

Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)

Prepared for Coriolis Energy

Temporary meteorological mast at Margam Forest



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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Instruction- ARC Woodlands has been instructed to prepare the following Arboricultural Impact Assessment for the trees located around the proposed met mast.
- 1.2 The report will be carried out in line with BS 5837: 2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction-Recommendations* and will evaluate the direct and indirect impacts of the proposed design.
- 1.3 This report has been prepared by Richard Curtis; I have been a Chartered Forester for 13 years and have field experience of 25 years. I have compiled and surveyed Arboricultural reports for 13 years.
- 1.4 This Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) is based on the proposed development as shown on the attached drawing.
- 1.5 The assessment will be carried out in line with the recommendations in BS 5837:2012 Tree in relation to design, demolition and construction and will evaluate the direct and indirect impacts of the proposed design and where necessary recommend mitigation.
- 1.6 The AIA considers constraints posed above ground and below ground and where appropriate makes recommendations to mitigate impacts.
- 1.7 Below ground constraints are influenced by the root protection area and are determined in line with the recommendations set out in BS 5837:2012. These recommendations quantify the root protection area based on a measured stem diameter in accordance with Annex C , and the root protection area determined from Annex D.

2.0 Arboricultural Impact Assessment

- 2.1 The proposed development is a temporary meteorological mast with associated guy wire supports. The mast requires 3 sets of guy wires at 40, 160 and 280 degrees about the mast as shown in the attached plan. The guy wires on the 280 degree support are the only ones of the three that intersect with the forest. Guy wires will be ground anchored at 21, 42, 63 and 70m from the mast structure. At each guy wire the depth of excavation will be approximately 1.5m and 2m long by 0.5m wide.
- 2.2 The arboricultural impact arises from the need to remove all the trees within the 10m wide easement for placement of the 4 guy wire ground anchors. Root protection areas (RPA) for the trees on the edge of the cleared area will not be impacted by the excavation required.
- 2.3 Indirect damage to the retained trees may be expected through the machinery required to clear the initial easement. Any indirect damage is likely to be light and the trees not significantly impacted due to their vigour. No opportunity exists to mitigate the impact of the initial clearance work as it would be impossible to construct an exclusion zone in the forest.

3.0 Trees to be removed and retained

3.1 All the trees within the 10m easement to the west of the met mast will be removed.

3.2 All the other trees will be retained at the two other guy wire ground anchor locations to the North and South.

4.0 Root Protection Area and Exclusion zones

4.1 Root protection zones will be communicated to the installation team but no physical root protection exclusion zone will be constructed.

5.0 Shading and associated constraints

5.1 Theoretical post construction issues are not relevant to this scheme

6.0 Site Supervision and monitoring

6.1 As no exclusion zone is required for the construction we feel that it would be of limited benefit to maintain a supervising role. However, a site visit can be undertaken to communicate the RPA to the contractors concerned.

7.0 Concluding Statement

The proposed scheme was assessed in line with guidance provided by BS 58237:2012 *Trees in relation to design demolition and construction-Recommendations* with the aim to achieve the most practical solution to the arboricultural issues presented.

The design does require tree removal however the area impacted is very small in relation to the whole forest and as such will have no impact from an amenity, landscape, cultural or arboricultural perspective. Silvicultural impacts are also insignificant with approximately 125 trees removed.

Appendix 1 Tree Protection plan