

Cefn Meiriadog and Glascoed Road Residents and Users Group
Registration identification number 10031184

NWWFC
EN020014

Re: Examining Authority's Questions

Comments are offered on some of the ExA's questions as below. Most comments are developed further in the Group's Written Representation

Q. Comment

- 0.1 Sites have been nominated in a separate document.
- 0.2 The 132 kV double-pole line from Moelfre to St George presents an excellent comparison as it uses exactly the same double wood poles with steel superstructures over broadly similar terrain, with use of stays. The Group suggests that the optimum location for viewing the line is on the unclassified road which branches left from the B5381 at the property Lletty (aka Llety Bugeiliad) approx. 5.5km west of St Asaph Business Park. Proceeding approx. 1km along this unclassified road as it skirts Moelfre Isaf mountain to the point where the line oversails the road, there is the view north is of the line as it crosses a landscape similar to those of the NWWFC, while looking south the line is seen to 'skyline' in a manner similar to its likely effect on the Cefn Meiriadog limestone ridge.
- 1.4 The proposed design is particularly unprepossessing and unsympathetic to the landscapes it will cross. The Group is informed that simply undergrounding the earth would allow the line to be made a single-pole one (as has been done elsewhere), while the withdrawal of the 11 Nant Bach Wind Farm from consideration should call for a rethink over the design.
- 1.17 In its WR the Group has discussed in detail Western Electric's 'Lifetime Costs Report' for the 40km Brechfa Forest Connection which was proposed for Carmarthenshire, and which offered a clear and comprehensive comparison of lifetime costs for a 132kV line through similar terrain, based on a 40-year lifetime. In the Brechfa Report the ratio of costs of transmission losses for overhead and underground lines is 3.87:1, with detailed calculations given. (The actual costs calculated are £3.446m (overhead) vs. £890,000 (underground).) The equivalent ratio given by the Applicant is 1.05:1, suggesting a need to re-examine the calculations in detail.

- 3.2 The Group has commented in detail in its WR on the risks associated with works traffic using the Groesffordd Marli to Glascoed Road, both in terms of Cefn Meiriadog C P School, where there is already a problem caused by there being no off-road parking, and residents living along the road as it narrows after passing Cefn Meiriadog chapel.
- 3.21 The Group has commented in detail in its WR on the unacceptable level of the disturbance which will be caused to residents.
- 3.22 As above
- 4.7 The Group has commented in detail in its WR on the need to quantify the loss of agricultural land, especially BMV land, taking into account the use of stays.
- 4.12 Issues relating to the Applicant's so-called '2-for-1 replacement strategy' have been discussed in the Group's WR.
- 5.4 Yes – there is a vagueness about this aspect of the proposal which gives cause for concern that the next generation will blame this one for being sold a 'pig in a poke'
- 8.1 Within Cefn Meiriadog the Applicant is proposing to underground a significant stretch of 33kV line and a shorter stretch of 11kV line which conflict with his proposed 132kV line. He is further proposing to underground 1.8km of line from the terminal pole to the substation, again almost all within Cefn Meiriadog. As discussed in more detail in the Group's WR, the Applicant's statement cannot therefore be held to apply to the Cefn Meiriadog portion of the proposed connection.
- 8.2 The Group has commented in its WR on the unsuitability of some viewpoints and has suggested alternatives on the B5381, the Groesffordd Marli to Cefn Meiriadog Road, and on the ancient way running over the Cefn Meiriadog limestone ridge.
- 8.17 The Group has described in its WR how in producing photographs for (c) the Applicant's contractors were photographing from completely unsuitable positions in which the views were blocked by hedges and banks, unlike the views from the properties themselves.
- 10.1 The effects on landscape and on attractions like the North Wales Pilgrim's Way and the Clwydian Way are such that it is simply not possible to dismiss the socioeconomic effects in this way, especially as far as the

longer-term is concerned.

Martin Barlow

Chair

On behalf of 182 members of the

Cefn Meiriadog and Glascoed Road Residents and Users Group

31.8.15