

**APPENDIX 12.4:**

**PROPOSED LAY-BYS ARCHAEOLOGY REPORT**

## Summary

1. An archaeological walkover survey and desk study has been undertaken on sections of the road along which there will a delivery of wind farm components to the Mynydd y Gwynt Wind Farm, where the creation of new lay-by areas may need to take place.
2. The walkover survey was carried out for each site in August 2012. The purpose of the surveys was to highlight potential direct impacts which the works may have on designated and undesignated heritage assets on the sites and indirect impacts on designated heritage assets in the immediate vicinity of the sites.
3. It is not considered that the proposed works will have any direct impacts on any designated or undesignated heritage assets. It is also considered that the proposed works will not have any indirect impacts on any designated heritage assets. Furthermore, it is considered that the proposed works will not have any impacts on any Registered Historic Landscapes. Therefore no further archaeological works are recommended.

## Introduction

4. The Mynydd y Gwynt Wind Farm will require some wind turbine components to be delivered, because of their size, as police escorted Abnormal Indivisible Loads (“AILs”). The AILs will need a number of lay-by areas along the route where they can pull completely off the road and allow traffic to pass or lie up during peak travel hours. They may also be used for rest periods. Five potential lay-bys have been identified.
5. The aim of this assessment is to establish the known and potential historic environment resource within the areas of the proposed development and their environs which may be affected by the proposed development. It has been carried out in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance: historic environment desk-based assessment* (IfA 2011).
6. Two of the proposed lay-bys are situated on the A478 between the junction with the two trunk roads, the A40 and the A487 near Cardigan in Ceredigion. Lay-by POI 22 is situated south of Llandissilio village and Lay-by POI 41 north of Rhoshill village.
7. Another two of the proposed lay-bys are situated on the trunk road A487 between Cardigan and Aberystwyth. Lay-by POI 59 is situated between the villages of Sarnau and Brynhoffnant, and Lay-by POI 114 is within the village of Llanfarian, near Aberystwyth.
8. The last of the five lay-bys is situated on the trunk road A44 between Aberystwyth and the Mynydd y Gwynt Wind Farm. Lay-by POI 151 is situated east of the village of Goginan.
9. There are already existing lay-bys at POI 22, POI 59 and POI 151. According to the Lay-by Modifications drawings provided by SBA, Lay-by POI 151 will not undergo any modifications in width and length while Lay-by POI 22 will be very similar in size to the existing lay-by. Lay-by POI 59 will be extended considerably in length at its western end.
10. The location of the lay-bys is provided in **Figure 11.10** and the modifications in **Figure 11.11**.

## METHODS

11. This report seeks to identify the resource, assess the likely impact of the proposed development on this resource and provide recommendations for any mitigation strategies that may be appropriate. Therefore two areas have been used in assembling the data for this assessment; The Inner Study Area and The Outer Study Area, as follows:
  - For undesignated buried archaeological sites that are recorded on the historic environment record the Inner Site Study Area is a 150m buffer zone around each site. Whilst there is no potential for direct effects on cultural heritage features outside the development area, it is considered that information from the Inner Site Study Area may inform the assessment of the sensitivity of the Site and the archaeological resources within it.
  - For all designated heritage assets the Outer Study Area is a circle of 650m radius centred on the Site. It is not considered that potential for likely significant environmental effects on designated heritage assets exists beyond 650m.
12. The sites were visited on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2012. Conditions were cloudy and wet. Details of observations made during the site visit are detailed in the relevant sections below. A full digital photographic record was made of the visit and forms part of the project archive.
13. The following publicly accessible sources of primary and secondary information were consulted.

### Historic Environment Records

14. All sites lie within area covered by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust and its Historic Environment Record (HER), a database of recorded archaeological sites, findspots and events, was consulted for information relating to the Inner Study Areas in August 2012.

### Cartographic Sources

15. Historic mapping was obtained from National Library for Wales and online. Information from historic maps can assist in the assessment of archaeological potential in the following ways; highlighting previously unrecorded features, enabling an understanding of how the land has been managed in the recent past and identifying areas where development is likely to have removed or truncated below-ground archaeological deposits. All maps consulted are listed in the References section below.

### Documentary Sources

16. Other primary and secondary sources relating to the Study Areas were obtained from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales National Monuments Record and online. The sources consulted are listed in the References section below.

## RESULTS

### Lay-by POI 22

17. Lay-by POI 22 has an existing pull-in area situated on the southern edge of the small village of Llandissilio. The site is predominantly covered in stone chippings. There is a

hedgerow running along the western boundary that is about 1.5 metres in height and width. The lay-by is heavily potholed. The lay-by and surrounding area is largely flat and is situated at approximately 81m AOD. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is recorded as Mudstone of the Didymograptus Bifidus Beds overlain by sand and gravel glaciofluvial superficial deposits.

18. The HER and Cadw datasets indicate that there are no heritage assets, either designated or undesignated, on the lay-by. There are two designated heritage assets either completely or partially within the Inner Study Area. These are the Grade II Listed Building Cottage by Nant-y-Ffin Hotel, situated approximately 115m north of the site, and the most northerly of the two Crugiau Round Barrows Scheduled Monuments, situated approximately 150m to the south west of the site. In addition there are two undesignated heritage assets, Blaen-Conin Cottage and Blaen-Conin Chapel, both situated approximately 50m to the north of the site. The site does not lie within or close to any Registered Historic Landscape or Registered Parks and Gardens.
19. The first edition Ordnance Survey mapping for the area shows the site as being part of a wide roadside verge. The line of the hedgerow which forms the western boundary of the site seems to be in the same place as the present one. The same arrangement seems to persist until the 1970s Ordnance Survey mapping, when the lay-by is first depicted. The hedgerow seems to be in the same position throughout the sequence of maps consulted.
20. The landscape in which the site is situated is largely one of dispersed settlement, with nucleations seemingly limited to linear settlements along important road corridors.
21. Prehistoric monuments are relatively numerous in the surrounding landscape, with the nearest two recorded monuments from this period being the two Scheduled Monuments already mentioned. None of these monuments will be directly affected by the proposed development of the lay-by and indirect effects on the setting of the nearby Scheduled Monuments is considered to be neutral, given that the lay-by is pre-existing.
22. The road alignment probably dates from the Medieval period, with its route being formalised in the Post-Medieval period and then later Turnpiked in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It seems likely that although the road follows the line of earlier routeways, modernisation of the road would have destroyed any deposits related to these earlier routeways.
23. The designated and two undesignated buildings within the 150m buffer around the site all date from the Post-Medieval period. None of these buildings will be directly affected by the proposed development of the lay-by and indirect effects on the setting of the Listed Building is considered to be neutral, given that the lay-by is pre-existing.
24. The hedgerow which forms the western boundary of the site does not specifically meet any of the criteria laid down in Schedule 1 Part II 'Archaeology and history' section of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 which might qualify it as an Important hedgerow as part of these regulations. Its morphology suggests that it is an enclosure-period hedgerow.
25. Overall it is considered that there will be no direct or indirect effects on either designated or undesignated heritage assets of the proposed development of Lay-by POI 22 and no effects on the historic landscape character.



**Photo 12.1: Looking North along Lay-by POI 22**



**Photo 12.2: Looking South along Lay-by POI 22**

### **Lay-by POI 41**

26. The area of the proposed new lay-by currently forms a wide verge on the southern edge of the A478 to the south east of Bridell. The boundary with the adjacent field is formed with a combination of stock-proof post and wire fencing and a scrubby hedgerow. There is a drain running along the length of the site which has been back-filled with rubble, and a small concrete platform acting as an entrance way into the adjacent field. It is clear the north-western half of the site is below the natural ground level. The site is at its highest at its south eastern extent. The centre of the site is at approximately 85m AOD. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is recorded as being Mudstone of the Nantmel Mudstones Formation with no superficial deposits being recorded.
27. The HER and Cadw datasets indicate that there are no heritage assets, either designated or undesignated, on the lay-by or within either the Inner or Outer Study Area. The site does not lie within a Registered Historic Landscape, but is approximately 1.2km to the south of the Lower Teifi Valley Registered Historic Landscape. It is not considered that the proposed lay-by development will affect this Registered Historic Landscape as the proposed development will affect only a minor local change to the existing, un-designated, landscape, the character of which has already been adversely affected by the relocation of the hedge line noted in **Paragraph 30** below and therefore a full ASIDOHL v2 assessment is not proposed.
28. The landscape in which the site is situated is largely one of dispersed settlement, with nucleations seemingly limited to linear settlements along important road corridors.
29. Prehistoric monuments are relatively numerous in the surrounding landscape, with the nearest two recorded monuments from this period being Penralltddu Defended Enclosure, situated approximately 1.3km to the north west of the Site, and Castell Felin-Ganol Promontory Fort, situated approximately 1.9km to the north west of the site. Neither of these monuments will be directly affected by the proposed development of the lay-by and

indirect effects on the setting of the nearby Scheduled Monuments is considered to be neutral, given the pre-existing roadway is immediately adjacent to the site.

30. The first edition Ordnance Survey mapping for the area shows the site as being part of a field. The line of the hedgerow which forms the south western boundary of the site seems to have moved in the early years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, presumably to give improved visibility for access to and from the fields. It seems likely that the reduction in ground level observed in **Paragraph 26** above also dates from this time.
31. The road alignment probably dates from the Medieval period, with its route being formalised in the Post-Medieval period and then later Turnpiked in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It seems likely that although the road follows the line of earlier routeways, modernisation of the road would have destroyed any deposits related to these earlier routeways.
32. No designated or undesignated heritage assets are either on the site or within the 150m buffer around the site. There are no designated heritage assets within 650m of the site. It is therefore considered that no designated or undesignated heritage assets will be directly affected by the proposed development of the lay-by and any indirect effects on the setting of any designated heritage assets is considered to be neutral, given recent development of the site identified.
33. The hedgerow which forms the south western boundary of the site is recent and therefore does not meet any of the criteria laid down in Schedule 1 Part II 'Archaeology and history' section of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 which might qualify it as an Important hedgerow as part of these regulations.
34. Overall it is considered that there will be no direct or indirect effects on either designated or undesignated heritage assets of the proposed development of Lay-by POI 41 and no effects on the historic landscape character.



**Photo 12.3: Looking North West  
along Lay-by POI 41**



**Photo 12.4: Looking South East  
along Lay-by POI 41**

## Lay-by POI 59

35. Lay-by POI 59 is situated on the A487 between the settlements of Sarnu and Brynhoffnant. It is situated on a slight embankment, making the site approximately 1m higher than the surrounding fields. It has an existing tarmacked pull-in area of similar width recommended for the new proposed lay-by. The lay-by will be extended to the west of the existing lay-by into an area of existing roadside verge. The site is situated at approximately 220m AOD. The underlying bedrock geology is recorded as being Silty Mudstone of the Yr Allt Formation with no superficial deposits being recorded.
36. The HER and Cadw datasets indicate that there are no heritage assets, either designated or undesignated, on the lay-by. There is one designated heritage asset within the Inner Study Area. This is a Grade II Listed Post-Medieval milestone situated approximately 10m to the south of the site, on the opposite side of the road to the proposed development. There is one undesignated heritage asset within the Inner study Area. This is for the Fron Felen Uchaf Bronze Age round barrow, situated approximately 30m to the north of the site. There are no other designated heritage assets within the Inner or Outer study areas. The nearest Scheduled Monument is the Castell south of Pen-y-Foelur, situated approximately 1.9km to the east south east of the site. The site does not lie within or close to any Registered Historic Landscape or Registered Parks and Gardens.
37. The landscape in which the site is situated is largely one of dispersed settlement, with nucleations seemingly limited to linear settlements along important road corridors.
38. Prehistoric monuments are relatively numerous in the surrounding landscape, with the nearest two recorded monuments from this period being Penralltddu Defended Enclosure, situated approximately 1.3km to the north west of the Site, and Castell Felin-Ganol Promontory Fort, situated approximately 1.9km to the north west of the site. Neither of these monuments will be directly affected by the proposed development of the lay-by and indirect effects on the setting of the nearby Scheduled Monuments is considered to be neutral, given the pre-existing roadway is immediately adjacent to the site.
39. The first edition Ordnance Survey mapping for the area shows the site as being part of a wide roadside verge. The line of the field boundary which forms the northern boundary of the site seems to be in the same place as the present one. The same arrangement seems to persist until the 1970s Ordnance Survey mapping, when the lay-by is first depicted. The field boundary seems to be in the same position throughout the sequence of maps consulted.
40. The road alignment probably dates from the Medieval period, with its route being formalised in the Post-Medieval period and then later Turnpiked in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century, the period within which the milestone was erected. It seems likely that although the road follows the line of earlier routeways, modernisation of the road would have destroyed any deposits related to these earlier routeways.
41. No designated or undesignated heritage assets are on the site. One designated heritage asset, the Grade II Listed Milestone, is situated within the Inner Study Area. However, no sign of the milestone could be found despite an extensive search for it during the site visit. It should be noted that the roadside verge adjacent to the site of the milestone is very overgrown and this may have prevented the accurate observation of the milestone. The setting of the milestone is considered to be its relationship to the route of carriageway, and

given that this will not be affected by the proposed development, it is considered that there will be no adverse effects on the setting of this designated heritage asset. There are no further designated heritage assets within 650m of the site. It is therefore considered that no designated or undesignated heritage assets will be directly affected by the proposed development of the lay-by and any indirect effects on the setting of any designated heritage assets is considered to be neutral, given recent development of the site.

42. Overall it is considered that there will be no direct or indirect effects on either designated or undesignated heritage assets of the proposed development of Lay-by POI 59 and no effects on the historic landscape character.



**Photo 12.5: Looking East along Lay-by POI 59**



**Photo 12.6: Shot showing location of Grade II Listed milestone to South of site**

### Lay-by POI 114

43. The area of the proposed new lay-by currently forms a pathway and verge on the western edge of the A487 within the settlement of Llanfarian. The roadway and proposed site for the lay-by are situated within a cutting which seems to be at least 1.5m below the surrounding ground level. The site is at its highest at its northern extent, sloping sharply to the south. The centre of the site is at approximately 40m AOD. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is recorded as being Mudstone and Sandstone of the Trefechan Formation with the superficial deposits being recorded as Diamicton Devensian Till.
44. The HER and Cadw datasets indicate that there are no heritage assets, either designated or undesignated, on the lay-by or within the Inner Study Area. There are three Designated Heritage Assets within the Outer Study Area. These are all Grade II Listed Buildings, two of which are located approximately 200m to the south south-west of the site, with the third being located approximately 550m to the south west of the site. The site does not lie within a Registered Historic Landscape. The nearest Scheduled Monument, Tan-y-Castell, is situated approximately 1.2km to the north west of the site, and the Registered Park and Garden of Nantes is situated approximately 1.8km to the east of the site. It is not

considered that the proposed lay-by development will affect the setting of any designated heritage assets, due to the screening provided by the existing development surrounding the site.

45. The first edition Ordnance Survey mapping for the area shows the site as being part of a field. This arrangement persists until the early years of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, when the field was developed for housing. The roadway itself is substantially below the surrounding ground level at site. The early OS mapping depicts the eastern side of the road as being developed, with the buildings here seemingly dating from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. It seems likely that the roadway was sunk to its present level as part of the turnpiking of the route in the late 18<sup>th</sup> or early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The construction of the cutting would have resulted in the destruction of any archaeological deposits on the site, if they were present.
46. The road alignment probably dates from the Medieval period, with its route being formalised in the Post-Medieval period and then later Turnpiked in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 19<sup>th</sup> century. It seems likely that although the road follows the line of earlier routeways, modernisation of the road would have destroyed any deposits related to these earlier routeways.
47. No designated or undesignated heritage assets are either on the site or within the 150m buffer around the site. There are three designated heritage assets within 650m of the site. It is therefore considered that no designated or undesignated heritage assets will be directly affected by the proposed development of the lay-by and any indirect effects on the setting of any designated heritage assets is considered to be neutral, given recent development of the site identified and its surrounds.
48. Overall it is considered that there will be no direct or indirect effects on either designated or undesignated heritage assets of the proposed development of Lay-by POI 114 and no effects on the historic landscape character.



**Photo 12.7: Looking North along Lay-by POI 114**



**Photo 12.8: Looking South along Lay-by POI 114**

## Lay-by POI 151

49. Lay-by POI 151 is currently in use as a lay-by and the development proposals do not involve the alteration of the present lay-by or its extension. The roadway is situated within a deep cutting into the steeply sloping hillside and is to the south of the site, with the lay-by being situated on an area of made ground built up from the natural hillside. The centre of the site is at approximately 300m AOD. The underlying bedrock geology of the site is recorded as being Interbedded Mudstone and Sandstone Upper Devil's Bridge Member with no superficial deposits being recorded.
50. The HER and Cadw datasets indicate that there are no heritage assets, either designated or undesignated, on the lay-by or within the Inner Study Area. There are two Designated Heritage Assets within the Outer Study Area. These are all Grade II Listed Buildings, one of which is located approximately 420m to the west of the site, with the second being located approximately 530m to the south west of the site. The site lies within the Upland Ceredigion Registered Historic Landscape. The nearest Scheduled Monument, Round Barrow to the South West of Pen-Rhiwlas, is situated approximately 1.2km to the south west of the site. It is not considered that the proposed use of the lay-by will affect the setting of any designated heritage assets, due there being no change in use from the present.
51. No designated or undesignated heritage assets are either on the site or within the 150m buffer around the site. There are two designated heritage assets within 650m of the site. It is therefore considered that no designated or undesignated heritage assets will be directly affected by the proposed development of the lay-by and any indirect effects on the setting of any designated heritage assets is considered to be neutral, given recent development of the site identified and its surroundings.
52. Overall it is considered that there will be no direct or indirect effects on either designated or undesignated heritage assets of the proposed development of Lay-by POI 151 and no effects on the historic landscape character.



**Photo 12.9: Looking West along Lay-by POI 151**



**Photo 12.10: Looking East along Lay-by POI 151**

## DISCUSSION

53. Overall it is considered that there will be no direct or indirect effects on either designated or undesignated heritage assets and no effects on the historic landscape character of the proposed development of any of the lay-bys.
54. Therefore it is not proposed that any further works are carried out on any of the proposed layby sites.

## REFERENCES

Institute for Archaeologists (2011) *Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment*. Institute for Archaeologists: Reading

HMSO 1997 *Hedgerow Regulations*

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Undated *Lower Teifi Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation*. Dyfed Archaeological Trust: Llandeilo

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Undated *Upland Ceredigion Historic Landscape Characterisation* Dyfed Archaeological Trust: Llandeilo

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Undated *St. David's and Ramsey Island Historic Landscape Characterisation* Dyfed Archaeological Trust: Llandeilo