

Mynydd Pencarreg Wind Turbines

Pre-Application Consultation Report

March 2021

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION	1
	Context	1
	Applicant	2
2	SITE DESCRIPTION AND DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS	3
	The Site	3
	The Proposed Development	3
3	PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION	4
	Introduction	4
	Site Notices	4
	Adjacent Owners/ Occupiers.....	5
	Community Consultees.....	5
	Specialist Consultees.....	5
	Draft Planning Documents	5
	Online Public Exhibition	6
4	PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION FEEDBACK	7
	Introduction	7
	Local Community	7
	Community Consultees.....	7
	Specialist Consultees.....	7
5	SUMMARY	8
	 Appendix 1 – Site Notice 1D	
	Appendix 2 – Site Notice 1C	
	Appendix 3 – Pre-Application Consultation Questionnaire Results Report	
	Appendix 4 – Cadw Pre-application Response	

1 INTRODUCTION

Context

- 1.1 This Pre-Application Consultation Report (the "PAC Report") has been prepared by Energiekontor UK Ltd ("the Applicant") to accompany a planning application by Energiekontor UK Ltd ("the Applicant") for the Installation, 25 year operation and subsequent decommissioning of two wind turbines and associated infrastructure ("the Proposed Development") at Land to the north of Esgairliving Farm, Rhydcwmerau, Llandeilo ("the Site").
- 1.2 This PAC Report provides an account of the statutory consultation, publicity, deadlines set, and activities required under section 61Z of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as well as further provisions contained within Part 1A of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016. This report sets out the approach that has been undertaken by the Applicant to inform, advise and consult with the local community.
- 1.3 Due to current restrictions on public gatherings due to the COVID-19 crisis, and in-line with the government guidance¹, public consultation was conducted through other means, including online. A link to the planning application and supporting documents has been made available at the following website: <https://www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/mynydd-pencarreg>. This report should be read together with:
- The Environmental Report;
 - Planning Statement;
 - Design and Access Statement; and
 - The Application Forms.
- 1.4 It should be noted that there is an extensive planning history associated with proposals to develop turbines at the Site. This history has included rounds of public consultation and planning applications, all of which has influenced the design of this Proposed Development. In addition, as part of this Proposed Development the Applicant has undertaken further consultation activities, which are discussed in this report.
- 1.5 This PAC Report is structured as follows:
- Section 2 provides a summary of the Site and the Proposed Development;
 - Section 3 sets out the Pre-Application Consultation carried out;
 - Section 4 describes the feedback from the Pre-Application Consultation; and
 - Section 5 provides a summary

¹ The Planning Applications (Temporary Modifications and Disapplication) (Wales) (Coronavirus) Order 2020

Applicant

- 1.6 Energiekontor UK Ltd (EK) is a renewable energy development company with offices in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Leeds. The company was formed in 1999 and develops small to medium-sized onshore wind and solar farms throughout the United Kingdom. The company operates eight existing wind farms in the UK with a number of other wind and solar projects at various stages of the development process throughout the UK.
- 1.7 Energiekontor UK Ltd is part of the Energiekontor Group. The parent company, Energiekontor AG, was established in 1990 in Bremerhaven in Northern Germany. It has since grown to become one of the leading wind energy companies in Europe and is active in Germany, France, The Netherlands, Portugal, the USA and the UK. The company has built more than 100 onshore wind farms in Europe.

2 SITE DESCRIPTION AND DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The Site

- 2.1 The Site is located in a sparsely populated area of Carmarthenshire, north of the village of Rhydcymerau, the edge of which is approximately 2.2km from the nearest proposed turbine, 2km west of Wren, 5.5km south-east of Llanybydder and 6.5km south of Lampeter. Outside of these settlements there are other smaller village clusters and farmsteads at varying distances from the Site.
- 2.2 The Site is approximately 6.42 ha and is generally characterised by upland grazing agricultural land to the north, with a more enclosed valley character to the south closer to the property at Esgairliving.
- 2.3 The wider area is generally defined by upland grazing agricultural land, consisting of open sheep farming agricultural land within a rural landscape. There are some more enclosed areas within the valleys, where larger settlements are more common. The wider area to the south-east consists of large commercial forestry areas, namely Brechfa Forest.

The Proposed Development

- 2.4 The Proposed Development is described in detail in *Chapter 3: Project Description* of the Environmental Report. In summary it includes the following principal elements:
- Two turbines up to 125m to blade tip;
 - turbine transformers;
 - turbine foundations;
 - hard-standing areas for erecting cranes at each turbine location;
 - on-site track connecting to turbines;
 - underground cables linking the turbines to the distribution connection;
 - on-site substation;
 - new site access from B4337;
 - a temporary construction compound; and
 - an additional temporary storage/laydown area.
- 2.5 Planning permission is sought for 25 years of the operational phase of the wind turbines. After the expiration of this period the turbines would be decommissioned and removed. Any alternative course of action would require a fresh planning application to be submitted. The planning application includes an allowance for micro-siting of the Proposed Development infrastructure. If planning permission is granted, the Applicant would commission detailed ground investigations and geotechnical surveys to determine the ground conditions. A 25m micro-siting allowance is sought for the wind turbines, and all other new elements of the Proposed Development.

3 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION

Introduction

- 3.1 The statutory pre-application consultation requirements are imposed by section 61Z of the Town and Country Planning Act. Further provision is contained within Part 1A of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016.
- 3.2 In accordance with these requirements, a 28 day statutory consultation period was held prior to the submission of the planning application, which commenced on the 5th February 2021. The PAC process included the following:
- Site Notices displayed for public viewing around the Site. The site notice informed residents of the Proposal and provided more details on how to respond to the consultation, including relevant timescales.
 - Site Notices issued to owners/ occupiers of land adjoining the Application Site.
 - Site Notices sent to community consultees, including the local Town Council and Councillors.
 - Relevant information sent to Specialist Consultees.
 - A full suite of draft planning application documents available for public viewing.

Site Notices

- 3.3 Developers are required as part of the statutory consultation to display and distribute a site notice. The Applicant displayed a total of 6 Site Notices at various points around the Application Site (three in English and three in Welsh). These Notices were displayed on the 5th February 2021. The Applicant was made aware during the 28 day period that the Site Notices had been removed, and thus were replaced as quickly as possible. In this respect we consider we complied with our statutory duties by taking reasonable steps to replace the site notices, as soon as we were made aware, meaning the period of 28 days beginning the 5th February 2021 remains valid.
- 3.4 *In line with the Planning Applications (Temporary Modifications and Disapplication) (Wales)(Coronavirus) Order 2020 for "the emergency period" ending 8th October 2021², the Notices contained the information as set out in the legislation and Schedule 1D (that replaced Schedule 1B) of the 'Publicity and Consultation before Applying for Planning Permission Notice under Articles 2C and 2D of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016'. Copies of the Site Notices are contained within Appendix 1.*

² The Planning Applications (Temporary Modifications and Disapplication) (No. 3) (Wales) (Coronavirus) Order 2020

Adjacent Owners/ Occupiers

- 3.5 The Site Notice (Appendix 1) was issued to adjacent land owners and occupiers with a covering letter. As per the guidance, the letters were addressed to 'the owner and/or occupier'.

Community Consultees

- 3.6 The Applicant has also undertaken consultation with community consultees including Llanybydder Community Council and the Councillor of the Llanybydder electoral ward, in which the Application Site is located.
- 3.7 Site Notices with covering letters were distributed to the Llanybydder Community Council and Cllr Davies on 5th February 2021. To note, community consultees are required to receive the Site Notice as per Schedule 1B, thus paragraph 3.4 is also relevant.

Specialist Consultees

- 3.8 Specialist Consultees are identified within Schedule 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016.
- 3.9 The only relevant specialist consultee for the Proposed Development was Welsh Ministers (as per Paragraph I of Schedule 4), with guidance³ suggesting that proposals be sent to Cadw. In line with the aforementioned regulation notice under Schedule 1C with a covering letter was provided via email on 5th February 2021 (the Notice issued is provided in Appendix 2). As good practice, the specialist consultees were also provided with the Site Notice.

Draft Planning Documents

- 3.10 Due to the COVID-19 crisis, and as per temporary legislation⁴, the requirement for information to be made available for inspection at a location in the vicinity of the Proposed Development was substituted with the requirement to make information available on a website. As such, the following draft documents were made available at <https://www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/mynydd-pencarreg>:
- Planning application forms;
 - Scaled plans and drawings;
 - Environmental Report (Volumes I, II and III);
 - Design and Access Statement; and
 - Planning Statement.

³ <https://gov.wales/consulting-and-notifying-welsh-ministers-development-proposals-applying-planning-permission-html>
(Last Accessed: 02/03/2021)

⁴ The Planning Applications (Temporary Modifications and Disapplication) (Wales) (Coronavirus) Order 2020

Online Public Exhibition

- 3.11 Due to current restrictions on public gatherings due to the COVID-19 crisis, and in-line with the aforementioned temporary legislation, the Applicant hosted public exhibition materials online at <https://www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/mynydd-pencarreg>, both in English and Welsh, from 5th February 2021. Contact details of the Applicant's Project Manager were provided and comments and questions were invited, as well as a questionnaire to answer.

4 PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

Introduction

- 4.1 This Chapter of the PAC Report provides a summary of responses received from the local community, Community Consultees and Specialist Consultees.

Local Community

- 4.2 Feedback from the community has been monitored throughout the PAC period, including analysis of the questionnaire and any other comments received via email and telephone.
- 4.3 A questionnaire was provided online as part of the public exhibition materials exhibition and was designed to encourage feedback from the community. The questionnaire asked six questions to gauge the opinion of the local community in relation to renewable energy development and specifically wind energy, opinion of the proposed location and requesting any additional comments. A report containing the questions and results of the survey, in which there was only one response, is contained in Appendix 3.

Summary

- 4.4 The questionnaire response received is negative, with the respondent opposed to wind energy in general, also commenting on the scale of the proposed turbines.
- 4.5 The LVIA Chapter (4) of the Environmental Report that accompanies this planning application concludes in paragraph 4.261 that *"the profile, context and character of the site and the surrounding landscape lend itself to a two turbine scheme of the form and scale specified. This is a conclusion that is also supported by the Planning Inspectorate, who states in paragraph 22 that there would be no unacceptable harmful effects on landscape character as a result of the 125m turbines."* As such, no amendments were deemed necessary to the Proposal based upon the comments received from the local community.

Community Consultees

- 4.6 No response was received from Llanybydder Community Council or the Councillor of the Llanybydder electoral ward.

Specialist Consultees

- 4.7 Cadw states in their response that there *"have been no material changes to the historic environment since October 2016 and therefore the GCMS assessment⁵ that we agreed with, remains valid."* The Historic Environment Chapter (5) of the Environmental Report that accompanies this planning application reflects the results of the 2016 assessment, as such no further action or response from the applicant is required in this regard. The response from Cadw is provided in Appendix 4.

⁵ Provided as part of the 125m condition variation application in 2016.

5 SUMMARY

- 5.1 In accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016, the Applicant has fulfilled the statutory pre-application consultation requirements. In addition, the Applicant surpassed requirements by also holding an online public exhibition throughout the duration of the PAC process.
- 5.2 Limited feedback has been received from the local community, however of that feedback received justification is provided in this report as why no alterations are deemed necessary to the proposals.
- 5.3 The relevant Specialist Consultee has also been consulted and their comments require no amendments to the proposals.

APPENDIX 1 – SITE NOTICE 1D

SCHEDULE Article 2(3)

Pre-application notice for emergency period

“SCHEDULE 1D Article 2G

PUBLICITY AND CONSULTATION BEFORE APPLYING FOR PLANNING PERMISSION: NOTICE TO BE GIVEN DURING EMERGENCY PERIOD

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

PUBLICITY AND CONSULTATION BEFORE APPLYING FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLES 2C AND 2D AS MODIFIED BY ARTICLE 2G

(to be served on owners and/or occupiers of adjoining land and community consultees; and displayed by site notice on or near the location of the proposed development)

Purpose of this notice: this notice provides the opportunity to comment directly to the developer on a proposed development prior to the submission of a planning application to the local planning authority (“LPA”). Any subsequent planning application will be publicised by the relevant LPA; any comments provided in response to this notice will not prejudice your ability to make representations to the LPA on any related planning application. You should note that any comments submitted may be placed on the public file.

Proposed development at (a) **Esgairliving Farm, Rhydcwmerau, Llandeilo.**

I give notice that (b) Energiekontor UK Ltd.

is intending to apply for planning permission to (c): **Two wind turbines (up to 125m tip) and associated infrastructure.**

You may inspect copies of:

- the proposed application;
- the plans; and
- other supporting documents

online at (d) **<https://www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/mynydd-pencarreg>**

If you are unable to access the documents electronically you may request copies of this information by emailing (e) **Fred.Brown@energiekontor.co.uk** or by telephoning the applicant on (f) **0795 769 7767**

Anyone who wishes to make representations about this proposed development must write to the applicant/agent at (e) **Fred.Brown@energiekontor.co.uk** or (g) **31 Dewar Place Lane, Edinburgh, EH3 8EF** by (h) **Friday 5th March 2021**

Signed:



Date: **Tuesday 2nd February 2021**

Insert:

- a) address or location of the proposed development
- b) applicant's name
- c) description of the proposed development
- d) address of website
- e) email address of the applicant/agent
- f) telephone number of applicant/agent
- g) address of the applicant
- h) date giving a period of 28 days, beginning with the date of service and publication

Hysbysiad cyn-ymgeisio ar gyfer cyfnod yr argyfwng

“ATODLEN 1D

Erthygl 2G

CYHOEDDUSRWYDD AC YMGYNGHORI CYN GWNEUD CAIS
AM GANIATÂD CYNLLUNIO: HYSBYSIAD I’W ROI YN YSTOD
CYFNOD YR ARGYFWNG

Gorchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Gweithdrefn Rheoli Datblygu) (Cymru) 2012

CYHOEDDUSRWYDD AC YMGYNGHORI CYN GWNEUD CAIS AM GANIATÂD
CYNLLUNIO

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGLAU 2C a 2D FEL Y’U HADDASWYD GAN ERTHYGL
2G

(i’w gyflwyno i berchnogion a/neu feddianwyr tir cyffiniol ac ymgylgoreion cymunedol;
ac i’w arddangos drwy hysbysiad safle ar neu gerllaw lleoliad y datblygiad arfaethedig)

Diben yr hysbysiad hwn: mae’r hysbysiad hwn yn rhoi cyfle i wneud sylwadau yn
uniongyrchol i’r datblygwr ynglŷn â datblygiad arfaethedig cyn cyflwyno cais am ganiatâd
cynllunio i’r awdurdod cynllunio lleol (“ACLI”). Bydd unrhyw gais cynllunio dilynol yn
cael ei hysbysebu gan yr ACLI perthnasol; ni fydd unrhyw sylwadau a ddarperir mewn
ymateb i’r hysbysiad hwn yn lleihau dim ar eich gallu i gyflwyno sylwadau i’r ACLI ar
unrhyw gais cynllunio cysylltiedig. Dylech nodi y gellir gosod unrhyw sylwadau a
gyflwynir gennych yn y ffeil gyhoeddus.

Datblygiad arfaethedig yn (a) **Esgairliving Farm, Rhydcwmerau, Llandeilo.**

Rwyf yn hysbysu bod (b) **Energiekontor UK Ltd.**

yn bwriadu gwneud cais am ganiatâd cynllunio i (c):

Dau dyrbin gwynt (hyd at 125m i flaen y llafnau) a seilwaith cysylltiedig
Gallwch weld copïau o’r canlynol:

- y cais arfaethedig;
- y planiau; a
- dogfennau ategol eraill

ar-lein yn (d) **<https://www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/mynydd-pencarreg>**

Os nad ydych yn gallu cael mynediad at y dogfennau yn electronig gallwch ofyn am
gopïau o’r wybodaeth hon drwy anfon e-bost at (e) **Fred.Brown@energiekontor.co.uk** neu drwy
ffonio’r ceisydd ar (f) **0795 769 7767**

Rhaid i unrhyw un sy’n dymuno gwneud sylwadau ynglŷn â’r datblygiad arfaethedig hwn
ysgrifennu at y ceisydd/yr asiant yn (e) **Fred.Brown@energiekontor.co.uk** neu (g)

31 Dewar Place Lane, Edinburgh, EH3 8EF

erbyn (h) **05/03/2021**

Llofnod:

Dyddiad: **02/02/2021**

Mewnosoder:

- a) cyfeiriad neu leoliad y datblygiad arfaethedig
- b) enw'r ceisydd
- c) disgrifiad o'r datblygiad arfaethedig
- d) cyfeiriad y wefan
- e) cyfeiriad e-bost y ceisydd/yr asiant
- f) rhif ffôn y ceisydd/yr asiant
- g) cyfeiriad y ceisydd
- h) dyddiad gan ganiatáu cyfnod o 28 o ddiwrnodau, gan ddechrau gyda'r dyddiad cyflwyno a chyhoeddi

APPENDIX 2 – SITE NOTICE 1C

SCHEDULE 1C

Article 2D

CONSULTATION BEFORE APPLYING FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

CONSULTATION BEFORE APPLYING FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 2D

(to be served on specialist consultees, as defined by article 2(1) of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012

Purpose of this notice : this notice comprises a formal request for a pre-application consultation response under article 2D of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012.

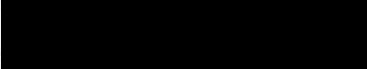
Proposed development at (a) **Esgairliving Farm, Rhydcwmerau, Llandeilo.**

I give notice that (b) **Energiekontor UK Ltd.**

is intending to apply for planning permission to (c): **Two wind turbines (up to 125m tip) and associated infrastructure.**

A copy of the proposed application; plans; and other supporting documents are attached/can be viewed online at (d) **<https://www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/mynydd-pencarreg>**

In accordance with the requirements of article 2E of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012, a consultation response must be sent to (e) by (f). **Fred.Brown@energiekontor.co.uk by 05/03/2021**

Signed: 

Date: **05/02/2021**

Insert:

- a) address or location of the proposed development
- b) applicant's name
- c) description of the proposed development
- d) address of website
- e) e-mail address of the applicant/agent
- f) date giving a period of 28 days, beginning with the date of service and publication

ATODLEN 1C

Erthygl 2D

YMGYNGHORI CYN GWNEUD CAIS AM GANIATÂD CYNLLUNIO

Gorchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Gweithdrefn Rheoli Datblygu) (Cymru) 2012

YMGYNGHORI CYN GWNEUD CAIS AM GANIATÂD CYNLLUNIO

HYSBYSIAD O DAN ERTHYGL 2D

(i'w gyflwyno i ymgynghoreion arbenigol, fel y'u diffinnir gan erthygl 2(1) o Orchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Gweithdrefn Rheoli Datblygu) (Cymru) 2012

Diben yr hysbysiad hwn: mae'r hysbysiad hwn yn ddeisyfiad ffurfiol am ymateb i ymgynghoriad cyn-ymgeisio o dan erthygl 2D o Orchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Gweithdrefn Rheoli Datblygu) (Cymru) 2012.

Datblygiad arfaethedig yn (a) **Esgairliving Farm, Rhydcwmerau, Llandeilo.**

Rwyf yn hysbysu bod (b) **Energiekontor UK Ltd.**

yn bwriadu gwneud cais am ganiatâd cynllunio i (c):
..... **Dau dyrbin gwynt (hyd at 125m i flaen y llafnau) a seilwaith cysylltiedig.**

Mae copi o'r cais arfaethedig; planiau; a dogfennau ategol eraill wedi eu hatodi/ar gael i'w harchwilio ar lein yn (d) **<https://www.energiekontor.co.uk/our-projects/mynydd-pencarreg>**

Yn unol â gofynion erthygl 2E o Orchymyn Cynllunio Gwlad a Thref (Gweithdrefn Rheoli Datblygu) (Cymru) 2012, rhaid anfon ymateb i'r ymgynghoriad at (e) erbyn (f) **Fred.Brown@energiekontor.co.uk by 05/03/21**

Llofnod: 

Dyddiad: **05/02/2021**

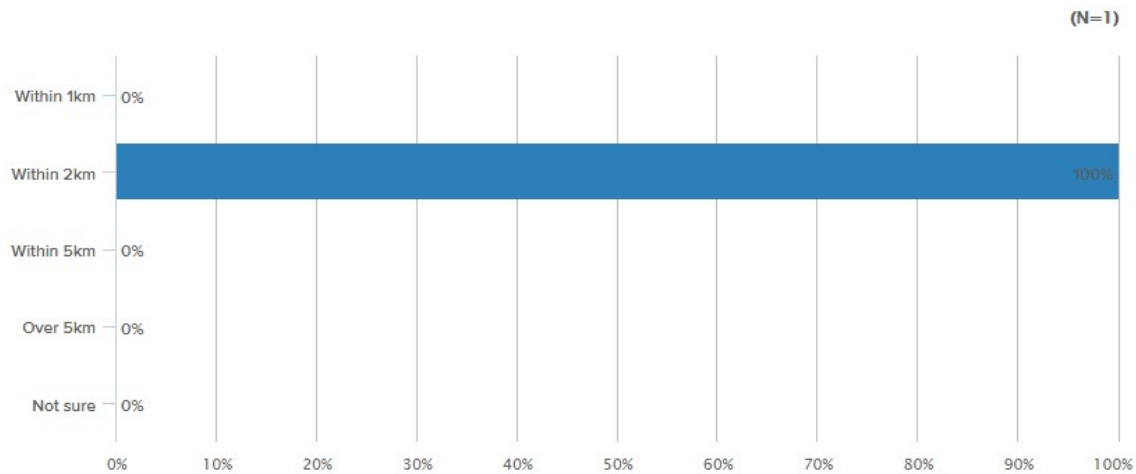
Mewnosoder:

- a) cyfeiriad neu leoliad y datblygiad arfaethedig
- b) enw'r ceisydd
- c) disgrifiad o'r datblygiad arfaethedig
- d) cyfeiriad y wefan
- e) cyfeiriad e-bost y ceisydd/asiant
- f) dyddiad sy'n darparu cyfnod o 28 diwrnod, sy'n dechrau gyda'r dyddiad cyflwyno a chyhoeddi

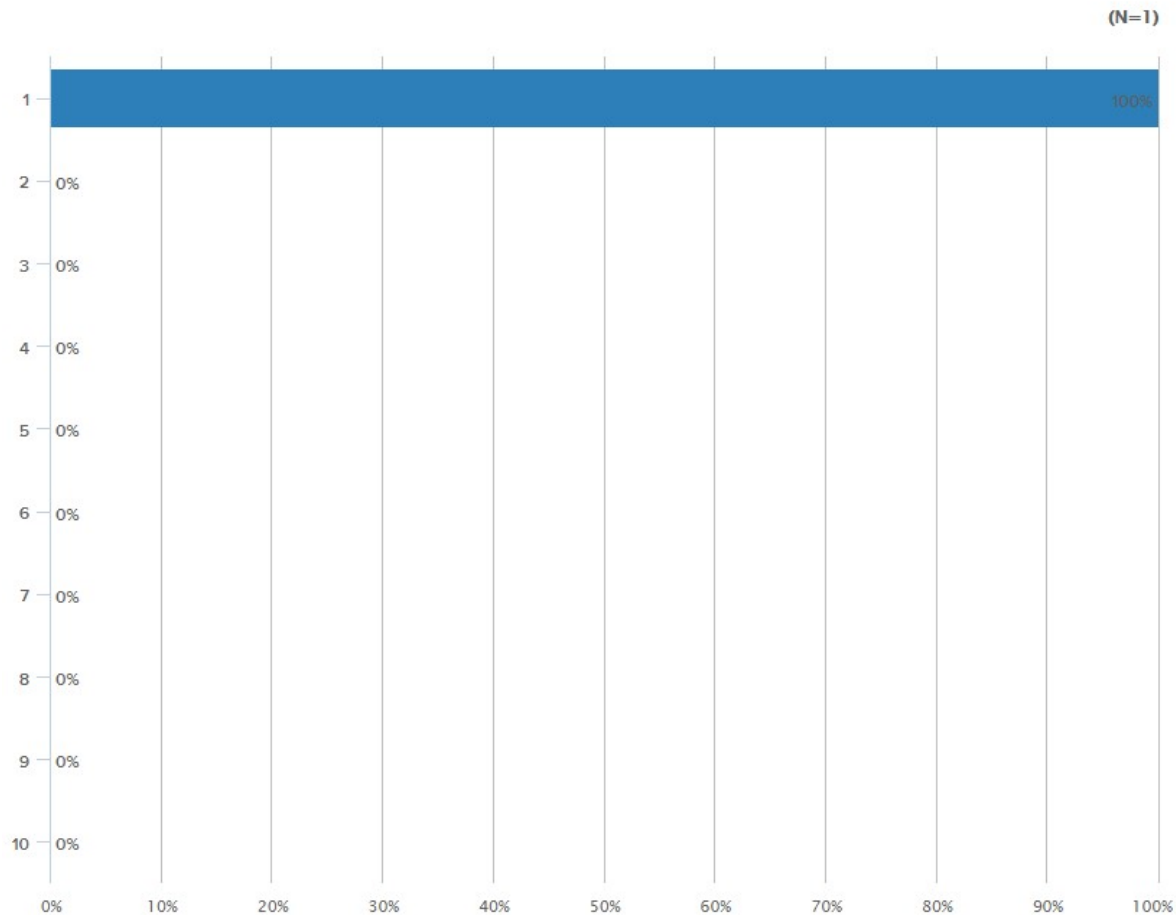
APPENDIX 3 – PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS REPORT

Mynydd Pencarreg Wind Turbines – Pre-Application Consultation Questionnaire Results
Report

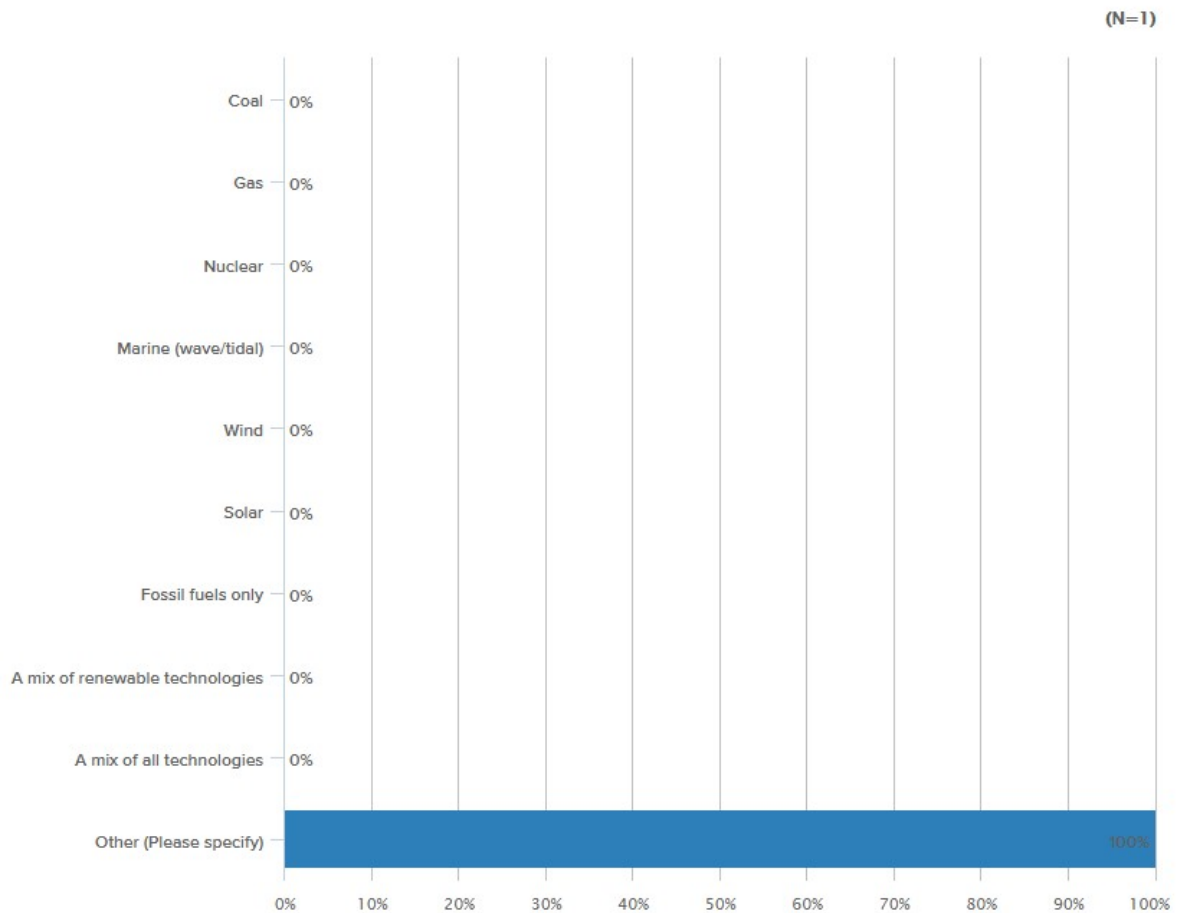
1. How close do you live to the Mynydd Pencarreg Site?



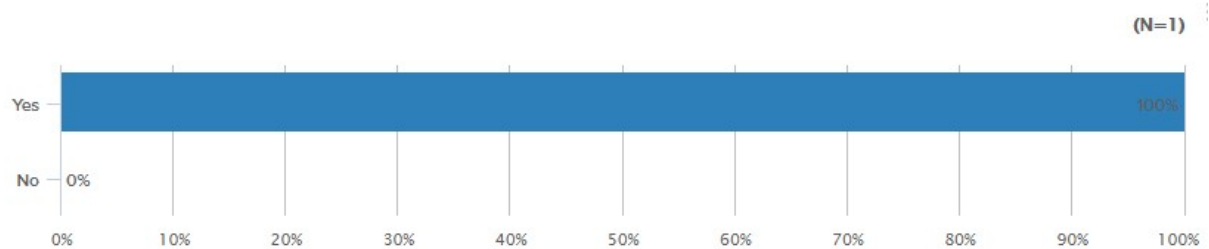
2. From 1 - 10 (10 being completely in support), how supportive of wind turbines are you?



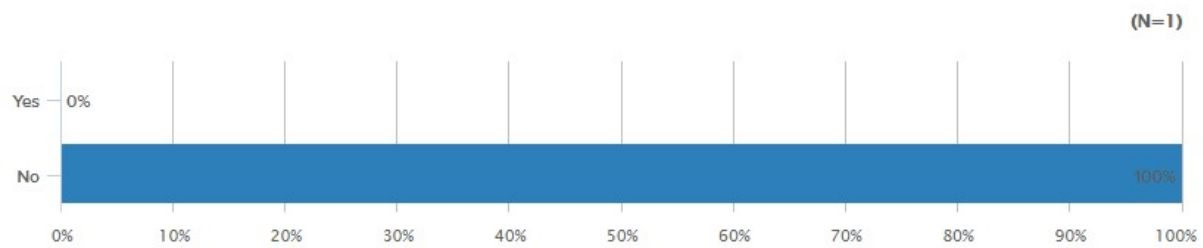
3. What sources of energy do you think your electricity should come from?



4. Are you aware of the following Welsh Government energy targets: 1) Wales to be generating 70% of its electricity consumption from renewables by 2030; and 2) Reduce carbon emissions by at least 95% by 2050 with a goal of reaching net zero.



5. Do you think the site is a good location for wind turbines?



6. Do you have any other comments to make?



Participant ID 1

100m is oversized for the location so another quarter increase is too much. I object to this proposl

APPENDIX 4 – CADW PRE-APPLICATION RESPONSE



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Plas Cereu, Unit 5/7, Cefn Ceredd
Parc Nantgarw, Cardiff CF15 7QQ
Ffôn 0300 0225 6000
E-bost cadw@llyw.wales
cadw.gov.wales

Energiekontor UK Ltd

By email:

Fred.Brown@energiekontor.co.uk

Eich cyfeirnod
Your reference

Ein cyfeirnod
Our reference

Dyddiad
Date

Llinell uniongyrchol
Direct line

Ebost
Email:

MynyddPencarreg_Pre-app_WM_1

LC

1 March 2021

0300 02256004

cadwplanning@gov.wales

Dear Mr Brown

Pre-Planning Application - Two wind turbines (up to 125m tip) and associated infrastructure works, Esgairliving Farm, Rhydcwmerau, Llandeilo

Thank you for your letter of 5 February inviting our comments on the pre-planning application consultation for the proposed development described above.

Advice

The following comments are based on information made available to us as part of the pre-application consultation and we will review our comments when we are consulted on the final planning application. Our assessment of the pre-application is given below.

Having carefully considered the information provided, we have no objection to the proposed development in regards to the scheduled monuments listed in our assessment of the application below.

Our assessment of the pre-application is given below.

The national policy and Cadw's role in the planning process is set out in Annex A.

Assessment

CM073 Crugiau Edryd Round Barrows
CM074 Crug y Bwdran
CM084 Three Round Cairns SE of Blaen Carreg
CM101 Pen y Gaer
CM173 Caer Pencarreg
CM196 Pant-Teg Standing Stone
CM312 Derlwyn round barrow cemetery
CM313 Pen Lan round barrow cemetery
CM315 Gelli Dewi Uchaf linear round barrow cemetery

Mae Gwasanaeth Amgylchedd Hanesyddol Llywodraeth Cymru (Cadw) yn hyrwyddo gwaith cadwraeth ar gyfer amgylchedd hanesyddol Cymru a gwerthfawrogiad ohono.

The Welsh Government Historic Environment Service (Cadw) promotes the conservation and appreciation of Wales's historic environment.

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg ac yn Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in both English and Welsh.



BUDDSODDWR MEWN POBL
INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



This statutory pre-planning application is for two 125m high wind turbines with associated infrastructure at Esgairliving Farm, Rhydcwmerau.

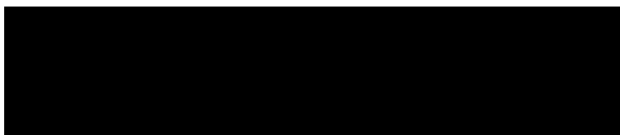
Planning consent (W31728) has been previously granted for the erection of two wind turbines up to 100m high, but so far, this has not been enacted. The current application is to allow the turbines to be 125m high. The proposed turbines will therefore be 25m higher than the ones with extant consent.

The original application for the 100m high turbines was accompanied by a historic environment desk based assessment prepared by CGMS that considered the impact of the proposed development on the settings of the above scheduled monuments. This impact was reassessed by CGMS in October 2016 when an application to vary a condition, to allow 125m high turbines to be used, was considered. At that time it was assessed that the 125m high turbines would have a slight adverse impact on the settings of scheduled monuments CM084 Three Round Cairns SE of Blaen Carreg; CM173 Caer Pencarreg Hillfort; CM313 Pen Lan round barrow cemetery and CM315 Gelli Dewi Uchaf linear round barrow cemetery and a very slight adverse impact on the setting of scheduled monument CM101 Pen y Gaer Hillfort Hillfort. It was also considered that the 125m high turbines would have no impact on the settings of scheduled monuments CM073 Crugiau Edryd Round Barrows, CM074 Crug y Bwdran, CM196 Pant-Teg Standing Stone and CM312 Derlwyn round barrow cemetery.

There have been no material changes to the historic environment since October 2016 and therefore the GCMS assessment that we agreed with, remains valid.

Finally, there may also be undesignated historic assets that could be affected by the proposed development and, if you have not already done so, we would advise that you consult the Historic Environment Record held by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

Yours sincerely,



Annex A

Our role

Our statutory role in the planning process is to provide the local planning authority with an assessment concerned with the likely impact that the proposal will have on scheduled monuments, registered historic parks and gardens, registered historic landscapes where an Environmental Impact Assessment is required and development likely to have an impact on the outstanding universal value of a World Heritage Site. We do not provide an assessment of the likely impact of the development on listed buildings or conservation areas, as these are matters for the local authority.

It is for the local planning authority to weigh our assessment against all the other material considerations in determining whether to approve planning permission.

National Policy

Applications for planning permission are considered in light of the Welsh Government's land use planning policy and guidance contained in Planning Policy Wales (PPW), Technical Advice Notes and related guidance.

PPW [planning-policy-wales-edition-10.pdf](#) explains that it is important that the planning system looks to protect, conserve and enhance the significance of historic assets. This will include consideration of the setting of an historic asset which might extend beyond its curtilage. Any change that impacts on an historic asset or its setting should be managed in a sensitive and sustainable way.

The conservation of archaeological remains and their settings is a material consideration in determining a planning application, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not. Where nationally important archaeological remains are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in a direct adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance)

[Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment](#) elaborates by explaining that when considering development proposals that affect scheduled monuments or other nationally important archaeological remains, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in situ, i.e. a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage, or would have a significant adverse impact causing harm within the setting of the remains.

Historic Parks and Gardens

PPW also explains that local authorities should value, protect, conserve and enhance the special interests of parks and gardens and their settings included on the register of historic parks and gardens in Wales and that the effect of a proposed development on a registered park or garden or its setting should be a material consideration in the determination of a planning application.