



Parc Ynni Calon y Gwynt

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Appendix 7H: LANDMAP CLSAA Assessment of Effects





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1 Capital Quarter

Tyndall Street

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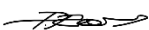
CF10 4BZ

Phone: +44 2920 769 200

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 OVERVIEW

- 1.1.1. The filtering process described in **Appendix 7B**, identified four Cultural Landscape Services Aspect Area (CLSAAs) that should be carried through to the assessment of effects as follows:
- MNTGMCLS021 Carno Mosaic;
 - MNTGMCLS099 Carno Uplands;
 - MNTGMCLS108 Esgair Cwmowen Uplands; and
 - MNTGMCLS130 Caersws River Bowl.
- 1.1.2. The landscape sensitivity of the CLSAAs to the Proposed Development is presented in **Appendix 7C** in accordance with the methodology set out in **Appendix 7A**. **Table 7H-1** assesses the magnitude of change which is likely to arise as a consequence of the Proposed Development before determining the level of effect and its significance.
- 1.1.3. The CLSAAs scoped into the LVIA are illustrated in **Figure 7.8g LANDMAP Cultural Landscape Services Aspect Areas with Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) to Blade Tip**.
- 1.1.4. Whilst scenic quality, views, night-time light pollution and perceptual qualities such as tranquillity and wildness are all recorded In the LANDMAP Surveys for the Cultural Landscape Services Aspect, the effects on these qualities of the landscape are reported within the relevant Visual and Sensory Aspect Area (VSAA) assessments, with the boundaries of the VSAA and CLSAAs being identical. This assessment therefore focusses on the guidance provided in Using LANDMAP in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments GN46¹ which states, in respect of Cultural Landscape Services, *“The Historic Environment Record classes (question 28) and in time the folklore, artistic and events questions 17-21 may indicate notable or highly valued cultural associations for the area. Consider how the development affects the perceptions and values of these cultural associations and how they are experienced”*. The definitions of the Historic Environment Record (HER) classes included in Question 28 of the LANDMAP Surveys is set out in LANDMAP Cultural Landscape Services - Cultural Heritage & Sense of Place and Belonging II – Placenames² and are reported in the baseline descriptions in **Appendix 7C**.

¹ Natural Resources Wales (2025) *Using LANDMAP in Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments GN46*. (Online). Available at: <https://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/guidance-and-advice/business-sectors/planning-and-development/evidence-to-inform-development-planning/using-landmap-in-landscape-and-visual-impact-assessments-gn46/?lang=en>

² Natural Resources Wales (2019) LANDMAP Cultural Landscape Services - Cultural Heritage & Sense of Place and Belonging II – Placenames. (Online). Available at: <https://cdn.naturalresources.wales/689522/eng-evidence-report-347-landmap-cultural-landscape-services-cultural-heritage.pdf>

2 ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS

2.1 CLSAA RECEPTORS

Table 7H-1 – Assessment of effects: CLSAAS

CLSAA	Assessment
MNTGMCLS021 Carno Mosaic	As set out in Table 7C-10 of Appendix 7C, this CLSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. <u>Assessment: Proposed Development Construction Phase</u> The 24-month construction phase would result in direct landscape effects on part of the Site and its component landscape elements which coincide with this CLSAA. This would be concentrated along the central section of the access road from the A470, which crosses the eastern edge of the CLSAA. The routing of the access road across this landscape would have a direct effect upon the CLSAA, contrasting with one of the dominant cultural identity indicators relating to Agriculture and Subsistence (HER class CL2 22.819%), whilst conversely intensifying two of the other dominant cultural identity indicators which relate to transport (HER classes CL35 22.819% and CL37 10.738%), which are manifested through the presence of the A470 and the Cambrian Line, which run parallel with each other through the centre of this Aspect Area. The presence and movement of construction vehicles would therefore not be incongruous within a landscape where movement is common. The periodic deployment of a crane would also have an indirect effect across localised areas of landscape within this aspect area. In respect of cultural associations and identity, the magnitude of change during the construction phase would be up to Medium-Low and the concluded Moderate to Minor effect would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be short-term (permanent where the access road is to be retained), direct and indirect and adverse. <u>Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phases</u> This is a moderately large CLSAA, with the majority of the new section of access road from the A470 routed through its eastern fringes. The ZTV (Figure 7.8g) indicates that the proposed turbines would be visible from across the majority of the CLSAA, with 10-11 turbines being theoretically visible from within the elevated southern fringes of the CLSAA, decreasing in the number of turbines visible to the north, where 1-3 turbines may be apparent from within northern areas of landscape. There are no existing wind turbines within the CLSAA, as confirmed in Figure 7.12. The continued presence of the access road across this landscape would have a direct effect upon the CLSAA whilst the proposed turbines would have indirect effects across areas of landscape within this aspect area which is recorded in the LANDMAP survey sheet as having a '<i>moderate sense of place/ local distinctiveness</i>'. The presence of prominent man-made vertical structures would, however, represent a contemporary extension of the dominant cultural identity indicator in respect of Infrastructure (HER class CL20 21.477%), although recognising that the proposed turbines would be of a scale which far exceeds the types of infrastructure recorded as part of the baseline. The movement of the turbines would also not be incongruous within a landscape where movement is common along the A470 corridor, with the occasional movement of trains along the Cambrian Line. Whilst no art/artistic expressions, folklore/legends or events/ traditions associated with the landscape within the CLSAA have been recorded in the LANDMAP Survey, this area is associated with the internationally renowned Laura Ashley fashion company and there are numerous local legends (Cwm Nant y Penglog, Hywel Dda's Legend, Twr Pen-cyrn cairns, The 'Crinjar'). The presence of the turbines would not significantly alter the perceptions of these cultural associations.

CLSAA	Assessment
	In respect of cultural associations and identity, the magnitude of change as a result of the Proposed Development would be up to Medium-Low. The resulting Moderate to Minor effect would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (permanent where the access road is to be retained), direct and indirect and adverse. <u>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development</u> The operational wind turbine schemes at Tirgwynt, Cemmaes and Llandinam together with the consented Llanbrynmair, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach would have no influence on the cultural associations within this CLSAA due separation distance (Zero magnitude). The operational Carno I & II schemes are located within 1km of this CLSAA and would have a slight characterising influence (Very Low magnitude) whilst the consented Carno III may have some limited characterising influence over parts of this CLSAA (Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. <u>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development</u> The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme and the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would theoretically be visible from within this VSAA as indicated by the cumulative ZTVs in Figures 7.13.1 and 7.13.6, although the separation distance would reduce the potential characterising effects on the cultural associations within this CLSAA (Very Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.
MNTGMCLS099 Carno Uplands	As set out in Table 7C-10 of Appendix 7C, this CLSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of High-Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High-Medium. <u>Assessment: Proposed Development Construction Phase</u> This is a moderate sized CLSAA and whilst overlapped by the Site, no physical construction activities would take place within this Aspect Area. The presence of construction activity occurring in close proximity, including the deployment of cranes, from within open areas of landscape within this CLSAA, would contrast with the dominant cultural identity indicators relating to Agriculture and Subsistence (HER class CL2 25.641%) and Religious Funerary and Ritual – Prehistoric (CL32 10.256%). The magnitude of change as a result of the construction phases of the Proposed Development would be Low within the closest parts of the CLSAA, reducing to Very Low with increasing separation distance and Zero across the remainder of the CLSAA where no visual effects pathway exists. The resulting Moderate to Minor effect would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be short-term, indirect and adverse. <u>Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase</u> Whilst this CLSAA would not host any of the infrastructure associated with the Proposed Development, the ZTV (Figure 7.8g) indicates that the proposed turbines would be visible from across a moderately extensive area of the CLSAA, where 10-11 turbines would occasionally be visible although in reality, the coniferous forestry (not accounted for in the ZTV calculation) would restrict a proportion of the views. There are no existing wind turbines within the CLSAA, as confirmed in Figure 7.12. The presence of the proposed turbines would have indirect effects across open areas of landscape within this aspect area, which is described in the LANDMAP survey sheet as having a '<i>moderate sense of place/ local distinctiveness</i>'. Their scale and movement would contrast with the dominant cultural identity indicators relating to Agriculture and Subsistence (HER class CL2 25.641%) and Religious Funerary and Ritual – Prehistoric (CL32 10.256%). The turbines may conversely be viewed as a

CLSAA	Assessment
	contemporary extension to the dominant cultural identity indicator in respect of Infrastructure (HER class CL20 20.513%), although the proposed turbines would be of a scale which far exceeds the types of infrastructure recorded as part of the baseline. No art/ artistic expressions, folklore/legends or events/ traditions associated with the landscape have been recorded in the LANDMAP Survey. The magnitude of change as a result of the Proposed Development would be Low within localised parts of the CLSAA and Zero across the remainder of the CLSAA where no visual effects pathway exists. The resulting Moderate to Minor effect would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, indirect and adverse. <u>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development</u> Operational and consented wind turbine schemes within the Study Area would have very limited influence on how the cultural associations within this CLSAA are perceived, due to separation distance, the scale of the turbines and levels of coniferous forestry screening within this Aspect Area (Very Low to Zero magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse. <u>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development</u> The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme (Very Low magnitude) and the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would be visible from within this CLSAA as indicated by the cumulative ZTVs, with the scale and proximity of the Llyn Lort turbines (220m to blade tip), resulting in effects on the CLSAA's cultural associations and a magnitude of change which is comparable to that concluded for the Proposed Development (Low magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Moderate to Minor and Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, indirect and adverse.
MNTGMCLS108 Esgair Cwmowen Uplands	As set out in Table 7C-10 of Appendix 7C, this CLSAA is assessed as being of High value and of High susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be High. <u>Assessment: Proposed Development Construction Phase</u> The 24-month construction phase would result in direct landscape effects on part of the Site and its component landscape elements which coincide with this CLSAA. This would be concentrated around ten of the turbines (T1-T10), the BESS, substation and control building compounds, internal access tracks and the temporary construction compound, all of which are sited within this receptor unit. The level of construction activity and associated contrasting colours, movement and presence of people would be uncharacteristic and would contrast with the dominant cultural identity indicators relating to Agriculture and Subsistence (CL2 38.71%) and Religious Funerary and Ritual – Prehistoric (CL32 17.634%), with the latter manifested in the cairns and standing stones which occur frequently across the southern part of this upland landscape. The magnitude of change as a result of the construction phase of the Proposed Development would be up to High from within the Site and closest area of the CLSAA, reducing to Low with increasing separation distance and Zero within areas outside of the ZTV. The resulting localised Substantial effect would be Significant. The nature of these effects would be short-term, direct and adverse. <u>Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phase</u> This is an extensive CLSAA which would host all 11 turbines, ancillary infrastructure, access tracks and the northern (upgraded) section of the access road into the Main Site. The ZTV (Figure 7.8g) indicates that the proposed turbines would be visible from across the majority of the southern half of the CLSAA to a distance of approximately

CLSAA	Assessment
	4km, becoming more fragmentary at distances between distances of 4 km to 10 km. As shown in Figure 7.12, this CLSAA already hosts the 17 operational turbines at Mynydd Clogau and 12 operational turbines at Tirgwynt, although the scale of these existing turbines are smaller than the proposed development at a height of 66m and 150m to blade tip respectively. The presence of the proposed turbines would have direct effects within this aspect area which is described in the LANDMAP survey sheet as having a '<i>strong sense of place/ local distinctiveness</i>'. Their scale and movement would strongly contrast with the dominant cultural identity indicators relating to Agriculture and Subsistence (CL2 38.71%) and Religious Funerary and Ritual – Prehistoric (CL32 17.634%), with the latter manifested in the cairns and standing stones which occur frequently across this upland landscape, as well as the Llyn y Tarw ritual complex. The turbines may, to a lesser degree, be viewed as a contemporary extension to the dominant cultural identity indicator in respect of Infrastructure (HER class CL20 12.473%), although this occurs in lower proportions than within other CLSAAs considered in the assessment and the proposed turbines would be of a scale which far exceeds the types of infrastructure recorded as part of the baseline. No art/ artistic expressions, folklore/legends or events/ traditions associated with the landscape have been recorded in the LANDMAP Survey. The presence of the turbines, given the scale of this modern, vertical infrastructure, would alter the perception of the cairns and standing stones, which are contributors to the cultural identity of this landscape, both within the Site and areas closest to the Site. The magnitude of change as a result of the Proposed Development would be up to High from within the Site and closest area of the CLSAA, reducing to Low with increasing separation distance and Zero within areas outside of the ZTV. The resulting localised Substantial effect would be Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term, direct and adverse. <u>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development</u> The operational wind turbine schemes at Mynydd Clogau and Tirgwynt are both located within the CLSAA, although their scale (66 m and 150 m to blade tip respectively), and siting within areas where the cultural identity indicator relating to Religious Funerary and Ritual – Prehistoric (CL32) occurs less frequently, reduces the magnitude of change (Medium magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Substantial and Significant, with the geographical area across which Significant effects would be experienced extending across a greater proportion of this CLSAA. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse. <u>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development</u> The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme and the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would also be located within this CLSAA but sited within areas where the cultural identity indicator relating to Religious Funerary and Ritual – Prehistoric (CL32) is less evident thereby reducing levels of contrast (Medium magnitude). The additional and combined effect would remain Substantial and Significant, although the geographical area across which Significant effects would be experienced would extend across a greater proportion of this CLSAA. The nature of these effects would be long-term (reversible), cumulative, direct and adverse.
MNTGMCLS130 Caersws River Bowl	As set out in Table 7C-10 of Appendix 7C, this CLSAA is assessed as being of Medium value and of Medium susceptibility. The overall sensitivity is therefore considered to be Medium. <u>Assessment: Proposed Development Construction Phase</u>

CLSAA	Assessment
	This is a moderately large CLSAA, through which a short section of the access road from the A470 would be routed, within its north-western fringes. The construction and subsequent use of this access road would have a direct effect upon the CLSAA, contrasting with one of the dominant cultural identity indicators relating to Agriculture and Subsistence (HER class CL2 12.563%), although this contrast would be weakened by the proximity of the access road to the A470, B4568 and the Cambrian Line. It would also simultaneously extend and intensify another dominant cultural identity indicator which relates to transport³. The deployment of a crane during the erection of the turbines would also have an indirect across localised areas of landscape. In respect of cultural associations and identity, the magnitude of change as a result of the construction phase of the Proposed Development would be Low to Zero. The resulting Minor effect would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be short-term (permanent where the access road is to be retained), direct and indirect and adverse <u>Assessment: Proposed Development Operational Phases</u> The ZTV (Figure 7.8g) indicates that the proposed turbines would be visible from across the majority of the CLSAA, with areas lying outside of the ZTV concentrated around Llanwnnog, north of the River Cerist and along the River Severn Corridor. There are no existing wind turbines within the CLSAA, as confirmed in Figure 7.12. The continued presence of the access road across this landscape would have a direct effect upon the CLSAA, whilst the proposed turbines would have indirect effects across areas of landscape within this aspect area which is recorded in the LANDMAP survey sheet as having a '<i>strong sense of place/ local distinctiveness</i>'. The presence of man-made vertical structures would, however, also represent a contemporary extension of the dominant cultural identity indicator in respect of Infrastructure (HER class CL20 11.809%), although recognising that the proposed turbines would be of a scale which exceeds the types of infrastructure recorded as part of the baseline. The movement of the turbines would also not be incongruous within a landscape where movement is common along the A470, A489, B4568 and B4569 corridors, with the occasional movement of trains along the Cambrian Line. Whilst no art/artistic expressions, folklore/legends or events/ traditions associated with the landscape within the CLSAA have been recorded in the LANDMAP Survey, this area is associated with the legend of Twt y Cwmrws (also known as The Changelings⁴), which is centred on Trefeglwys. The presence of the turbines would not significantly alter the perception of this cultural association. In respect of cultural associations and identity, the magnitude of change as a result of the Proposed Development would be Low to Zero. The resulting Minor effect would be Not Significant. The nature of these effects would be long-term (permanent where the access road is to be retained), direct and indirect and adverse. <u>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Proposed Development</u> Whilst theoretically visible, the operational wind turbine schemes at Tirgwynt, Mynydd Clogau, Carno I & II, Llandinam, Bryn Titli, Bryn Blaen and Cefn Croes together with

³ It should be noted that the LANDMAP Survey is incomplete in respect of the reported HER classes, with the percentages listed in **Appendix 7C** totalling 54.02%. The remaining HER classes after CL31 (the HER classes are listed in numerical order) primarily relate to Transport (CL34 to CL37) and Water Supply (CL38). The CLSAA contains the highway corridors of the A470, A489, B4568 and B4569 as well as the Cambrian Line and the River Severn, River Cerist and River Carno. For the purposes of the assessment, it is therefore reasonable to assume that the remaining 45.98% relates to Transport and Water Supply HER classes, which, given the % breakdown, would be dominant cultural identity indicators.

⁴ A. J. Bailey Williams (1947) The Enchanted Wood and Other Stories. (Online). Available at: <https://mythstories.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/The-Enchanted-Wood.pdf>

CLSAA	Assessment
	the consented Carno III, Llanbrynmair, Llandinam Repowering and Garn Fach would have no influence on the cultural associations and identity within this CLSAA due to the scale of the turbines and separation distance (Zero magnitude). <u>Cumulative Assessment: Operational + Consented Sites + Applications + Proposed Development</u> The Esgair Cwmowen planning application scheme and the scoping scheme at Llyn Lort would theoretically be visible from within this VSAA as indicated by the cumulative ZTVs in Figures 7.13.1 and 7.13.6, although the separation distance would limit the potential characterising effects on the cultural associations within this CLSAA (Zero magnitude).



1 Capital Quarter
Tyndall Street
Cardiff
CF10 4BZ

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