

Developments of National Significance Inception Meeting

Hirfynydd Energy Park: DNS CAS-02084-T4Z8W4

Thursday 11 August 2022 10:00

Via Video Conference

Attendees:

STANTEC

Michael Breslaw
Ifan Gwilym

EDF Energy Renewables Ltd

Simon Morgan

PEDW

Gemma James – Case Officer
Robert Sparey – Planning & Environment
Manager
Adeline Wilcox – Planning Officer

Meeting Note:

Planning Environment and Decisions Wales (PEDW) met with the above representatives regarding a proposed Renewable Energy Park comprising wind generating capacity circa 50MW, solar photovoltaic generating capacity circa 50MW, and battery storage.

The applicants provided an overview of the scheme. There was a brief discussion relating to secondary consents, namely if open countryside was deemed common land. PEDW confirmed that open countryside is not defined as common land. Stantec concluded that there would be no associated secondary consents.

The project team highlighted that there were still areas where additional studies were being undertaken, and engagement with NRW (Natural Resources Wales) have already begun and remained ongoing.

Concerns were raised over the consistency of information provided by NRW. Clarification was sought as to whether PEDW would be able to help intervene. PEDW confirmed it would not be appropriate for it to attempt to intervene in how other organisations allocate their resources or provide guidance.

PEDW raised the issue of cumulative impacts and referred the applicant to two applications within close proximity to the proposed development site, DNS/3255801 - Mynydd Fforch Dwm Wind Farm and DNS 3264571 - Y Bryn Wind Farm. Details of both applications are available to view on the Planning Casework Portal:

<https://planningcasework.service.gov.wales/>

The project team anticipate that the Scoping Report will be submitted to PEDW in September 2022, formal pre-application consultation will begin in the first to second half of 2023. The submission of the scheme is currently anticipated for the second half of 2023.

PEDW asked to be informed of any changes to the expected submission timetable in order to assist with Inspector resource planning.

PEDW asked the project team to provide a Shapefile with the Scoping Report and a copy of the proposed development slides.

Action:

Stantec to provide PEDW with the proposed development slides.

Stantec to provide PEDW with a Shapefile. Please provide the Shapefile in the following format:

- Polygon geometry type, consisting of one or more polygon features representing the proposed DNS site boundary
- A single Shapefile provided as a *.zip file using the default WinZip settings (i.e., no encryption, normal compression etc.)
- The *.zip file must contain one of each of the following files: *.prj, *.dbf, *.shp, *.shx; and
- There must not be any other files within the *.zip file
- In British National Grid (OSGB1936) format
- If the proposed DNS site boundary comprises a number of separate discrete polygons, these should all be included within the single shape file contained in the *.zip file.