



The Planning Inspectorate Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Application by Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Project (Ref: EN010112)

Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection (USI)

Inspection 1: Environs of the application site and wider area – 27 June 2022 to 29 June 2022

This note is a brief record to inform the Applicant, Interested Parties and any other parties of the actions taken by the Examining Authority (ExA).

The ExA (or a combination of its members) undertook a USI on Monday 27 June 2022, Tuesday 28 June 2022 and Wednesday 29 June 2022. The inspections took place by car or on foot, from public roads and public rights of way. The routes were planned having regard to the Applicant's application documents and the USI enabled the ExA to obtain views of, and to become familiar with the application site and surrounding area.

Viewpoints (VP) referred to relate to those identified in either the Applicant's Seascape, Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (SLVIA) [AS-027] or the Applicant's Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) [AS-029].

The ExA (or a combination of its members) intends to undertake further USIs in due course.

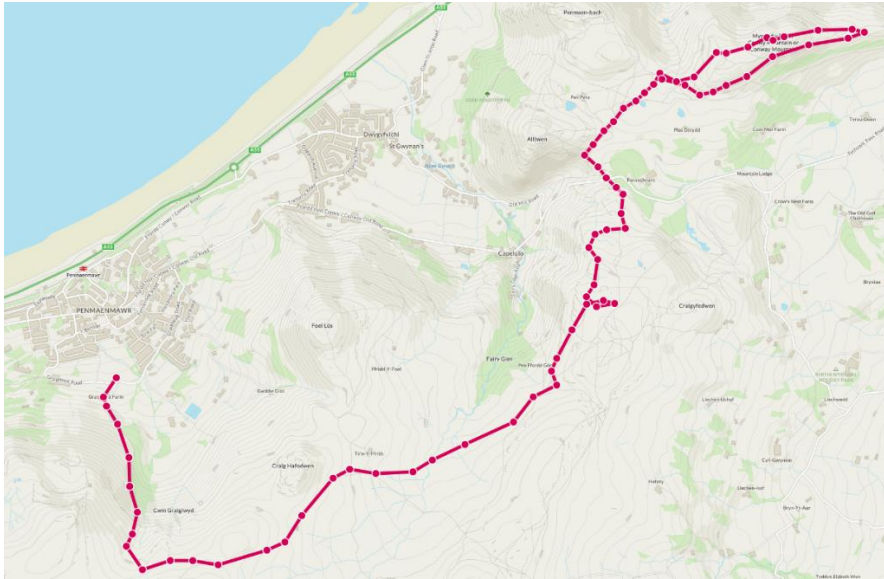
DAY 1 - Monday 27 June 2022

Weather: Sunny

Visibility: Good

The inspection was attended by ExA panel members Jonathan Hockley (Lead) and Alex Hutson. They visited SLVIA **VP 37** (Cefn Coch Stone Circle), **VP 40** (Above Capelulo - North Wales Path) and **VP 12** (Conwy Mountain), in that order, walking between them. The Applicant's photomontages were used to assist with the visualisation of the Proposed Development from these viewpoints. The route they walked is shown in the image¹ below.

¹ All images contain OS data © Crown copyright and database rights 2020 © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



DAY 2 - Tuesday 28 June 2022

Weather: Overcast, windy and occasional rain

Visibility: Reasonable

The inspection was attended by all ExA panel members, along with Jake Stephens, the Case Manager. They visited SLVIA **VP 14** (Wales Coast Path Near Penrhyn (Traeth yr Ora), **VP 4** (Moelfre Headland at Sculpture), **VP 16** (Benlech Bay View Road), **VP 5** (Red Wharf Bay), **VP 6** (Bwrdd Arthur - North of Trig Point), **VP 7** (Penmon Point - North-East of Parking), **VP 28** (Trwyn y Penrhyn Parking Layby), **VP 8** (Beaumaris - Wales Coastal Path), **VP 9** (Bangor Pier - Southern End), **VP 17** (Penrhyn Castle Terrace), **VP 11** (Llanfairfechan), **VP 13** (Great Orme - Near Summit Complex), **VP 15** (Great Orme – Café), **VP 20** (Bryn Euryn), **VP 29** (Colwyn Bay Promenade), **VP 21** (Mynydd Marian) and **VP 22** (Abergele Promenade), in that order, driving between the viewpoints and walking along public rights of way to reach the viewpoints where necessary. The Applicant's photomontages were used to assist with the visualisation of the Proposed Development from these viewpoints.

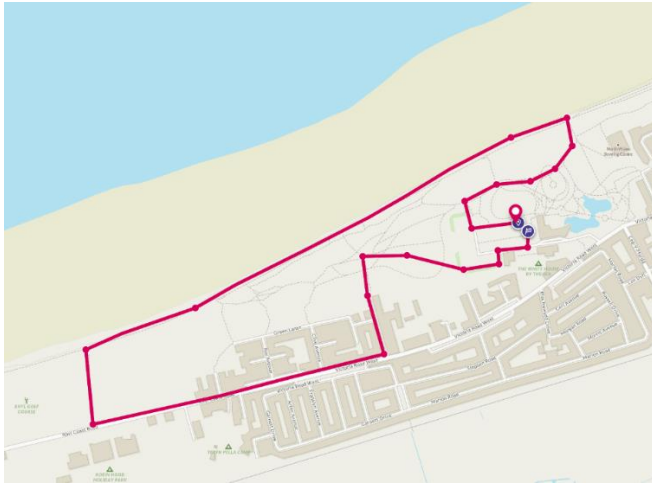
DAY 3 - Wednesday 29 June 2022

Weather: Sunny in the morning, cloud and rain during late morning and early afternoon and cloudy with sunny spells late afternoon

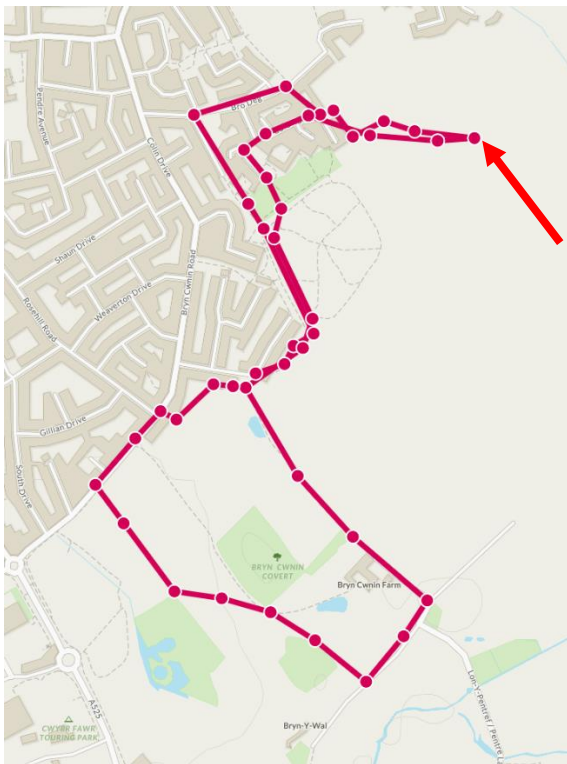
Visibility: Mixed, largely reasonable

The inspection was attended by all ExA panel members. Firstly, the ExA visited SLVIA **VP 59** (Llandudno Promenade - Lifeboat Slipway) and **VP 18** (Llandudno Paddling Pool). The Applicant's photomontages were used to assist with the visualisation of the Proposed Development from these viewpoints.

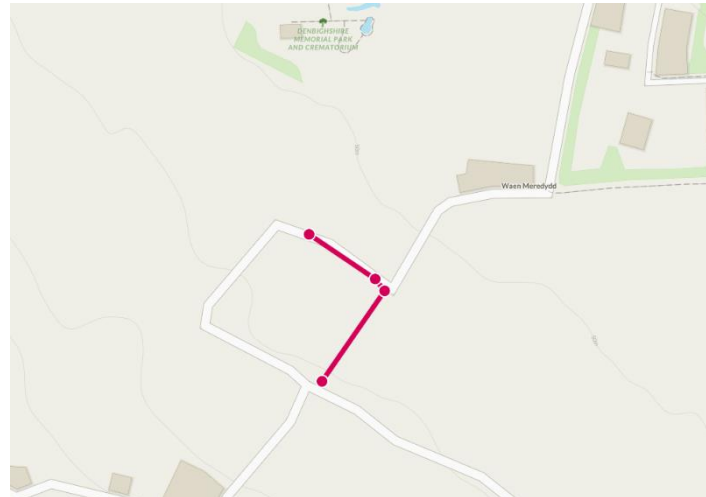
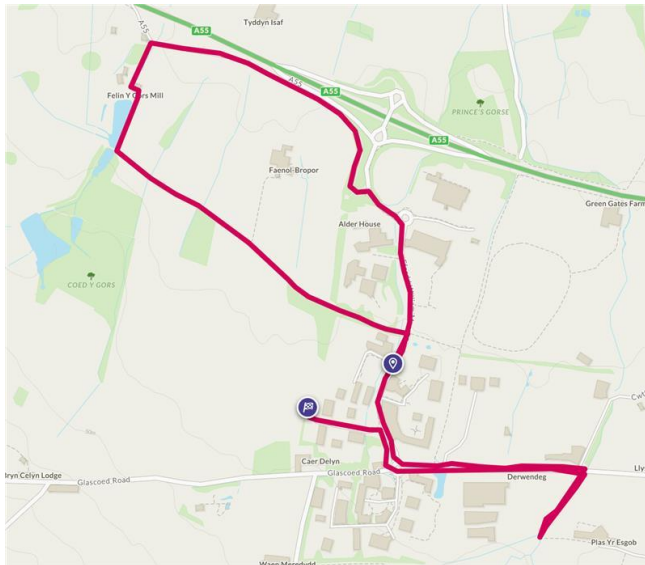
Secondly, the ExA travelled by car to Rhyl frontage to view the proposed area of the cable route landfall ('Section A'), part of the onshore cable route corridor (part of 'Section B'), area for a proposed construction compound and the general surroundings, on foot. The ExA walked along public rights of way, including those along the promenade and through Rhyl Golf Club. The route walked is shown in the image below.



Thirdly, the ExA travelled by car to the southeast of Rhyl to view further parts of the cable route corridor (part of 'Section C') on foot. The route walked is shown in the image below. It was noted by the ExA that the public right of way identified by the Applicant as DE/206/3 was obstructed / overgrown at the point of the red arrow shown in the image below, which prevented the ExA passing through a part of 'Section C'. The ExA observed views towards the application site from in the vicinity of listed buildings at Bryn Cwain Farm to gain an appreciation of these heritage assets and their settings.



Fourthly, the ExA travelled by car to St Asaph Business Park to view further parts of the cable route corridor (parts of 'Section C', 'Section F' and 'Section G') and the proposed site for the onshore substation, on foot. The routes walked are shown in the images below.



The ExA visited LVIA **VP 1** (Bridlepath nr Faenol-Broper), **VP 2** (St Asaph Business Park), **VP 3** (Glascoed Rd), **VP 4** (A55), and **VP 5** (Minor Rd, Groesffordd). The Applicant’s photomontages were used to assist with the visualisation of the Proposed Development from these viewpoints where possible. The ExA noted that due to the growth of hedgerows, the views from **VP 3** (Glascoed Rd) and **VP 4** (A55) were largely obstructed. The ExA was able to observe a similar view to that of **VP 4** (A55) a short distance from the viewpoint location.

The ExA observed views towards the application site from in the vicinity of a listed building at Faenol-Broper to gain an appreciation of this heritage asset and its setting. The ExA entered into the publicly accessible Glascoed Nature reserve to view the site from this location. The ExA observed the Gwynt y Môr onshore substation and National Grid (NG) connection point as well as the Burbo Bank onshore substation. The ExA observed the Denbighshire Crematorium and Memorial Park and its relationship to its surroundings and to the application site.

Footpath DE/105/7 was walked to gain appreciation of the proposed cable route around the linkages between the site and the existing NG substation and to view the NG substation from the west.

End of USI1