



Parc Ynni Calon y Gwynt

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Appendix 5P: Biodiversity Scoping





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1 BIODIVERSITY SCOPING

Ecological Feature	Importance – legislation and policy	Importance – project level ¹	Environmental change	Scoped in/out
Coedydd Llaur-y-glyn SAC	International	International	All environmental changes	Out – no hydrological connectivity to the Site, and greater than 5km from the Site and therefore outside the Zol for the habitats that the SAC supports.
Tanat and Vyrnwy Bat Sites/Safleoedd Ystlumod Tanat ac Efyrynwy SAC	International	International	All environmental changes	Out – designated for supporting bats, but greater than 10km from the Site and therefore outside the Zol and Core Sustenance Zone (CSZ) of 2 km for lesser horseshoe bats that the SAC supports.
Coedydd Derw a Saffleoedd Ystlumod Meirion/Meirionnydd Oakwoods and Bat Sites SAC	International	International	All environmental changes	Out – designated for supporting bats, but greater than 10km from the Site and therefore outside the Zol and CSZ for lesser horseshoe bats that the SAC supports.

¹ Where the project level importance has been assessed as being different from the legislation and policy importance, justification for this has been provided.

Berywn Special Protection Area (SPA)	International	International	All environmental changes	Out – designated for its importance supporting breeding birds. Ornithology is discussed in chapter 8.
Elenydd-Mallaen SPA	International	International	All environmental changes	Out – designated for its importance supporting breeding birds. Ornithology is discussed in chapter 8.
Llyn Mawr Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	National	National	Habitat degradation associated with dust deposition and hydrological pollution	In – the site is designated for the presence of animal and plant species dependent on the hydrology of the site. Watercourses within the Site are hydrologically connected to the SAC.
			Disturbance of species for which the SSSI is designated	Out – this site is designated primarily for supporting birds. Ornithology is discussed in chapter 8.
Llyn Du Wildlife Site	County	National (UK) - the site is designated for the presence of animal and plant species dependent on the hydrology of the site, which has the same extent as Llyn Mawr SSSI and is therefore assigned the same project level importance.	Habitat degradation associated with dust deposition and hydrological pollution	In – watercourses within the Site are hydrologically connected to the Wildlife Site.

Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (ASNW)	National (UK)	National (UK)	Habitat degradation associated with dust deposition and hydrological pollution	In – Areas of ASNW are present within the red line boundary of the Site.
Priority Habitats	National (UK)	National (Wales)	Permanent or temporary land-take/changes to habitats Habitat degradation associated with dust deposition and hydrological pollution	In – areas of Priority Habitat are within the construction footprint of the Site. Priority Habitats are considered to be of national conservation value, in accordance with their legislation, being listed on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016
Commuting/foraging bats	International	Local - Bats are protected by legislation at the European level. The bat population within the Site forms part of the wider population across mid-Wales. Despite this, owing to the species assemblage and the prevalence of these mostly common species across Wales, as well as the generally moderate suitability of the habitat within the Site as a whole to support foraging and commuting bats, the bat population within the Site is considered to be of local importance.	Permanent or temporary land-take/changes to habitats	In – it is known that the Site is used for foraging and commuting bats.
			Production of aural and visual stimuli and vibration	In – it is known that the Site is used for foraging and commuting bats.
			Increased light levels	In – it is known that the Site is used for foraging and commuting bats.
			Physical changes to the spatial environment	In – it is known that the Site is used for foraging and commuting bats.

Roosting bats	International	County – Bats are protected by legislation at the European level. The bat population within the Site forms part of the wider population across mid-Wales. Despite this, owing to the species assemblage and the prevalence of these mostly common species across Wales, as well as the generally moderate suitability of the habitat within the Site as a whole to support foraging and commuting bats, the bat population within the Site is considered to be of county importance.	All environmental changes	In – there are potential bat roosts within trees which may be affected by the construction of the access road. Further surveys will be undertaken in 2026 to assess the presence/likely absence of roosting bats within these trees. There are no known bat roosts within the Site. There are no structures or buildings within 200m of any turbine. There is a minimum of 200m between any turbine and areas considered to be of potential to support roosting bats. There is a minimum of 50m between any turbine and features considered likely to be used by bats.
Badger <i>Meles meles</i>	International	Local - Badger are protected by legislation at the national level. A badger population within the Site would form part of the wider population across mid-Wales. Badgers clans are generally, largely independent of one another, and badgers	Permanent or temporary land-take/changes to habitats	In – badger setts have been identified within the Site. Across much of the Site, there is suitable habitat to support foraging, commuting and sett-building.
			Production of aural and visual stimuli and vibration	In – badger setts have been identified within the Site. Across much of the Site, there is suitable habitat to support foraging, commuting and sett-building.

		are widespread across Powys.	Increased light levels	In – badger setts have been identified within the Site. Across much of the Site, there is suitable habitat to support foraging, commuting and sett-building.
Dormouse <i>Muscardinus avellanaria</i>	International	County - Dormice are protected by legislation at the national level. The dormouse population present within the Site would form part of the wider population across mid-Wales, and Powys. Given the rarity of the species in the county and decline of records, the population within the Site is of nature conservation importance at the county level.	All environmental changes	In – dormouse presence has been confirmed within the Access Road, and is assumed within all suitable habitats within the Site.
Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>	International	Local - Otter are protected by legislation at the national level. The otter population assumed to be present within the Site is likely to form part of the wider population in Powys and mid-Wales, and forms part of the Severn hydrometric area, which supports an otter stronghold . Taking this into account, the local	Permanent or temporary land-take/changes to habitats	In – habitat suitable for commuting and foraging otter is present within the Site.
			Production of aural and visual stimuli and vibration	In – habitat suitable for commuting and foraging otter is present within the Site.
			Increased light levels	In – habitat suitable for commuting and foraging otter is present within the Site.

		otter population is considered to be of nature conservation value at the county level.		
Water vole <i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	National (Wales)	N/A – water vole are likely absent from the Site	All environmental changes	Out – water vole surveys identified no evidence of water vole within the Site.
Other mammals	Up to National (Wales)	Local - these mammals are afforded protection through legislation and/or policy up to the national level. However, owing to the extent of similar or more suitable habitat outside the Site, any populations within the Site are considered to be of local conservation value.	All environmental changes	Out - Effects to other mammals (to include brown hare <i>Lepus europaeus</i> , hedgehog <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i> , pine martin <i>Martes martes</i> , and polecat <i>Mustela putorius</i>) are not considered to be greater than a local level, as the Proposed Development would not substantially reduce the availability or accessibility of suitable habitats within the Site or locally.
Reptiles	National (Wales)	Local - reptiles are protected by legislation at a national level. The reptile population assumed to be present within the Site is likely to form part of the wider population in Powys and mid-Wales. Whilst reptiles are widespread across Powys, the upland heathland of the Main Site presents	Permanent or temporary land-take/changes to habitats	In - reptile species are considered likely present within the Site due to the presence of suitable habitats and confirmed records within 2km.

		localised areas of suitable habitat to support reptiles. Therefore, the reptile population within the Site is considered to be of local importance.		
Common and widespread amphibians	National (Wales)	Local - Owing to the limited suitable habitat to support these species, as well as the extent of similar or more suitable habitat outside the Site, any populations within the Site are likely to be present at low density and considered to be of local importance.	All environmental changes	Out - common and widespread amphibians' species are present within the Site. However, the extent of suitable habitat being lost is considered to be small and the likelihood of amphibians being present within those small areas, and for the small areas to be important habitat resources for the species, is considered negligible. The Proposed Development would not substantially reduce the availability or accessibility of suitable habitats within the Site or locally.
Great crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i>	International	National - The Site is near to the edge of the range of great crested newts in Wales, and so the population within the Site is of nature conservation importance at the national level.	Habitat degradation associated with dust deposition and hydrological pollution	In – the Site is known to support breeding great crested newts .
			Permanent or temporary land-take/changes to habitats	In – the Site is known to support breeding great crested newts .
			Production of aural and visual stimuli and vibration	In – the Site is known to support breeding great crested newts .

			Increased light levels	In – the Site is known to support breeding great crested newts .
Terrestrial invertebrate species	National (Wales)	Local - owing to the largely fragmented nature of the suitable habitat to support these species, as well as the extent of similar or more suitable habitat outside the Site, any populations within the Site are considered likely to be of local conservation value.	All environmental changes	Out – there were thirteen species of notable invertebrate identified within 2km of the Site during the desk study. The Proposed Development will not substantially reduce the availability or accessibility of suitable habitats within the Site or locally, and the Proposed Development is only likely to result in a minor effect on commonly occurring species.
Aquatic invertebrate species	National (Wales)	Local - Aquatic invertebrates are afforded protection through legislation and/or policy up to the national level, such as white-clawed crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . At the catchment scale, the aquatic invertebrate community is of conservation value at the County scale, although at the Site scale populations are considered likely to be of up to local conservation value.	All environmental changes	Out – the Proposed Development will not substantially reduce the availability or accessibility of suitable habitats within the Site or locally, and the Proposed Development is only likely to result in a minor effect on commonly occurring species.

Invasive non-native invertebrate species	National	N/A	All environmental changes	Out – the Proposed Development will not substantially change the availability or accessibility of suitable habitats within the Site or locally, and the Proposed Development is only likely to result in a minor effect on commonly occurring species.
Fish	National	Local - Salmon, brown trout, river and sea lamprey are listed as a Priority Species and are therefore afforded protection up to the national level. Bullhead is protected under Annex II of the EC Habitats Directive only where they are a designated feature of a SAC. Bullhead are considered common and widespread in Wales. The fish populations within the Afon Carno are considered to be of local importance.	Habitat degradation associated with dust deposition and hydrological pollution	In – there is suitable habitat within the Site to support fish, and the Afon Carno, which receives flow from watercourses within the Site, supports species such as salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> , brown trout <i>Salmo trutta</i> and bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> .
			Permanent or temporary land-take/changes to habitats	In – there is suitable habitat within the Site to support fish.
			Production of aural and visual stimuli and vibration	In – there is suitable habitat within the Site to support fish.
			Increased light levels	In – there is suitable habitat within the Site to support fish.
Invasive non-native plant species	National	N/A	All environmental changes	Out - Invasive non-native plant species were not identified within the Proposed Development footprint.
Notable plants	County	Local - Notable plant species are afforded protection through legislation and/or policy	All environmental changes	Out – no notable plant species were identified in the habitat surveys. Although bluebell <i>Hycacinthoides non-scripta</i> are assumed to be

		up to the national level. However, owing to the small amount of suitable habitat within the Site to support bluebell, as well as the extent of similar or more suitable habitat outside the Site, any populations within the Site are considered to be of local importance.		present within suitable woodland habitat within the Site, the Proposed Development would not substantially reduce the availability or accessibility of suitable habitats within the Site or locally.
Fungus species	County	Local - Based on the information available, there is not likely to be a sensitive fungi community, or fungi community of particular conservation value (above local level), within the Site.	All environmental changes	Out – no notable fungus species were identified in the habitat surveys. The Proposed Development would not substantially reduce the availability or accessibility of suitable habitats within the Site or locally.
Common and widespread habitats of negligible nature conservation importance	County	Local	All environmental changes	Out - The loss or disturbance of common and widespread habitats of limited nature conservation importance (for example improved grassland) are not expected to lead to significant ecological effects. Effects on protected or otherwise notable species that are confirmed to use the habitats would still be assessed as part of the wider assessment for those species.
Temporary disturbance of common and widespread	County	Local	All environmental changes	Out - Temporary disturbance of common and widespread species of



species of negligible nature conservation importance				negligible nature conservation importance will be managed through generic control measures and is considered unlikely to result in significant effects to Important Ecological Features.
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