

APPENDIX 17.2:

**ADAS ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS REPORT
Mynydd y Gwynt Option 1 Grid Connection**



ArchaeoCheck™

ADAS Archaeological Constraints Report

Contact Information

Site name	Mynydd y Gwynt Proposed Wind Farm Potential Grid Route Option 1
Location	Pont Rhydgaled-Newtown
OS grid ref.	SN832 848 to SO140 924

Archaeological Potential & Conclusions

The proposed route is located in an area of low to low moderate archaeological potential. The proposed route will not directly affect any designated heritage assets, but sections of the route have the potential to affect the settings of certain designated heritage assets. These are described where relevant below.

It is understood that the proposed works would be entirely within the highway or the highway verge. It is therefore considered that future archaeological works related to intrusive ground works are unlikely to be required as any archaeological deposits that may have been present within the scheme route have probably been truncated or removed by the construction of the road network and verges.

This assessment has established that archaeology should not be seen as an over-riding constraint preventing the construction of the electricity service, but it should be noted that this assessment has adopted a purely desk based approach which relies purely on data which is available on line. Therefore, it should only be used as a guide and is not suitable to act as a supporting document for a planning application.

Assessor John Lord BSc MSc AIFA

Assessment date 01/06/2012

Proposed Works

The installation of electricity cables within the highway or on poles from the proposed Mynydd y Gwynt wind farm to Glan Hafren, on the A483 to the east of Newtown.

The proposed route is understood to be mainly overhead line on wooden poles, with certain sections being underground cabling. This assessment has therefore considered both methodologies for the entire route.

Consultees & Sources

Historic Wales website (<http://jura.rcahms.gov.uk/NMW/start.jsp>) accessed 19/04/2012.

1820 Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawing for Parts of the counties of Cardigan, Montgomery and Radnor, 1889-91 Ordnance Survey County Series, Montgomeryshire 1:10,560, 1903 Ordnance Survey County Series, Montgomeryshire 1:10,560, 1953 Ordnance Survey County Series, Montgomeryshire, 1:10,560, 1963-4 Ordnance Survey County Series, Montgomeryshire, 1:10,560 1963-4 Ordnance Survey County Series, Cardiganshire 1:10,000, 1887 Ordnance Survey County Series, Montgomeryshire, 1:2,500, 1902 Ordnance Survey County Series, Montgomeryshire, 1:2,500, 1973 Ordnance Survey County Series, Montgomeryshire, 1:2,500 1980 Ordnance Survey County Series, Montgomeryshire, 1:2,500.

Existing Conditions

The aim of this report is to identify potential archaeological constraints on an existing or proposed site that might affect, or be affected by, the project proposals and their implementation. Also, to identify the need for any more comprehensive surveys.



There are archaeological sites and findspots recorded alongside the whole of the Route. These are considered in more detail below with their locations marked on **Figure 17.4**. It should be emphasised that records held by the HER are essentially random and cannot be interpreted as a definitive list of all surviving archaeological remains. However, there are no records of any World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Parks and Gardens or Registered Battlefields within or adjacent to the Route. There are some listed buildings and structures along the route, and these are detailed below, along with an indication of how the proposed development might affect their setting. The portion of the Route which extends through Llanidloes is within the Llanidloes character area within the Clywedog Valley Registered Historic Landscape. The portion of the route between Llandinam and Red House, to the east of Caersws, is within the Maesmawr character area within the Caersws Basin Registered Historic Landscape. Although Registered Historic Landscapes have no statutory protection, they are a material consideration within the planning system.

Sites with statutory designations within 1km					
	World Heritage Site	Scheduled Monument	Registered Battlefield	Registered Parks and Gardens	Listed Buildings
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Archaeological Desk Study Results	HER No.	Figure 17.4 Ref No. (s)	Records/Observations/Notes
Prehistoric (5000,000 BC – AD 43)	19453	1	Middle Bronze Age round house found during topsoil stripping in advance of gas pipeline. Situated on river terrace c400 metres from Severn. Unlikely to be affected if over grounding the route, but if route is undergrounded then archaeological monitoring would be appropriate.
Romano-British (AD 43 - 400)	19454	1	Part of the Roman road running south from Caersws was discovered during topsoil stripping for a gas pipeline in 1994. Unlikely to be affected if over grounding the route, but if route is undergrounded then archaeological monitoring would be appropriate.
	5131	2	Scheduled monument of a rectilinear enclosure, probably a Roman period defended enclosure. Survives as an extant earthwork in places and situated on eastern side of former railway trackbed. Will not be affected if route is undergrounded within or close to the highway in this location. Setting is unlikely to be affected if poles are close to the highway. Route should avoid going closer to monument than the road as this could negatively affect the setting.
	88594	3	Section of Roman road situated on line of current road. Possibility that remains associated with the Roman road survive in present highway and could be disturbed if this section is undergrounded.
Early Medieval (AD 400 – 1066)	None recorded	None recorded	None recorded
Late Medieval (AD 1066 – 1500)	13126	4	Cae Castell place name. 'Cae castell' means castle field, which could indicate a fortified enclosure close by, but it is more likely to indicate that the enclosure was the property of a manorial estate.

Post Medieval (AD 1500 – present)	40847	4	Grade II Listed milestone. Setting should not be affected, but care should be taken to avoid disturbing this heritage asset
	13127, 20903, 77926, 40849	5	A number of Grade II* and Grade II Listed buildings, forming the core of Cwmbelan. Setting of these should not be affected as the proposed Route follows the line of the A470 which in turn follows the line of the former railway, and is considered to be outside of the setting of the buildings, which is the valley within which they are situated, and the road along which they are built.
	40838	6	Grade II Listed mid 19 th century house. Setting of this building is the house and garden and the views of/from the house from/to the road and the field to the west. These views could be affected by the introduction of the vertical intrusion of poles and wires into a landscape which does not seem to have any poles/pylons or any other significant vertical intrusion in the view to/from the house. Recommended that the scheme is undergrounded at this location.
	31803	7	Grade II Listed mid 19 th century house. Setting should not be affected as the house is screened from the road by trees.
	31759	8	Grade II Listed Llanidloes station building. Setting is the relationship of the building to the road, which follows the line of the former railway trackbed at this point. The significance of the building is affected by the current use of the trackbed and the presence of a high fence between the road and the building. Therefore if the Route was overground at this point it is considered that the setting of this building will not be affected.
	42099	9	Grade II Listed milestone. Setting should not be affected, but care should be taken to avoid disturbing this heritage asset.
	42105	10	Grade II Listed mid 19 th century cottage. Setting should not be affected as there seem to be an extensive profusion of existing wooden utility poles in the area.
	42083-42088, 70280, 70279	11	Grade II Listed post World War I planned estate of bungalows to house retired employees of Dinam Estate, with war memorial (also G II Listed) forming centrepiece. Grade II listed 19 th century Llandinam Presbyterian church. Setting should not be affected as there are metal streetlamps already in situ.
	6996, 32614	12	Grade II* Listed bridge and statue. Statue is of the bridge's designer and is listed for group value with the bridge. In order to avoid affecting the group value no development should take place between the statue and the bridge, as the introduction of vertical intrusion here could be seen as divorcing the statue from its setting, namely the bridge.
	42092, 42089	13	Grade II Listed milestone and Grade II listed lodge and gate piers. Setting should not be affected, but care should be taken to avoid disturbing these heritage assets.
	32610	14	Grade II Listed Llanduam Hall. The setting is the surround farm buildings and the isolation of the buildings away from the road. The setting should not be affected.
	42156	15	Grade II Listed milestone. Setting should not be affected, but care should be taken to avoid disturbing this heritage asset.
	42153	16	Grade II Listed Glanhafren Hall. Setting is the views to/from the house from the A489. Possible setting issues here if the Route is overground. Recommend that the scheme is undergrounded at this location.

Post Medieval (AD 1500 – present)	31078	17	Grade II Listed farmhouse. The setting is the farm and associated buildings, but this has been compromised by the presence of the holiday home park, so no heritage setting issues are expected.
	31056, 5757	18	Grade II Listed building. Setting is the outlook of the building to the north and the location of the building in a prominent position on an earthwork mound which is not designated. The name of the house, Castell-y-Dial, suggests a castle, small stronghold or fortified residence and the listing description says that the current building has earlier origins. There is also a record for a Bronze Age burial cairn in the vicinity, which may have been situated on this mound. This, and the mound, suggests a high archaeological potential. It is recommended that this area be avoided, with the scheme extending along the minor road to the north at the point.
	31046	19	Grade II Listed farmstead. The setting is the farm, its associated buildings and the location the buildings in a prominent position on the corner of the road. Route on the plan suggests that the setting will not be affected if the scheme is on wooden poles.

19th and 20th Century Mapping and Aerial Photography

The earliest map consulted for this report was the 1820 Ordnance Survey Surveyors Drawing for Parts of the counties of Cardigan, Montgomery and Radnor. This shows the majority of the Route following the line of the Newtown to Aberystwyth turnpike road, with limited deviation into fields. The portions of the Route which pass through Llangurig, Llandinam and the northern route through Newtown pass close to or through the historic cores of these settlements. Throughout all of the cartographic sources consulted, the Route passes through an essentially rural landscape.

Discussion

This assessment has concluded that the archaeological potential of the portion of the Route is considered to be generally low, with the exception of the area around point 18 on **Figure 17.4**, which is considered to have a high archaeological potential. The organisation of the landscape in the recent past suggests a low density, highly dispersed settlement pattern, with the majority of the land in agricultural use.

It is considered that although the portions of the Route which pass through Llangurig, Llandinam and the northern route through Newtown pass close to or through the historic cores of these settlements, if the Route is undergrounded at these points then it is considered that no archaeological deposits are likely to be affected as prior disturbance of the highway is likely to have truncated any archaeological deposits that may have been present. The Route passes to the east of the historic core of Llanidloes, and therefore should not affect any archaeological deposits.

Should the Route be undergrounded along its entire length within the highway it will not affect any designated heritage assets, in terms of either direct or indirect effects. There is the potential for it to affect the undesignated heritage assets identified at points 1 and 3 on **Figure 17.4**, and should the scheme be undergrounded at these points away from the roadway then it is recommended that archaeological monitoring of the ground works takes place to ensure that any archaeological deposits are recorded. However, if the scheme is entirely within the roadway at these points then it is considered that any archaeological works will not be required as it seems likely that if any archaeological deposits that may have been present at these points have probably been truncated or removed by the construction of the road network and verges.

Whilst those parts of the Route which pass through Registered Historic Landscapes should not affect the setting of the Registered Historic Landscape if the over ground option is undertaken, it should be noted that an ASIDOHL V2 assessment is likely to be required to fulfil planning conditions.

This desk-based assessment has established that archaeology or cultural heritage should not be seen as an over-riding constraint preventing the construction of the electricity service, subject to the adjustments and/or additional assessments recommended above.

References

- CPAT Undated The Caersws Basin Historic Landscape Characterisation (<http://www.cpat.org.uk/projects/longer/histland/caersws/swsint.htm> accessed 01.06.12)
- CPAT Undated The Clywedog Valley Historic Landscape Characterisation (<http://www.cpat.org.uk/projects/longer/histland/clywed/clyint.htm> accessed 01.06.12)
- Historic Wales (<http://jura.rcahms.gov.uk/NMW/start.jsp> accessed 01.06.12)
- Archwilio CPAT (http://www.cofiadurcahcymru.org.uk/arch/cpat/english/cpat_interface.html accessed 01.06.12)