission of a formal written method statement from the contractor to National Grid.
- Please be aware that written permission from National Grid is required before any works commence within the National Grid easement strip.
- A National Grid representative shall monitor any works within close proximity to the pipeline to comply with National Grid specification T/SP/SSW22.
- A Deed of Indemnity is required for any crossing of the easement including cables

### **Cables Crossing**

- Cables may cross the pipeline at perpendicular angle to the pipeline i.e. 90 degrees.
- A National Grid representative shall supervise any cable crossing of a pipeline.
- An impact protection slab should be laid between the cable and pipeline if the cable crossing is above the pipeline.
- Where a new service is to cross over the pipeline a clearance distance of 0.6 metres between the crown of the pipeline and underside of the service should be maintained. If this cannot be achieved the service must cross below the pipeline with a clearance distance of 0.6 metres.

### **All work should be carried out in accordance with British Standards policy**

- BS EN 13509:2003 - Cathodic protection measurement techniques
- BS EN 12954:2001 - Cathodic protection of buried or immersed metallic structures – General principles and application for pipelines
- BS 7361 Part 1 - Cathodic Protection Code of Practice for land and marine applications
- National Grid Management Procedures

## **APPENDIX 10**

### **CADW RESPONSE**



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Plas Caeveur, Unit 57, Cefn Coed  
Parc Namgarw, Cardiff CF15 7QQ  
Ffôn 0300 025 6000  
E-bost [Cadw@gov.wales](mailto:Cadw@gov.wales)  
[www.cadw.gov.wales](http://www.cadw.gov.wales)  
0300 025 6000  
[cadw@gov.wales](mailto:cadw@gov.wales)/[cadw@llyw.cymru](mailto:cadw@llyw.cymru)  
[www.cadw.gov.wales](http://www.cadw.gov.wales)

Benjamin Rowe  
Planner  
Pegasus Group

[bynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:bynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk)

[Benjamin.rowe@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:Benjamin.rowe@pegasusgroup.co.uk)

Eich cyfeirnod  
Your reference 3260565

Ein cyfeirnod  
Our reference

Dyddiad  
Date 27 April 2021

Llinell uniongyrchol  
Direct line 0300 0250566

Ebost  
Email: [cadwplanning@gov.wales](mailto:cadwplanning@gov.wales)

Dear Benjamin

### **Statutory Pre-Application – Brynrhyd Solar farm Land near Llanedi, Carmarthenshire SA18 3PL**

Thank you for your letter of 19 March 2021 and our further conversation on 14 April inviting our comments on the information submitted for the above development of national significance (DNS).

We have some concerns about the impact on undesignated archaeological features and are of the opinion that there is a need to appropriately record these features.

The national policy and Cadw's role in the DNS process are set out in Annex A.

### Assessment

#### **Scheduled Monuments**

CM193 Bryn-y-Rhyd Standing Stone  
GM380 Ring Cairn on Craig Fawr  
GM384 Cairn 250m SW of Banc Llyn-Mawr  
GM386 Earthwork on Graig Fawr  
GM513 Two Burial Chambers on Graig Fawr

#### **Listed Buildings**

11885 Circular Pigsty at Bryngelli (grade II)  
14813 Pantyffynnon Signal Box (grade II)  
19449 Church of Saint Edi (grade II)  
19451 Plas-Newydd Mill (grade II)  
19453 Plas Mawr (formerly known as Cwrt y Ceidrim) (grade II)  
22211 Capel Hendre and Vestry (grade II)  
81059 Circular pigsty at Craig Fawr Farm (grade II)

Mae Gwasanaeth Amgylchedd Hanesyddol Llywodraeth Cymru (Cadw) yn hyrwyddo gwaith cadwraeth ar gyfer amgylchedd hanesyddol Cymru a gwerthfawrogiad ohono.

The Welsh Government Historic Environment Service (Cadw) promotes the conservation and appreciation of Wales's historic environment.

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg ac yn Saesneg.  
We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh.



BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL  
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



We understand that the full application will be accompanied by a heritage desk-based assessment prepared by the Pegasus Group. This work has assessed the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the above designated historic assets and concluded that this will not be significant. We concur with this conclusion. The assessment has also identified earthworks likely to relate to historic agricultural activity that the proposed solar farm will have a direct impact on. Whilst these features are not of such significance to require the layout of the proposed solar farm to be redesigned, there is a need for them to be fully investigated and recorded before any damage occurs to them. There is therefore a need for appropriate measures to be proposed as part of the application to ensure that these features are properly recorded.

Yours sincerely

Jenna Arnold  
Diogelu a Pholisi/ Protection and Policy



## **Annex A**

### Our role

Details about our role in the DNS process are available [online](#).

### National Policy

Applications for planning permission are considered in light of the Welsh Government's land use planning policy and guidance contained in Planning Policy Wales (PPW), Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales, Technical Advice Notes and related guidance.

PPW ([Chapter 6 – The Historic Environment](#)) explains that it is important that the planning system looks to protect, conserve and enhance the significance of historic assets. This will include consideration of the setting of an historic asset which might extend beyond its curtilage. Any change that impacts on an historic asset or its setting should be managed in a sensitive and sustainable way.

## **APPENDIX 11**

### **THE COAL AUTHORITY RESPONSE**



The Coal  
Authority



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



RTPI  
Learning Partner

200 Lichfield Lane  
Berry Hill  
Mansfield  
Nottinghamshire  
NG18 4RG

Tel: 01623 637 119 (Planning Enquiries)

Email: [planningconsultation@coal.gov.uk](mailto:planningconsultation@coal.gov.uk)

Web: [www.gov.uk/coalauthority](http://www.gov.uk/coalauthority)

For the Attention of: Mr G Roberts, Director  
Pegasus Group

**[By Email: [brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk](mailto:brynrhyd@pegasusgroup.co.uk)]**

31 March 2021

Dear Mr Roberts

**RE: Pre-Application - Construction, operation, management and decommissioning of a renewable energy scheme; Bryn Y Rhyd Solar Farm, Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea, SA4 0FD**

Thank you for your notification of 19 March 2021 in respect of the above.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy. As a statutory consultee, The Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

Our records indicate that there 5 recorded mine entries within the site area identified. We hold no treatment details for these features and they therefore pose a significant risk to surface stability and public safety. There are also coal outcrops recorded as running through parts of the site which may have been subject to unrecorded coal workings at shallow depth.

We note that a Coal Mining Risk Assessment, dated March 2021 and prepared by Integrale Limited supports this proposal. This report has been informed by an appropriate range of sources of information and acknowledges the coal mining legacy present. It makes an appropriate assessment and recommendations for further investigations in order to establish the risks posed by past coal mining activity and to inform the remedial measures necessary.

The report recommends that the mine entries are located and that these features and their zones of influence are either secured by fencing or subject to treatment works to ensure their safety and stability such as capping. We would expect the intrusive investigations and any treatment works necessary to be carried out prior to any works commencing in the parts of the site where the mine entries are recorded. If no treatment is carried out to these features and fencing of the areas around the mine entries is proposed, once their locations are established, these areas should be maintained devoid of development (panels and supporting infrastructure) and inaccessible for the lifetime of the development, in order to ensure no risks arise to public safety.

The intrusive site investigations should be designed and undertaken by competent persons and should be appropriate to assess the ground conditions on the site in order to establish the coal-mining legacy present and the risks it may pose to the development and inform any remedial works and/or mitigation measures that may be necessary.

The applicant should note that Permission is required from the Coal Authority Permit and Licensing Team before undertaking any activity, such as ground investigation and ground works, which may disturb coal property.

I hope this is helpful but please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

*Melanie Lindsley*

**Melanie Lindsley** BA (Hons), DipEH, DipURP, MA, PGCertUD, PGCertSP, MRTPI  
**Development Team Leader (Planning)**

#### Disclaimer

The above consultation response is provided by The Coal Authority as a Statutory Consultee and is based upon the latest available data on the date of the response, and electronic consultation records held by The Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based upon only the information provided to The Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by The Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a

revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the Applicant for consultation purposes.

*In formulating this response The Coal Authority has taken full account of the professional conclusions reached by the competent person who has prepared the Coal Mining Risk Assessment or other similar report. In the event that any future claim for liability arises in relation to this development The Coal Authority will take full account of the views, conclusions and mitigation previously expressed by the professional advisers for this development in relation to ground conditions and the acceptability of development.*

## **APPENDIX 12**

### **WELSH WATER RESPONSE**



Dŵr Cymru  
Welsh Water

Developer Services  
PO Box 3146  
Cardiff  
CF30 0EH

Tel: +44 (0)800 917 2652  
Fax: +44 (0)2920 740472  
E.mail: [developer.services@dwrwymru.com](mailto:developer.services@dwrwymru.com)

Gwasanaethau Datblygu  
Blwch Post 3146  
Caerdydd  
CF30 0EH

Ffôn: +44 (0)800 917 2652  
Ffacs: +44 (0)2920 740472  
E.bost: [developer.services@dwrwymru.com](mailto:developer.services@dwrwymru.com)

Mr Gareth Roberts  
Pegasus Group  
First Floor, South Wing  
Equinox North  
Great Park Road  
Bristol  
BS32 4QL

**Date: 28/04/2021**  
**Our Ref: PPA0005617**

Dear Mr Roberts

**Grid Ref: 260247 209361**

**Site Address: Brynyrhyd Solar Farm, Near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea**

**Development: DNS - Construction, operation, management and decommissioning of a renewable energy scheme**

I refer to your consultation documents received in accordance with Article 9(3) of the Development of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016, which precedes your application for a Development of National Significance for the construction, operation, management and decommissioning of a renewable energy scheme on land at Brynyrhyd Solar Farm, near Llanedi, Pontarddulais, Swansea.

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the proposal and would offer the following standing advice which should be taken into account within any future application:

### **APPRAISAL**

It appears the application does not propose to connect to the public sewerage or watermains systems, and therefore Dwr Cymru Welsh Water has no objections in principle. However, should circumstances change and a connection to the public sewerage system/public sewage treatment works is preferred we must be re-consulted on this application.

As of 7th January 2019, this proposed development is subject to Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. The development therefore requires approval of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) features, in accordance with the 'Statutory standards for sustainable drainage systems – designing, constructing, operating and maintaining surface water drainage systems'. It is therefore recommended that the developer engage in consultation with the City & County of Swansea Council, as the determining SuDS Approval Body (SAB), in relation to their proposals for SuDS features. Please note, Dwr Cymru Welsh Water is a statutory consultee to the SAB application process and will provide comments to any SuDS proposals by response to SAB consultation.



Welsh Water is owned by Glas Cymru – a 'not-for-profit' company.  
Mae Dwr Cymru yn eiddo i Glas Cymru – cwmni 'nid-er-elw'.

We welcome correspondence in  
Welsh and English

Dŵr Cymru Cyf, a limited company registered in  
Wales no 2366777. Registered office: Pentwyn Road,  
Nelson, Treharris, Mid Glamorgan CF46 6LY

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y  
Gymraeg neu yn Saesneg

Dŵr Cymru Cyf, cwmni cyfyngedig wedi'i gofrestru yng  
Nghymru rhif 2366777. Swyddfa gofrestredig: Heol Pentwyn  
Nelson, Treharris, Morgannwg Ganol CF46 6LY.

The proposed development is crossed by a 90mm distribution watermain, the approximate position being shown on the attached plan. Dwr Cymru Welsh Water as Statutory Undertaker has statutory powers to access our apparatus at all times. We enclose our Conditions for Development near Watermain(s). It may be possible for this watermain to be diverted under Section 185 of the Water Industry Act 1991, the cost of which will be re-charged to the developer. The developer must consult Dwr Cymru Welsh Water before any development commences on site.

The applicant is also advised that some public sewers and lateral drains may not be recorded on our maps of public sewers because they were originally privately owned and were transferred into public ownership by nature of the Water Industry (Schemes for Adoption of Private Sewers) Regulations 2011. The presence of such assets may affect the proposal. In order to assist us in dealing with the proposal the applicant may contact Dwr Cymru Welsh Water on 0800 085 3968 to establish the location and status of the apparatus. Under the Water Industry Act 1991 Dwr Cymru Welsh Water has rights of access to its apparatus at all times.

Notwithstanding the above, we respectfully reserve the right to comment further on any matters and issues arising from ongoing and future consultation. However, we trust the above information is helpful at this stage and we look forward to continuing our engagement on the project prior to and during the submission of an application to the Planning Inspectorate.

Please note that our response is based on the information provided in your enquiry and should the information change we reserve the right to make a new representation. Should you have any queries or wish to discuss any aspect of our response please do not hesitate to contact our dedicated team of planning officers, either on 0800 917 2652 or via email at [developer.services@dwrcymru.com](mailto:developer.services@dwrcymru.com)

Please quote our reference number in all communications and correspondence.

Yours faithfully,



**Owain George**  
**Planning Liaison Manager**  
**Developer Services**

**Enc. Sewer plan**  
**Water Plan**

***Please Note that demands upon the water and sewerage systems change continually; consequently, the information given above should be regarded as reliable for a maximum period of 12 months from the date of this letter.***





## **APPENDIX 13**

### **NATIONAL RESOURCE WALES RESPONSE**

Mr Gareth Roberts  
Pegasus Group  
First Floor  
South Wing  
Equinox North  
Great Park Road  
Bristol  
BS32 4QL

**Dyddiad/Date:** 30 April 2021

Annwyl / Dear Mr Roberts,

**Development of National Significance (DNS) Pre-application Consultation – Brynrhyd Solar Farm Near Llanedi.**

Thank you for consulting Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the above Development of National Significance pre-application consultation which we received on 19 March 2021.

Please accept the following as pre-application advice under the Town and Country Planning, Wales - The Developments of National Significance (Wales) Regulations 2016.

The proposed development comprises of a renewable energy scheme with the main elements comprising construction, installation, operation and decommissioning of a solar farm.

Please note that our comments are made purely on the information contained within the submission, they are without prejudice to any comments we may subsequently wish to make, including upon receipt of further or more detailed information, which we may need to take into account in making formal comments, or in determining any Environmental Permit or European Protected Species (EPS) Licence applications.

**Protected sites**

The following protected sites are within 2km of the application site:

- Caeau Afon Gwili Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Graig Fawr SSSI

The Caeau Mynydd Mawr special area of conservation (SAC) is within 3 km of the site, which supports an important population of Marsh Fritillary butterflies.

We have reviewed the Outline Construction and Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) prepared by Pegasus Group, March 2021.

The CEMP states that:

- *Site welfare facilities and offices will consist of linked “Portakabin” type units.*
- *The facilities will have hot and cold running water, with a clean drinking water supply. Washing facilities and showers will be provided for the duration of the works, to include soap and towels or other suitable means of drying.*

We require details of foul drainage disposal, resulting from these welfare units.

Section 10.1 – hydrocarbons – Not enough information has been provided regarding refuelling areas and oil/fuel storage on site. We require more information on this matter.

Section 12. - Management of surface water run-off and ditches during construction - In terms of the pollution prevention measures, more information is needed regarding what measures the developers will install to protect watercourses (including ditches) before an incident occurs.

We would expect precautionary measures to be installed to protect the watercourses (including ditches) on site before works begin, for example, installing sediment fencing between the watercourse (including ditches) and the proposed location for earthworks to prevent any sediment-contaminated water reaching the watercourse. Watercourses (including ditches) should be checked at least once a day, preferably more often during construction. If there is a need to strip areas of the site, this should only be carried out in small areas – the whole site should not be stripped at once. Particular attention should be given to high risk areas for sediment pollution e.g. cable trenches, where tracks cross watercourses etc. Appropriate buffers should be applied to protect all watercourses (including ditches) on site. NRW must be informed about all pollution incidents that occur on site via our incident hotline. Contact details of the Ecological Clerk of Works must be provided to NRW before construction begins.

We recommend a plan/diagram is submitted illustrating the locations of all watercourses on site (including ditches), with buffers included and the proposed layout of the tracks and cable trenches for the site.

#### Marshy Grassland

During construction there will be temporary loss of marshy grassland which support have meta-populations of Marsh-fritillary butterfly. There are no details in the CEMP of mitigation and management for this habitat loss.

Areas of marshy grassland have been screened out, however we believe that the field proposed for the Solar Farm will still have suitable habitats for meta- populations of Marsh Fritillary. We recommend a survey is undertaken of these fields to identify larval webs or to estimate the abundance of Devil’s bit-scabious (food-plant of the Marsh Fritillary butterfly).

There is no detail regarding the protection Caeau Afon Gwili SSSI during the construction phase to reduce impacts such as dust and runoff pollution due to this site being adjacent to this development.

The outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan, March 2021 provides limited detail of enhancement to the Caeau Afon Gwili SSSI, however we require further information regarding the impact of the development on the SSSI and its features. We welcome the

recommendation to contact our Carmarthenshire Environment Management Team to discuss this matter.

### **Protected species**

We have considered the Environmental Statement, Written Statement, Chapter 7 Ecology and Nature, March 2021 by Pegasus Group

In our response to the planning inspectorate on the 22 October 2020, we stated that:

*'we cannot rule out significant effect from the proposed development on protected species namely dormice, otters, water vole, Bats, Marsh fritillary and breeding birds (including barn owls and other farm birds). The submission included little information on protected species although it is acknowledged there may be some ecological interests.'*

*'Until the site is comprehensively assessed for its potential to support protected species, we are unable to advise you further on the significance of any effect. We do not agree with the screening report that further surveys are not required.'*

We note that no additional surveys have been carried out on the site, and the current submission does not include the 'Preliminary Ecological Appraisal' report dated August 2020, which included the result of the extended phase 1 undertaken at the site previously.

An environmental statement has been submitted which attempts to impact assess the proposals based on the assumed presence of a number of protected species. Therefore, our comments are solely based on the information provided in the Environmental Statement (ES).

### **Bats**

The ES identifies that there are a number of records of bats within 1km of the site, including that of the greater horseshoe bat.

The ES states that 'No buildings were located within or immediately adjacent to the construction site boundary' however based on the maps submitted with the ES, a number of farms and dwelling are located immediately adjacent to the site boundary and Bryn-y-Rhyd Farm is located in the centre of the proposed development within the red line boundary of the site. While it appears that this dwelling and associated buildings will be retained, we note that it will be located within the centre of the solar farm, which could have implications if any bat roosts were present.

We are aware of records of bat roosts in buildings immediately adjacent to the site, which could potentially be impacted by the proposal. Therefore, we advise that an assessment of these buildings for bats is undertaken. The results are used to inform the need for further surveys and mitigation, if appropriate.

The report also states that 'the fields represent a component of the wider foraging resources for a likely small number of greater horseshoe bats' and the report concluded that the sites habitats are only of 'local importance' to bats. It is not clear how this conclusion was reached without survey to identify how and what bats use the site and to what extent. Given the size of the proposals, we would wish to have greater confidence that no significant roosts would

be impacted by the proposed changes to the current agricultural regime. Static monitoring surveys of the site could potentially help address some of these concerns.

Therefore, as stated in our response to the planning inspectorate, without further surveys we do not consider that an accurate understanding of the potential impacts of the development on bats can be achieved.

It is possible the impacts of the development on bats could potentially be managed through appropriate mitigation, however, without understanding the extent of the impact we cannot ensure that mitigation proposals are proportionate to the scale of the impact.

### Otters and water vole

The ES confirmed that a number of ditches and watercourses occur across the site. We note that presence of otter and water vole has been assumed across the site, as no specific surveys have been undertaken for either species.

While we welcome the intention to use existing crossing points over watercourses and ditches, should the scheme alter and additional crossing points need to be created or existing ones require altering, assuming presence of water voles could mean restrictions on the timing of these works, how the work is undertaken, as well as potentially trigger the need for a licence. We would advise that surveys, particularly with respect to water vole should be undertaken.

The ES refers to an 8m buffer between watercourse/ditches and perimeter security fencing, and in other sections it refers to an 8m buffer between watercourse and ditches and structural arrays. We welcome the retention of an 8m buffer around watercourses and ditches, however clarification is needed to whether this buffer will be fenced off from the development and future sheep grazing. In addition we advise that further detail is provided about how fencing will be positioned with respect to watercourses and ditches, internally and with respect to the perimeter fence, to ensure the protection of these features and that the development site does not become a barrier to movement of species through the wider landscape.

### Dormice

There are records of dormice in the woodland on the boundary of the site, therefore dormouse presence has been assumed across the site.

Based on the temporary loss of only two sections of hedgerow (under 20m in total) and with the inclusion of fenced 5m buffers between all woodlands and hedgerows and the development, that the proposal is unlikely to impact significantly on dormice. We welcome the creation of 518m new hedgerow proposed along the perimeter of the site in locations that currently only have fencing present. We advise that details of these mitigation measures will need to be included in future submissions and shown on appropriate plans.

With respect to the two sections of hedgerow proposed to be removed, we would need further information on the hedges including details of the quality and width, in order to advise on whether a licence would be required to remove them.

### Birds

Records of birds including goshawk, skylark, barn owl and woodcock all occur within 1km of the Site boundary according to the Desk study data. Less notable species also include linnet, dunnock, whitethroat, redwing, starling and red kite. We recommend further surveys are carried out to determine how these birds are using the development site and will be affected.

### Landscape and Visual Impact

The site lies approximately 8km from the Brecon Beacons National Park boundary at its closest point. It is outside the 5km study area and zone of theoretical visibility.

At distances over 8km the proposals would have no effect on the National Park.

### Flood Risk

The application sites are outside the Development Advice Map, therefore we have no adverse comments with regards to flood risk.

### Habitat Regulations Assessment

In addition, Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 requires the Planning Inspectorate as the competent authority, to undertake an appropriate assessment of any plan or project which is likely to have significant effects, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, on the SAC.

The applicant will need to provide sufficient information for the competent authority to be able to carry out a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA).

### Other Matters

Our comments above only relate specifically to matters included on our checklist, Development Planning Advisory Service: Consultation Topics (September 2018), which is published on our website. We have not considered potential effects on other matters and do not rule out the potential for the proposed development to affect other interests, including environmental interests of local importance.

We advise the applicant that, in addition to planning permission, it is their responsibility to ensure they secure all other permits/consents/licences relevant to their development. Please refer to our website for further details

If you have any queries on the above, please do not hesitate to contact us

Yn ddiffuant / Yours sincerely

**Miss Rhian Isaac**

**Ymgynghorydd Cynllunio Datblygu / Development Planning Advisor**

## **APPENDIX 14**

### **THE CANAL AND RIVER TRUST RESPONSE**

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**From:** Jane Hennell <Jane.Hennell@canalrivertrust.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 09 April 2021 16:02  
**To:** Brynrhyd  
**Subject:** Brynrhyd Solar Farm, SA4 0FD  
**Attachments:** image005.wmz

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Sir

**Brynrhyd Solar Farm Development of National significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016**

**Waterway: N/A**

Thank you for your consultation.

We are the charity who look after and bring to life 2000 miles of canals & rivers. Our waterways contribute to the health and wellbeing of local communities and economies, creating attractive and connected places to live, work, volunteer and spend leisure time. These historic, natural and cultural assets form part of the strategic and local green-blue infrastructure network, linking urban and rural communities as well as habitats. By caring for our waterways and promoting their use we believe we can improve the wellbeing of our nation. The Trust is a specialist consultee in the DNS process.

The Canal & River Trust (or Glandwr Cymru in Wales) Trust has reviewed these proposals and on the basis that they appear unlikely to have any impact on any inland waterway (whether natural or artificial) or reservoir owned or managed by Canal & River Trust or any canal feeder channel, watercourse, let off or culvert we have **no comment** to make.

Unless the proposal become significantly altered, there is no need to consult the Trust further.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.

Kind regards

Jane Hennell MRTPI  
Area Planner  
Cynlluniwr Ardal  
The Canal & River Trust  
Glandwr Cymru

**M** 07747 897793  
**Canal & River Trust**

Gloucester Waterways Museum, Llanthony Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EH



[canalrivertrust.org.uk](https://www.canalrivertrust.org.uk)

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Canal & River Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales with company number 7807276 and charity number 1146792. Registered office address First Floor North, Station House, 500 Elder Gate, Milton Keynes MK9 1BB.

### Cadw mewn cysylltiad

Cofrestrwch i dderbyn e-gylchlythyr Glandŵr Cymru <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/newsletter>

Cefnogwch ni ar <https://www.facebook.com/canalrivertrust>

Dilynwch ni ar <https://twitter.com/canalrivertrust> ac <https://www.instagram.com/canalrivertrust>

Mae'r e-bost hwn a'i atodiadau ar gyfer defnydd y derbynnydd bwriedig yn unig. Os nad chi yw derbynnydd bwriedig yr e-bost hwn a'i atodiadau, ni ddylech gymryd unrhyw gamau ar sail y cynnwys, ond yn hytrach dylech eu dileu heb eu copïo na'u hanfon ymlaen a rhoi gwybod i'r anfonwr eich bod wedi eu derbyn ar ddamwain. Mae unrhyw farn neu safbwynt a fynegir yn eiddo i'r awdur yn unig ac nid ydynt o reidrwydd yn cynrychioli barn a safbwyntiau Glandŵr Cymru.

Mae Glandŵr Cymru yn gwmni cyfyngedig drwy warant a gofrestrwyd yng Nghymru a Lloegr gyda rhif cwmni 7807276 a rhif elusen gofrestredig 1146792. Swyddfa gofrestredig: First Floor North, Station House, 500 Elder Gate, Milton Keynes MK9 1BB.

## **APPENDIX 15**

### **REBECCA EVENS MP RESPONSE**

---

**From:** Evans, Rebecca (Aelod o'r Senedd | Member of the Senedd) <Rebecca.Evans@senedd.wales>  
**Sent:** 17 May 2021 13:11  
**To:** Brynrhyd  
**Subject:** Public consultation

Dear Sir/Madam,

I have received a significant amount of correspondence from residents in Garnswllt and the surrounding area expressing opposition to the proposed new Brynrhyd solar farm.

I have already made a submission to the pre-application consultation on behalf of constituents who have written to me, highlighting that this could mean three solar farms in close proximity, and that constituents are concerned that it would have a detrimental effect on residents and the environment. I have highlighted the concern about the visual impact, and the fear that it would turn good agricultural land, currently farmed by local inhabitants, into an industrial site. I have added that constituents also fear that although the proposed solar farm would have an operational lifespan of 40 years, by the end of this time the company behind the scheme might no longer be in existence, and I have shared the worry that has been shared with me about the negative effect this would have.

I have also been clear that constituents also feel that building a 160-acre solar farm will not enhance biodiversity in the area. Those who have written to me have noted that many species including butterflies, bats and red kites could have their natural habitat destroyed by this scheme. I have also shared constituents' fears that the fenced enclosures around solar panel fields do not allow space for wild animals to pass through.

Further, I have raised the concerns about a potential negative impact on the value and saleability of property primarily on account of the noise produced by the solar farm. I have shared constituents' concerns that this scheme is far larger than the existing Clawdd Ddu Solar Farm and thus will produce more noise and have a detrimental effect on more individuals and families in the area.

The residents are concerned that they have not had the chance to comment – many have only found out about the plans since your pre-application consultation closed.

**I would be grateful if you would advise what your plans are for the next steps of public engagement, and would ask you to consider writing to all households, and holding a public consultation drop-in event in the village.**

With kind regards, Rebecca



**REBECCA EVANS MS/AS**  
Member of the Senedd for Gower  
Aelod o'r Senedd dros Gŵyr

9 Pontarddulais Road Gorseinon, SA4 4FE  
9 Heol Pontarddulais, Gorseinon, Abertawe, SA4 4FE

Rebecca.evans@senedd.wales  
Rebecca.evans@senedd.cymru

01792 899 081  
www.rebeccaevansms.com



*"Any of the statements or comments made above should be regarded as personal and not necessarily those of the Welsh Parliament, any constituent part or connected body."*

*"Dylai unrhyw ddatganiadau neu sylwadau uchod gael eu trin fel rhai personol ac nid o reidrwydd fel datganiadau neu sylwadau gan Senedd Cymru, unrhywn ran ohoni neu unrhywn gorff sy'n gysylltiedig a hi."*

View privacy notice - <https://www.rebeccaevansms.com/privacy-notice.html>

## **APPENDIX 16**

### **TONIA ANTONIAZZI MP RESPONSE**

---

**From:** Tonia Antoniazzi <Tonia.antoniazzi.mp@parliament.uk>  
**Sent:** 20 May 2021 15:42  
**To:** Brynrhyd  
**Subject:** Brynrhyd Solar Farm (Case Ref: TA13311)

Our Ref: TA13311

20 May 2021

Good afternoon,

Proposed Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Bryn-y-Rhyd Farm, Llanedi, Pontarddulais, South Wales, SA4 0FD

I have been contacted by a number of constituents raising concerns over the above proposal. The constituents who have been in contact live within villages neighbouring Llanedi which falls just outside my constituency. Many of the residents living in Garnswllt, will be greatly impacted by the proposed Solar Farm, should it go ahead, not only due to the blight on their view but, more importantly, concerns over the safety of vehicles ascending Heol Y Mynydd on a bright sunny day, who have already experienced being blinded by reflected sunlight from the existing Solar Farm which would only be made worse by extending the number of panels.

I am aware that residents of Llanedi, who are not my constituents, have also cited that there is evidence that proximity to the existing solar farm has a negative effect on value and saleability of property due in part to the noise produced.

The following concerns were received from a constituent and I believe this successfully outlines major concerns of residents living in Llanedi and those in the neighbouring villages of Pontarddulais and Garnswllt:

There has been a solar farm (Clawdd Ddu Solar Farm) in the village for many years and its existence is not problematic. However, there is already one proposal for a new solar farm (Ty Croes Solar Farm) currently under consideration by the Welsh Government and the Brynrhyd Solar Farm would be the third solar farm on adjoining land in the area. If approved, the third solar farm, Brynrhyd, would result in 295 acres of adjoining land being turned into one massive solar farm.

We believe that the cumulative effect of a third solar farm in close proximity to two others would have a detrimental effect on the village of Llanedi - on its residents and on the environment.

Firstly, there is the visual impact of the proposed development on the countryside. The new panels would be clearly visible from many properties in the village and from Ebenezer Road (B4279) which runs from Fforest through Llanedi to Tygroes. It would turn beautiful unspoilt countryside into a mass of glaring glass and would turn good agricultural land, currently farmed by local inhabitants into an industrial site. The proposed solar farm would have an operational lifespan of 40 years, by which time the company behind the scheme might no longer be in existence leaving a blot on the landscape for others to decommission.

Contrary to the claims made by the developers, building a 160-acre solar farm will not enhance biodiversity in the area. There are many species including butterflies, bats and red kites which would have their natural habitat destroyed by this scheme. Environmental stewardship is at great risk e.g insect life -butterflies, on adjacent marshland the nesting of LAPWINGS and CURLEWS and, a resting /feeding area for GREYLAG and CANADA GEESE in transit to other nearby WETLANDS areas and visiting DUCKS and BIRDS from Penclacwydd Wildfowl and Wetland. The presence on the marshland of SPAGHNUM MOSS is vital food for a number of birds, insects and a variety of vertebrates.

The fenced enclosures around solar panel fields do not allow space for wild animals to pass through, e.g if the enclosure is placed on a hedgehog "road" to its feeding ground it is not likely to find its way around the outside perimeter, but instead will eventually be starved of food and die. It must be noted that HEDGEHOGS are on the ENDANGERED species list already. Consideration must also be given to larger wild animals e.g badgers and foxes. The developers also claim that allowing sheep to graze within the solar farm is maintaining the agricultural use of the land, but that is hardly a justification for turning green fields into an expanse of glass.

Thirdly, there is the impact on several families whose homes would be almost surrounded by solar panels. There is already evidence that proximity to the existing solar farm has a negative impact on the value and saleability of property primarily on account of the noise produced by the solar farm. This scheme is far larger than the existing Clawdd Ddu Solar Farm and it will produce more noise and have a detrimental effect on more families in the area.

Fourthly, it is clear from the proposals that the main beneficiaries of this scheme would be Island Green Power, a multinational developer of solar farms and the main landowners, namely Sir John Michael Dillwyn-Venables-Llewelyn of Llysddinam, Newbridge-On-Wye and David Richard Mount of Camberley, Surrey. On 29 May 2020 they granted an option for a lease to Brynrhyd Solar Farm Limited to access the land that they own at Brynrhyd. Venables-Llewelyn is also a director to the two major estates that own land locally – Penllergaer Investments Ltd and Parcmawr Investments Ltd and if this scheme is approved, we would not be surprised if further applications were made at other locations in the vicinity. It is true that two local farmers – Brian Richards, the tenant farmer of Brynrhyd, and Gareth Jenkins of neighbouring Pentrehardd - have added some land that they both own, but the bulk of the financial benefit of the rent paid by Island Green Power will go to the primary landowners Messrs Dillwyn-Venables-Llewelyn and Mount.

Finally, there is the negative impact that this scheme will have on leisure activities and tourism in the area. People come to stay in Llanedi to enjoy the peace and quiet of the countryside and walk the public footpaths and roads around the village. No one is going to want to go for a walk or cycle in the middle of several hundred acres of solar farms, which in many places will drown both sides of Heol Troeon Bach, and those offering accommodation and hospitality to visitors will be adversely affected.

Whilst wholly supportive of renewable energy generation, we believe that this scheme is far too big for the area, especially considering the existence of Clawdd Ddu Solar Farm and the proposed Tycroes Solar Farm. We would kindly ask you to support those of us in the village who oppose this scheme and help ensure that any development that takes place is proportionate and safeguards the natural beauty of the village and its surrounding area.

Those people opposing the proposals generally recognise the need for renewable energy, however, they are already overlooked by the wind farm on the mountain towards Betws and believe that the proposed Solar Farm is too large for such a small village, particularly taking account of Clwdd Solar Farm and the proposed Tycroes Solar Farm.

I look forward to your response in this matter which I will pass on to my constituents.

Yours sincerely,

Tonia Antoniazzi MP  
Member of Parliament for Gower / Aelod Seneddol dros Gŵyr

"Any of the statements or comments made above should be regarded as personal and not necessarily those of the Parliament, any constituent part or connected body."

"Dylai unrhyw ddatganiadau neu sylwadau uchod gael eu trin fel rhai personol ac nid o reidrwydd fel datganiadau neu sylwadau gan Senedd, unrhywn ran ohoni neu unrhywn gorff sy'n gysylltiedig a hi."

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## **APPENDIX 17**

### **LLANEDI COMMUNITY COUNCIL RESPONSE**



---

**From:** David Davies <daidoc@yahoo.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 29 April 2021 14:12  
**To:** Benjamin Rowe  
**Subject:** Re: Brynrhyd DNS Solar Scheme Consultation

Hi Benjamin

Further to our recent telephone conversation and emails, and my previous response on this matter, please find as follows the observations of the Council in relation to the DNS application at Brynrhyd Solar Farm.

You will probably be aware that the Council has received a significant number of letters of objection from the local residents in the community. The Council has reviewed the extent of the proposed development and attempted to consider the impact of the proposal on both the local community and also the adjacent communities. The Council is of a view that in assessing this application that reference is also made to existing solar farm developments in this community area and cumulative impact of all the schemes.

Having made that assessment, the initial view of the Council is that this proposal is for a significant area of land the scale of which it considers will have a deleterious impact upon the existing community and the environment. When taken in conjunction with the other adjacent solar farms, it is of the view that this additional development represents an overdevelopment of solar farms within this specific community area.

In the event that this community has to suffer the impact of this development for a period of 30 years, it is also important that the community has an understanding of the level of community benefit grant that can be generated from the development as a compensation for the environmental and amenity loss. It would be hoped that this community benefit can be set at a realistic level over the whole of the operation period and can be in line with specific guidance. Whereas Carmarthenshire County Council hasn't developed a written policy on community funding opportunities stemming from renewable energy developments, the council has had sight of a draft policy document of a neighbouring principal authority. This has proved to be a useful reference source in establishing a quantum. In regard to solar farm development, the Welsh planning policy framework states that anything over 10 megawatts is deemed as large scale development and as such is categorised as a Development of National Significance. The solar farm proposed at Brynrhyd Solar Farm is a Development of National Significance. The draft policy document that we have seen advocates that it is not unreasonable to secure £30,000 per megawatt for a development of this nature. I would be obliged if you could confirm the level of community benefit that the proposed development can provide to the affected community?

I trust the above clarifies the Council's current observations with this matter however please get in touch should you require any further information.

Kind Regards

David Davies  
Clerk - Llanedi Community Council

**Mae're-bost hwn ac unrhyw atodiadau yn gyfrinachol ac wedi'u bwriadu at ddefnydd yrunigolyn y'u cyfeiriwyd ato/ati yn unig. Os derbyniwch y neges hon trwy gamgymeriad, rhowch wybod i'r sawl a'i hanfonodd ar unwaith, dileuwch y neges o'ch cyfrifiadur a dinistriwch unrhyw gopiau papur ohoni. Ni ddylech ddangos yr e-**

bost i neb arall, na gweithredu ar sail y cynnwys. Eiddo'r awdur yw unrhyw farn neu safbwyntiau a fynegir, ac nid ydynt o reidrwydd yn cynrychioli safbwynt y Cyngor. Dylech wirio am firsau eich hunan cyn agor unrhyw atodiad. Nid ydym yn derbyn unrhyw atebolrwydd am golled neu niwed a all fod wedi'i achosi gan firsau meddalwedd neu drwy ryng-gipio'r neges hon neu ymyrryd a hi.

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On Thursday, 22 April 2021, 11:33:25 BST, Benjamin Rowe <benjamin.rowe@pegasusgroup.co.uk> wrote:

Dear Mr Davies,

I am writing in regards to the proposed Development of National Significance solar scheme at Brynrhyd farm.

We sent the attached letter on 19<sup>th</sup> March inviting you to consult but we have yet to receive a response from Llanedi Community Council.

As the host community council we would very much appreciate your comments.

Do please get in touch with me with any questions - 01454453556

Kind regards

**Benjamin Rowe**  
Planner

**Pegasus Group**

PLANNING | DESIGN | ENVIRONMENT | ECONOMICS | HERITAGE

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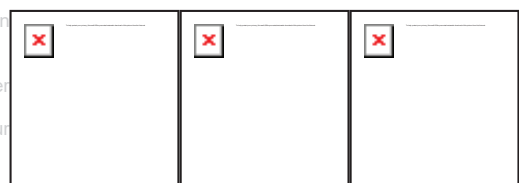
T 01454 625945 | E Benjamin.Rowe@pegasusgroup.co.uk

DD 01454 453546 | EXT 2078

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**\*\*\*IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PEGASUS GROUP & CORONAVIRUS / COVID-19\*\*\***

## **APPENDIX 18**

### **PONTARDDULAI TOWN COUNCIL RESPONSE**

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**From:** Aneurin John <clerk@pontarddulaistowncouncil.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 07 April 2021 08:32  
**To:** Brynrhyd  
**Subject:** Brynrhyd Solar Farm, Near LLanedi

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

I refer to your letter dated 18th March 2021 and wish to inform you that Pontarddulais Town Council is fully supportive of the application.



*Aneurin John*  
*Clerk to Pontarddulais Town Council*  
*Office: 01792 883348*  
*Home: 01792 885890*  
*Mobile: 07791160219*

## **APPENDIX 19**

### **COUNCILLOR TINA HIGGINS RESPONSE**

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**From:** Cllr. Tina Higgins <TMHiggins@carmarthenshire.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 29 April 2021 19:37  
**To:** Brynrhyd  
**Subject:** Brynrhyd Solar Farm proposal

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Sir, Madam,

Thank you for sending me a letter about the Brynrhyd Solar Farm proposal.

Whilst I support green renewable energy in principle, I am concerned about the large size of the proposal. I am concerned that open countryside would become dominated by solar farms and there has to be a cut off at some point therefore I cannot support this proposal.

Please see below my reasons for this which includes observations from many residents that have contacted me to express their views.

1. The solar farm could be seen from nearby properties.
2. Potential Noise pollution affecting nearby properties.
3. Size of the proposed solar farm. It is too big.
4. Impact on leisure and tourism. Visitors to the area are drawn to activities such as walking and cycling as are many locals.
5. It will not enhance the area biodiversity.
6. Some properties would be surrounding by solar panels.
7. Natural habitat of many animals and insects will be destroyed.
8. No benefit to the local community.
9. It is adjacent to a SSSI hay meadow.
10. This would be the third solar farm in a small village. This area has already made a significant contribution to green renewable energy.

I strongly object to this proposal and ask you to reconsider it.

Regards  
Councillor Tina Higgins  
Tycroes Ward  
Carmarthenshire County Council

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