

Developments of National Significance Inception Meeting:  
DNS CAS-02917-K8D5Z2 - Bryn Cadwgan Energy Park  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 10.00  
Via Microsoft Teams

**Attendees:**

**Galileo**

Claire Dowse  
Leslie Walker

**Grasshopper**

Hannah Dineen  
John Price

**Ramboll**

Philippa Raphael

**Savills**

Jack Pugsley  
Joshua Price

**Planning and Environment Decisions  
Wales (PEDW)**

Jess Mandeville – Business Support Team Leader  
Marloes Holtkamp – Planning Officer  
Robert Sparey – Planning & Environment Manager

**Meeting Note:**

Representatives from Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) met with the above-named project team regarding the proposed Bryn Cadwgan Energy Park located within the Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion Local Planning Authority (LPA) planning areas.

The project team provided an overview of the proposed site. The site is just outside a Future Wales Pre-Assessed Area for Wind Energy and lies mainly within the Carmarthenshire area, with only a few turbines likely in Ceredigion. Powys LPA is near the site border to the east. The proposal is for 25 wind turbines. Solar panels and a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) are also being considered as part of the proposal (either as part of the DNS or via secondary consent), subject to final turbine numbers being confirmed.

The project team highlighted that secondary consents may include Scheduled Monument Consent, Common Land Exchange and Deregistration and Public Right of Way Diversion, amongst others and these will be reviewed as the project progresses. PEDW advised the

normal secondary consent application forms, with all relevant documents, will need to be available at the statutory notification stage. If the project team has any further questions in relation to secondary consents going forward, PEDW would be happy to assist.

The project team outlined their engagement approach:

- Early engagement – political stakeholders – October 2023
- Informal consultation – all stakeholders – October / November 2023
- Formal consultation – statutory stakeholders – Mid to late 2024

A stakeholder mapping exercise has been undertaken to identify statutory and non-statutory consultees. A consultation zone of approximately 12 km radius of the site has been identified, including 1,530 households and 44 businesses.

The project team is aiming for a design freeze early next year and submission late 2024.

In relation to EIA, the project team highlighted that baseline ornithology surveys commenced last spring and other surveys such as ecology and hydrology are ongoing. Further survey work will be undertaken as the project develops. The project team aim to submit the Scoping Request in the next couple of months (autumn 2023).

PEDW advised that, although it will try to flag up any nearby DNS schemes when responding to the Scoping Request, the LPAs are best placed to highlight all developments in their areas.

The project team queried whether re-scoping would be necessary if a single part of the development was amended. PEDW advised that if a new element was introduced which had not been subject to the initial scoping exercise, then it would be best to check with PEDW on whether an addendum approach would be appropriate. However, if for example it concerned a reduction in the number of turbines, it is not thought that would warrant re-scoping.

The project team queried whether PEDW's statutory consultees had changed. PEDW advised that the legislation regarding statutory consultees had not changed, but it has agreed with the Welsh Government's Land Quality Advice Service that they will be consulted on all wind energy DNS schemes, due to peat implications. PEDW also consults NATS as standard on wind energy schemes.

**ACTION:**

PEDW to provide details of potential DNS Specialist Consultees and DNS Secondary Consents Relevant Persons - see enclosed documents.

PEDW advised that current resource constraints within the Planning and Environment Team may lead to delays to the usual turnaround time for producing Scoping Directions, although it is hoped the team will be up to full complement by Christmas. However, delays remain possible for example due to workload or if key consultees do not respond in a timely manner. PEDW can provide copies of consultation responses received after the consultation closes and asked the project team to get in touch at that time to request the responses.

PEDW advised that acceptance checking is currently taking longer than usual due to the sheer number of DNS cases being submitted, but the team will aim to provide a realistic timescale when the submission is received. It would be helpful to the team if any personal contact details could be captured on a separate page, to aid PEDW redacting the documents. A document schedule, with clearly labelled documents, would also be helpful. The only file sharing platform PEDW can use is Objective Connect. PEDW is happy to discuss specifics, including file sizes, nearer the time.

The project team queried whether there could be a split decision in relation to the DNS application. PEDW advised that there is nothing legally preventing a split decision, but PEDW cannot speak in relation to the approach the Planning Directorate or Welsh Ministers would take.

The project team were advised that the main point of contact for PEDW remains the [PEDW.Infrastructure@gov.wales](mailto:PEDW.Infrastructure@gov.wales) mailbox.

The project team asked for the note of this meeting to be kept confidential until their Scoping Request is submitted.