

Response to Local Impact Reports

Appendix G - Contamination

Upper Ogmores Wind Farm

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Revision History

Issue	Date	Name	Latest changes
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Contents

1.1	Introduction.....	2
1.2	NPT Comments on Contamination.....	2
1.3	RES Response to NPT Contamination Comments.....	2
2	Conclusion	4

1 Introduction

- 1.1 At the request of the Inspector (in the letter dated 17 February 2021), this report sets out the response to the comments regarding contamination presented in the Neath Port-Talbot (NPT) Local Impact Report (LIR) for the Upper Ogmore Wind Farm application.
- 1.2 The comments made by the Contamination Team of Neath Port Talbot Council are provided in italics and are followed by our response.

2 NPT Comments and RES Response

2.1 NPT Comments on Contamination

NPT Comment reference: Paragraph 8.32 and 8.33 of NPT LIR

8.32 The application has been assessed by NPT's Land Contamination Officer as there are several flags relating to land contamination along the stretch of access track (within NPT) that is proposed to be widened.

8.33 Whilst there are full site investigations and information referring to the main site, very limited information has been submitted in respect of the areas where the access track is proposed to be widened. Accordingly, in the absence of such supporting information the Land Contamination Officer is unable to fully assess the impact of the development the impacts are therefore currently considered to be negative. Nevertheless, standard conditions are recommended to allow an assessment to be made of the land contamination impacts (in NPT) prior to the commencement of any works. Subject to such conditions, it is likely that the issues relating to land contamination would have a neutral impact.

2.2 RES Response to NPT Contamination Comments

- 2.2.1 The information relating to contamination can be found in the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) Report Appendix 4 - Consultee Responses / Consequent Actions (pages 129 - 212) and is partly replicated here for ease of reference.
- 2.2.2 NPT raised a concern regarding contamination through the pre application consultation process. In response to the concern, a geo-environmental preliminary assessment has been undertaken to identify whether any potential sources of contamination are present around the forestry track widening works for Upper Ogmere Wind Farm. The report investigated potential sources of contamination and concluded that no sources of contamination have been identified within the area of influence of the development. Given the small area of proposed widening works to the existing track, the preservation of the area's hydrological regime and lack of identified contaminants in the vicinity of the works, the development poses a very low contamination risk.
- 2.2.3 The very low contamination risk will be managed through the geotechnical site investigation which will be undertaken along the forestry route prior to any construction works. This will include a watching brief for any signs of contamination. Where signs of contamination are identified during the site investigation or construction of the works, appropriate geo-environmental testing will be undertaken, and the contamination risk re-assessed.
- 2.2.4 The geotechnical site investigation works will be in accordance with BS 5930:2015 Code of Practice for Ground Investigations, and therefore the investigation works capture the necessary controls / procedures if any sources of contamination were to be found.

3 Conclusion

- 3.1 The NPT LIR proposes four conditions (conditions 3 - 6) however no conditions in relation to contamination are considered necessary for the project. In the unlikely event that any contamination is discovered during the track widening works, the methodology for how the contamination will be dealt with will be included in the Construction and Environment Management Plan.