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Mr J Cook
Sirius Planning Ltd
4245 Park Approach
Thorpe Park
Leeds
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Date: 25th September 2023

Our Ref: C9707/10075/AL

Dear James,

Re: C9707 – COAL MINING RISK ASSESSMENT (CMRA) FOR PROPOSED CRAIG-Y-PERCHYCH SOLAR FARM

Sirius Planning Ltd instructed Sirius Geotechnical Ltd to carry out a review of desk-based information in relation to a proposed solar farm at land east of Glais, Swansea (the “site”), to establish risks to site stability related to coal mining.

This report is based on the Model Report Template within the *Coal Authority’s Risk Based Approach to Development Management – Guidance for Developers* (Version 4 - 2017).

Site Location

The site is located c. 0.5 km east of Glais (c. 9 km northeast of Swansea) in the Swansea Council local authority area, as shown on Sirius Planning Ltd Drawing No. WN1001/15/1A, dated 8/12/22, a copy of which is included in Appendix A. The National Grid Reference of the site is 271700, 201400.

The total application site area covers c. 68 ha, which includes the main development area, a separate remote set down area to the north, and a cable route linking into an electricity transmission line, to the west of Glais. This CMRA considers the main development area only.

The site is located on a roughly southerly facing hillside, with a steep escarpment sloping down from the site’s northwestern boundary.

Proposed Development

It is understood that the site is subject to a planning application for development of a solar farm comprising c. 26 ha of solar arrays, with vehicular access from the southwest via an existing track to Craig-y-Perchyll, as shown on Sirius Planning Drawing No. WN1001/15/03 Rev. 1, included within Appendix A. A number of electrical substations are proposed across the site, with a site compound in the north-centre of the site which also includes a spares cabin, a customer cabin and a distribution network operator (DNO) cabin and communications mast. An underground cable run extends approximately 1.6km to the west. A small remote set down area is proposed to the north of the site, leading off Ynys y Mond Road / Glais Road at Llwyn-du Farm.

Scope of Works

The scope of this document is intended to:

- Present a desk-based review of available information on the coal mining issues which are relevant to the application site;
- Assess the anticipated risks to the proposed development from coal mining legacy;
- Set out appropriate mitigation measures to address the coal mining legacy issues affecting the site, including site investigation and possible remedial works (if necessary), and;
- Demonstrate to the local planning authority that the application site is, or can be made, safe and stable to meet the requirements of national planning policy with regard to development of unstable land.

Sources of Information

The following sources of information have been used in compiling this report:

- Landmark Envirocheck report reference 306776351_1_1, dated 6th February 2023, including historical Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping;
- British Geological Survey (BGS) 1:50,000 scale geological map Sheet 247, Swansea (bedrock & bedrock and superficial deposits editions), dated 2011;
- Geological Survey of Great Britain 1:10,560 scale geological map Sheet SN70SW, dated 1973;
- Geological memoir: *Geology of the Swansea district, a brief explanation of the geological map Sheet 247 Swansea* (2011);
- Memoirs of the Geological Survey of England and Wales. *The geology of the South Wales Coalfield : being an account of the region comprised in sheet 247 of the map (1907)*¹.

¹ [BGS publications online](#)

- Coal Authority (CA) Consultants Mining Report (copy in Appendix B);

Mapped Historical Coal Mining Features (within 500m of the Site)

Review of historical mapping supplied with the Envirocheck report identified many features relating to coal mining between 250m and 500m from the site, but none directly attributable to coal mining within the site boundary itself. One small historical quarry is located on the conjectured outcrop of a coal seam shown on the CA Consultants Mining Report plan, which may indicate minor surface extraction in the 1800s.

From the earliest available mapping of 1879, old coal pits, slants (adits) and collieries are shown c. 300m northwest of the site, towards the foot of the escarpment which forms the site's northwestern boundary. The collieries in this area are named as Craig-ola Colliery (later Llwyn-du Colliery), Boundary Level Colliery, and Upper Craigola Colliery, with a brick works adjacent to Craig-ola Colliery (considered likely to be using mined clay for brick production). The collieries in this area appear to have been in use until the 1960s and, given the local topography and southerly dip of the coal seams, are likely to have mined the ground beneath the site.

On maps from 1884 until 1899, Glais Colliery is also shown c. 400m west of the site, in Glais village.

One small quarry is shown within the site boundary, towards the western end of the site, appearing to have been infilled between 1918 and 1935. A comparison of the indicated location of this quarry with the plan contained within the CA report (Appendix C) shows that the quarry lies on the line of coal outcrop on the CA plan, indicating that the quarry may have been related to coal abstraction. However, there are other former quarries shown immediately adjacent to the site's western end, which are recorded as having been for sandstone extraction. Furthermore, the current site layout plan does not show any proposed development in the vicinity of the on-site historical quarry.

Identification and Assessment of Site-Specific Coal Mining Risks

Mining Affected Areas

The Envirocheck report notes that the site is in an area which may be affected by coal mining activity, with inconclusive evidence for coal mining.

The Envirocheck report also states that there is no hazard from non-coal mining.

Geological Setting

There are no records of man-made deposits on the site itself, although there are several areas of made ground and worked ground shown on the geological plans provided with the

Envirocheck report associated with the historical collieries in the vicinity of the site, mostly to the northwest.

BGS maps record the solid strata underlying the large majority of the site to comprise the Swansea Member of Carboniferous (Westphalian D) age. The western end of the site is shown to comprise sandstone, with the east and south shown as undifferentiated mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. The sandstone in the west is younger than the undifferentiated strata.

The 1:10,560 scale geological map shows the presumed outcrop of one coal seam (the Swansea Five-Feet) to be possibly present within the west of the site, at the base of the sandstone unit in this area. This is noted on the BGS vertical section to be 'thin' and discontinuous in the mapped area, and is not shown on the more recently published BGS 1:50,000 scale map. This outcrop is also shown on the plan provided with the CA Consultants Coal Mining Report, but the seam is not named on that plan.

The geological maps also show two seams to be present to the north of the site, outcropping parallel to the escarpment in this area, indicated to be the Swansea Two-Feet (Upper Maesmelyn on the 1:10,560 map) and Graigola Seams (shown as 0.55m and 1.4 - 1.8m thick respectively). The latter is shown on the BGS map vertical section to be part of / also known as the Swansea Six-Feet Seam and / or Swansea Three-Feet Seam. These seams are shown to be gently inclined, dipping towards the south in the vicinity of the site, and therefore expected to be present beneath the site.

No faults are shown as crossing beneath the site.

Superficial deposits comprising Glacial Till (boulder clay) are shown to overlie solid strata in the southern half of the site; the remainder of the site is shown to be unaffected by superficial deposits.

There are landslide deposits shown c. 60m west of the site's western corner, shown within the Envirocheck report as being of Quaternary age, these being associated with the escarpment northwest of the site. The Envirocheck report also states that there is a Moderate risk from landslide ground stability hazard, however the grid reference shown for this record is not within an area of site proposed for development.

There is one BGS borehole record within the site, summarised on the 1:10,560 scale geological map, and which is available to view via the BGS Onshore GeoIndex website, located approximately in the centre of the site, around 300m southwest of Craig-y-Perchyll. The borehole record is described as commencing a short distance below the horizon of the Swansea 5-Foot Vein (presumably the coal outcrop shown on the maps, although no further details are given). The borehole log shows a sequence of predominantly mudstone with some sandstone and siltstone beds and with ironstone nodules. At c. 120m below ground level (bgl) a note indicates the depth at which the Graigola Horizon (coal) would be expected, with a note

stating 'Coal washed or worked out'. The Swansea 2-Foot Vein (40cm thick) is indicated at c. 140m bgl, the Maesmelyn at 186m bgl, and the Hughes Vein at c. 345m bgl (30cm thick).

Coal Seams

The CA Consultants Mining Report states that the outcrop of an unnamed coal seam is present on site and to the northwest of the site, being described as a workable coal, although no further details are included. As noted above, the outcrop of coal shown on the CA plan is shown as the Swansea Five-Feet on the 1:10,560 geological map.

The CA report also notes that there are recorded workings beneath the site, within the Swansea No. 3 seam, at depths of between 66m and 95m bgl, with the thickness of extraction being between 1.09m and 1.78m. It is assumed that this record relates to the Graigola Seam, as indicated on the vertical section on the BGS 1:50,000 map as splitting from / being associated with the Swansea Three-Feet / Swansea Six-Feet seam.

The only mention of the Swansea Five-Feet seam in 1907 geological memoir that pertains to the fault block in which the site is located states that there were crop workings in the seam at Cwm Crymlyn (c. 4km south of the site).

No further information relating to these coal seams is contained within the 2011 BGS geological memoir for the area, however it does state that fireclay was formerly mined by pillar-and-stall methods at Graigola (Llwyndu Colliery).

Based on the review of all information sources as summarised above, the following sequence of coal seams appears to be potentially present below the site (from youngest to oldest):

- Swansea Five-Feet (west of site only);
- Graigola (Swansea Six-Feet / Three-Feet), likely with associated fireclay extraction;
- Swansea Two-Feet.

Drawing No. C9707/01, in Appendix A, shows the current understanding of the location of the coal seam outcrops and other existing and proposed features referred to in this report.

Recorded Mine Workings

As noted above, the only coal mine workings beneath the site recorded within the CA Consultants Coal Mining Report are within the Swansea No. 3 seam, at depths of 66m to 95m bgl, with the recorded thickness of extraction being between 1.09m and 1.78m and the date of last working being 1923.

The CA Consultants Mining Report states that the site is within an area where a notice to withdraw support was given in 1949.

There are no shallow mine workings (i.e., <30m bgl) recorded within the CA Consultants Mining Report.

Unrecorded Shallow Mine Workings

The CA Consultants Coal Mining Report states that there are no probable unrecorded shallow workings beneath the site (i.e., 30m bgl or shallower) (despite the recorded conjectured outcrop of the Swansea Five-Foot coal seam, presumably due to its 'thin' nature). However, the CA Interactive Viewer records the coal outcrop itself as being a Development High Risk Area.

The CA Consultants Mining Report also notes that there are no spine roadways recorded at shallow depth.

Mine Entries

The CA Consultants Coal Mining Report notes that there are no recorded coal mine entries known to the CA within, or within 100m of, the site boundary.

However, it is possible that there are unrecorded mine entries in the local area that do not appear on CA records.

Opencast Coal Mining and Coal Authority Managed Tips

The CA Consultants Coal Mining Report states that there are no recorded historical or current opencast mines or CA managed tips within 500m of the site.

Previous Site Intrusive Investigation Findings

Sirius is not aware of any previous intrusive ground investigation having been undertaken at the site.

Summary of Coal Mining Risks:

The following table below summarises the potential risks associated with coal mining legacy for the proposed development:

Coal Mining Issue	Yes	No	Risk Assessment
Underground Coal Mining (recorded at shallow depths)		✓	No shallow coal mine workings are recorded by the CA below the site.
Unrecorded underground Coal Mining (potentially at shallow depth)		✓	The CA report states no probable unrecorded shallow workings. One coal seam conjectured to potentially lie at shallow depth at the site. This is shown to be 'thin' in nature on the BGS map of the area. There are no indications of historical coal mining infrastructure or features within or in close proximity to the site (e.g., railways, mine shafts, etc.).
Mine entries (shafts and adits)		✓	There are no recorded mine entries in, or within 100m of, the site. However, there are recorded deep coal mine workings below the site. Therefore, the probability of unrecorded mine entries being present is considered to be very low, but cannot be fully dismissed.
Coal mining geology (fissures)		✓	No geological faults are recorded within the site.
Record of past mine gas emissions		✓	There is no record of a mine gas emission requiring action by the CA within the boundary of the site, or within 500m of the site.
Recorded coal mining surface hazard		✓	The CA states that the property has not been subject to remedial works under its Emergency Surface Hazard Call Out procedures.
Surface Mining (opencast workings)		✓	There are no opencast workings recorded by the CA or BGS within the site or surrounding area. One small quarry on historical plans at location of conjectured outcrop of Swansea Five-Foot, but no working shown since 1879.

Conclusions and Recommendations

This assessment has identified that there is one coal seam that may lie at shallow depth at the site, although this is recorded as being 'thin' in nature in this area by the BGS. There are no recorded shallow coal mine workings or entries at the site, or any evidence of potential unrecorded shallow mine workings. Furthermore, there are only two areas of proposed sensitive structures which lie near or within the possible outcrop of the Swansea Five-Feet Seam (i.e. close to or within the CA Development High Risk Area).

The risk from unrecorded mine workings is currently considered as low. To confirm this tentative conclusion, which is based on desk study information only, we recommend some rotary probe drilling to corroborate the stratigraphy and the absence of any workings where sensitive structures could be underlain by the Swansea Five-Feet Seam. It is anticipated that these works can be adequately addressed under a planning condition, as part of any planning decision.

It is hoped that the above is adequate for your present needs. If you should require clarification of any points or would like to discuss the next course of action, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Lake', with a small horizontal line underneath.

Andrew Lake
Senior Engineer

For and on behalf of Sirius Geotechnical Ltd

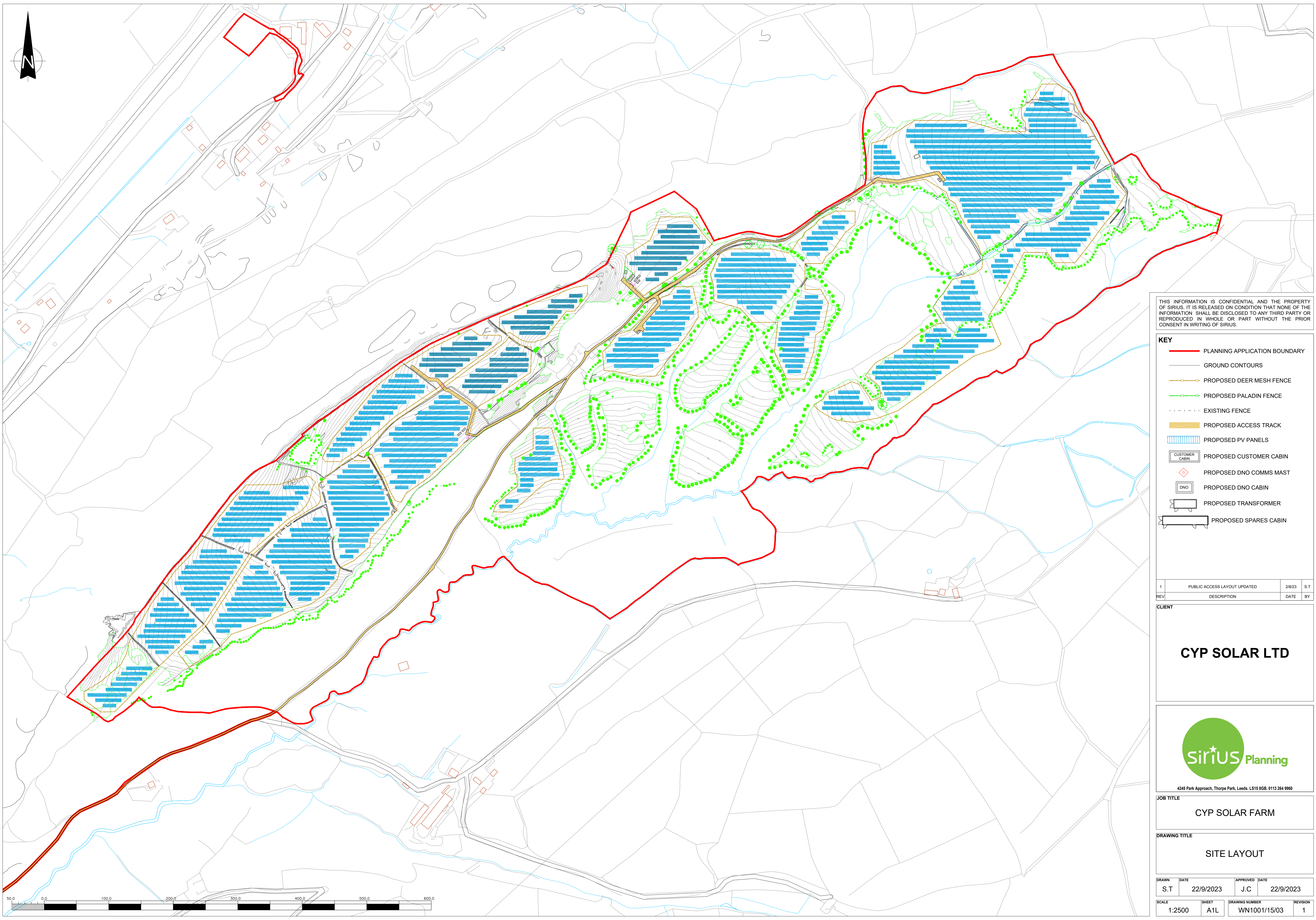
Encs:

Appendix A: Drawings
Appendix B: Envirocheck Report
Appendix C: Coal Authority Consultants Mining Report



APPENDIX A

DRAWINGS



THIS INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL AND THE PROPERTY OF SIRIUS. IT IS RELEASED ON CONDITION THAT NONE OF THE INFORMATION SHALL BE DISCLOSED TO ANY THIRD PARTY OR REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR PART WITHOUT THE PRIOR CONSENT IN WRITING OF SIRIUS.

- KEY**
- PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY
 - GROUND CONTOURS
 - PROPOSED DEER MESH FENCE
 - PROPOSED PALADIN FENCE
 - EXISTING FENCE
 - PROPOSED ACCESS TRACK
 - PROPOSED PV PANELS
 - PROPOSED CUSTOMER CABIN
 - PROPOSED DNO COMMS MAST
 - PROPOSED DNO CABIN
 - PROPOSED TRANSFORMER
 - PROPOSED SPARES CABIN

1	PUBLIC ACCESS LAYOUT UPDATED	2/8/23	S.T
REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY

CLIENT

CYP SOLAR LTD



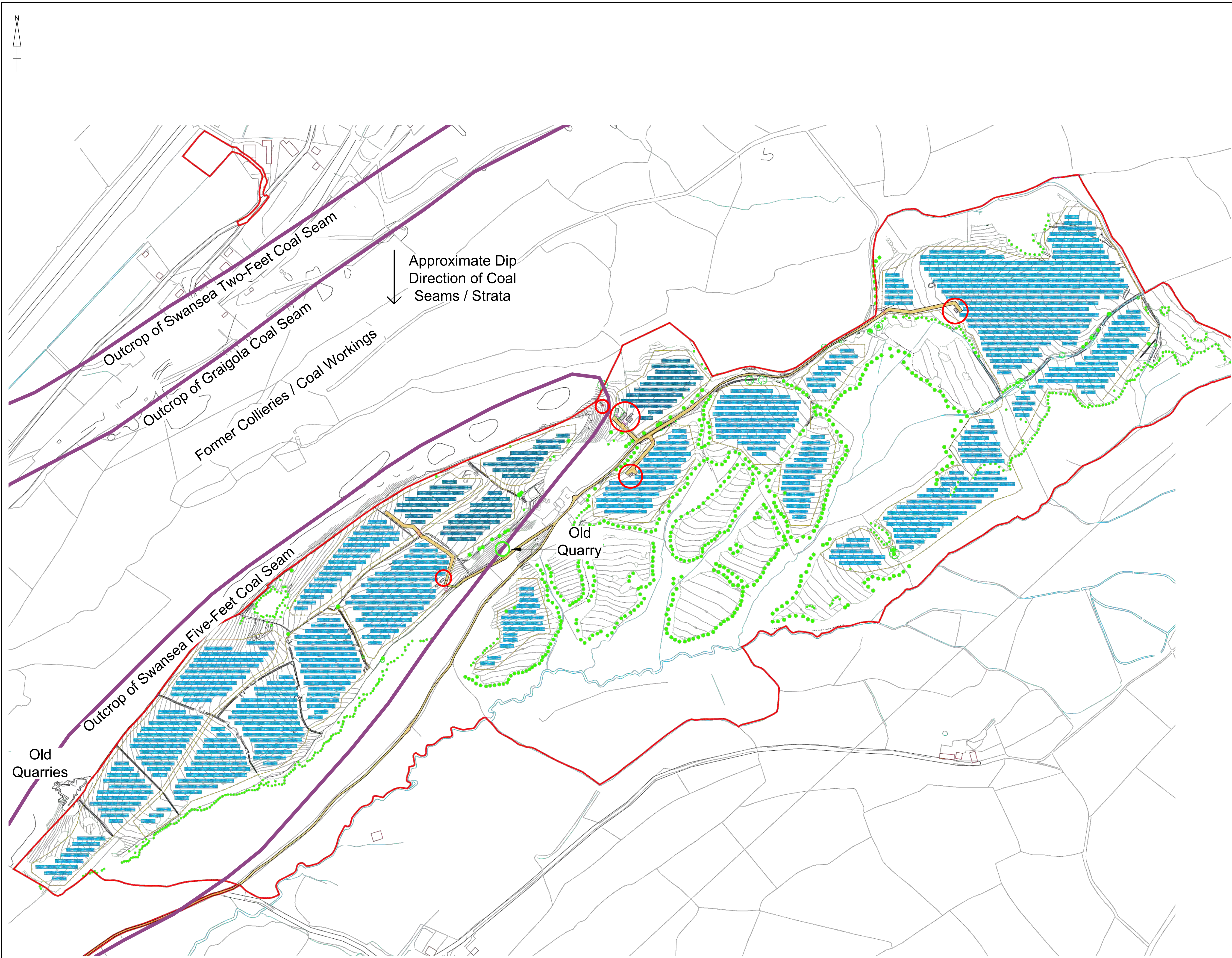
JOB TITLE

CYP SOLAR FARM

DRAWING TITLE

SITE LAYOUT

DRAWN	DATE	APPROVED	DATE
S.T	22/9/2023	J.C	22/9/2023
SCALE	SHEET	DRAWING NUMBER	REVISION
1:2500	A1L	WN1001/15/03	1



NOTES

- PLANNING APPLICATION BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED PV PANELS
- PROPOSED CUSTOMER CABIN
- PROPOSED DNO COMMS MAST
- PROPOSED DNO CABIN
- PROPOSED TRANSFORMER
- PROPOSED SPARES CABIN
- APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF HISTORICAL QUARRY
- LOCATION OF SENSITIVE EQUIPMENT RELATED TO DEVELOPMENT
- CONJECTURED OUTCROP OF COAL SEAM, TAKEN FROM COAL AUTHORITY PLAN (SWANSEA FIVE-FEET SEAM) OR BGS GEOLOGY MAP (SWANSEA TWO-FEET AND GRAIGOLA SEAMS)

PROPOSED LAYOUT BASED ON SIRIUS PLANNING DRAWING NO. WN1001/15/03/R0, DATED 8/12/2022.

Notes

- This drawing should not be viewed in isolation from the accompanying report.
- All marked site features (including historical features, mining features (i.e., opencast boundaries and mineshafts), potential contaminant constraints, and any other potential constraint or feature of note) shown on this drawing are given for indicative purposes only. This drawing should not be underlaid in isolation to determine proposed development layouts. Reference should be made to the accompanying report for commentary on the potential location of these features including coordinates if available and any further works required to locate features if required.

REVISION		BY	DATE
0	For information	AL	08.02.23
A	Updated to current layout	AL	25.09.23
B	>>	>>	>>
C	>>	>>	>>
D	>>	>>	>>

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CLIENT

SIRIUS PLANNING

SITE

CYP SOLAR FARM

DRAWING TITLE

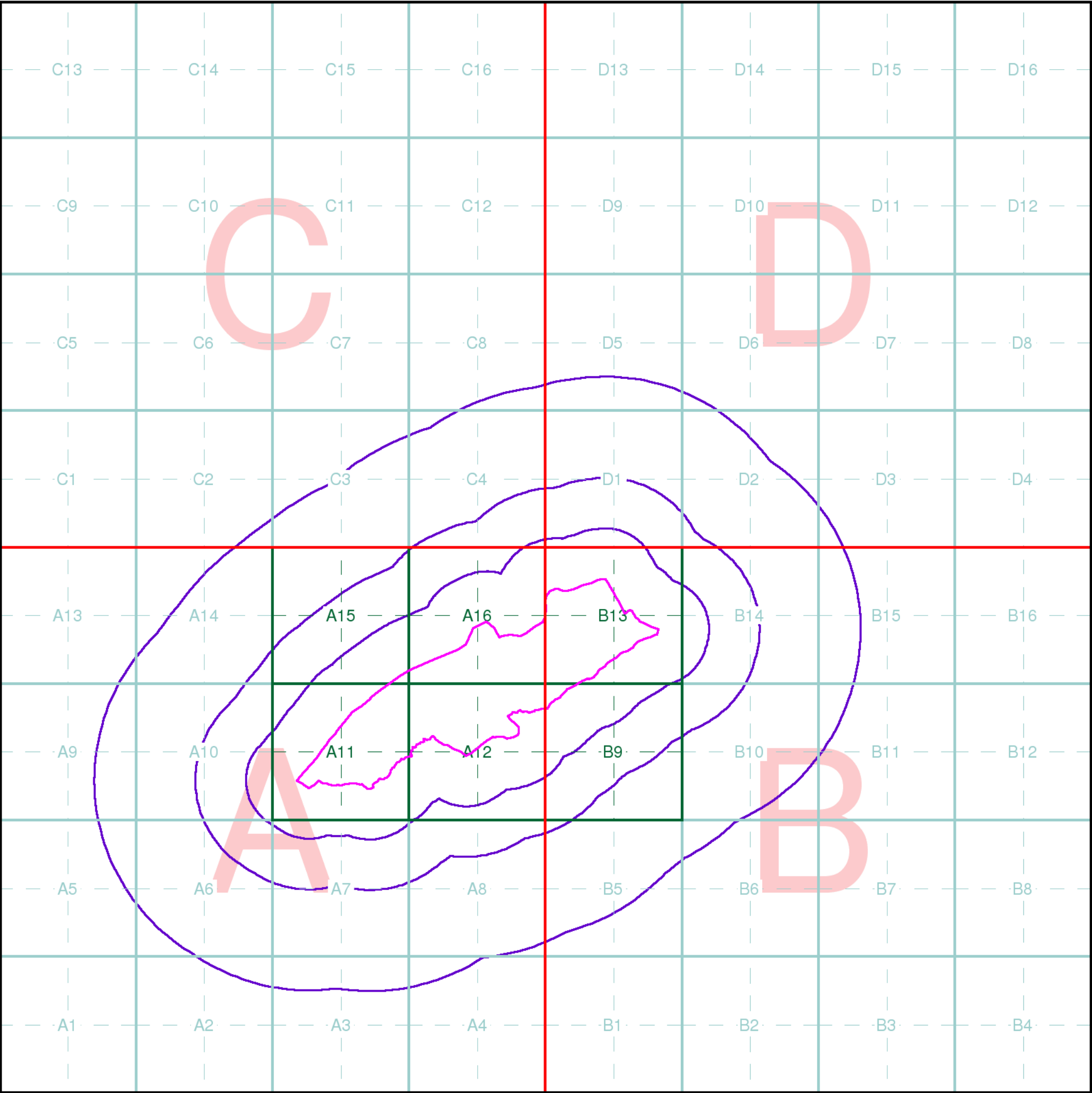
MINING FEATURES PLAN

DRAWING NO. C7907/01		REVISION NO. A	
DRAWN BY AL		APPROVED BY AMG	
DATE FEBRUARY 2023	SCALE 1:2,500	PAPER SIZE A1	



APPENDIX B

ENVIROCHECK REPORT



Index Map

For ease of identification, your site and buffer have been split into Slices, Segments and Quadrants. These are illustrated on the Index Map opposite and explained further below.

Slice

Each slice represents a 1:10,000 plot area (2.7km x 2.7km) for your site and buffer. A large site and buffer may be made up of several slices (represented by a red outline), that are referenced by letters of the alphabet, starting from the bottom left corner of the slice "grid". This grid does not relate to National Grid lines but is designed to give best fit over the site and buffer.

Segment

A segment represents a 1:2,500 plot area. Segments that have plot files associated with them are shown in dark green, others in light blue. These are numbered from the bottom left hand corner within each slice.

Quadrant

A quadrant is a quarter of a segment. These are labelled as NW, NE, SW, SE and are referenced in the datasheet to allow features to be quickly located on plots. Therefore a feature that has a quadrant reference of A7NW will be in Slice A, Segment 7 and the NW Quadrant.

A selection of organisations who provide data within this report:



Envirocheck reports are compiled from 136 different sources of data.

Client Details

Ms S Howson, Sirius Geotechnical Ltd, 4245 Park Approach, Thorpe Park, Leeds, LS15 8GB

Order Details

Order Number: 306776351_1_1
Customer Ref: C9707
National Grid Reference: 271730, 201250
Site Area (Ha): 67.75
Search Buffer (m): 1000

Site Details

CYP Solar Farm, SWANSEA, SA7 9HP

Full Terms and Conditions can be found on the following link:
<http://www.landmarkinfo.co.uk/Terms/Show/515>



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Geology 1:10,000 Maps Legends

Artificial Ground and Landslip

Map Colour	Lex Code	Rock Name	Rock Type	Min and Max Age
	WGR	Worked Ground (Undivided)	Void	Holocene - Holocene
	MGR	Made Ground (Undivided)	Artificial Deposit	Holocene - Holocene
	DDGR	Disturbed Ground (Undivided)	Unknown/Unclassified Entry	Holocene - Holocene
	LSGR	Landscaped Ground (Undivided)	Unknown/Unclassified Entry	Holocene - Holocene
	SLIP	Landslide Deposit	Unknown/Unclassified Entry	Quaternary - Quaternary

Superficial Geology

Map Colour	Lex Code	Rock Name	Rock Type	Min and Max Age
	SUPNM	Superficial Theme Not Mapped [For Digital Map Use Only]	Unknown/Unclassified Entry	Not Supplied - Not Supplied
	ALV	Alluvium	Clay, Silt, Sand and Gravel	Flandrian - Pleistocene
	TILLD	Till, Devensian	Diamicton	Devensian - Ipswichian
	GFDUD	Glaciofluvial Deposits, Devensian	Sand and Gravel	Devensian - Ipswichian
	GFSDD	GLACIOFLUVIAL SHEET DEPOSITS, DEVENSIAN	Sand and Gravel	Devensian - Ipswichian
	PEAT	Peat	Peat [Unlithified Deposits Coding Scheme]	Quaternary - Ryazanian

Bedrock and Faults

Map Colour	Lex Code	Rock Name	Rock Type	Min and Max Age
	SW	Swansea Member	Sandstone	Westphalian D - Westphalian D
	SW	Swansea Member	Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone	Westphalian D - Westphalian D
	H	Hughes Member	Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone	Westphalian D - Westphalian D
	GDB	Grovesend Formation	Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone	Westphalian D - Westphalian D
	H	Hughes Member	Sandstone	Westphalian D - Westphalian D
	Rock			
	Fault			



Geology 1:10,000 Maps

This report contains geological map extracts taken from the BGS Digital Geological map of Great Britain at 1:10,000 scale and is designed for users carrying out preliminary site assessments who require geological maps for the area around a site. This mapping may be more up to date than previously published paper maps.

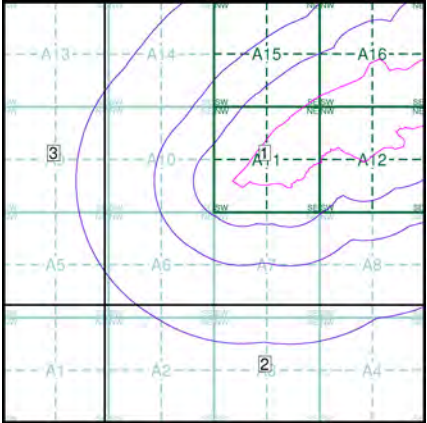
The various geological layers - artificial and landslip deposits, superficial geology and solid (bedrock) geology are displayed in separate maps, but superimposed on the final 'Combined Surface Geology' map. All map legends feature on this page.

Please Note: Not all of the layers have complete nationwide coverage, so availability of data for relevant map sheets is indicated below.

Geology 1:10,000 Maps Coverage

Map ID:	3	Map ID:	1
Map Name:	SN60SE	Map Name:	SN70SW
Map Date:	1972	Map Date:	1973
Bedrock Geology:	Available	Bedrock Geology:	Available
Superficial Geology:	Available	Superficial Geology:	Available
Artificial Geology:	Available	Artificial Geology:	Available
Faults:	Available	Faults:	Available
Landslip:	Available	Landslip:	Available
Rock Segments:	Available	Rock Segments:	Available
Map ID:		Map ID:	2
Map Name:	SS69NE	Map Name:	SS79NW
Map Date:	1975	Map Date:	1970
Bedrock Geology:	Available	Bedrock Geology:	Available
Superficial Geology:	Available	Superficial Geology:	Available
Artificial Geology:	Available	Artificial Geology:	Available
Faults:	Available	Faults:	Available
Landslip:	Not Available	Landslip:	Available
Rock Segments:	Available	Rock Segments:	Available

Geology 1:10,000 Maps - Slice A



Order Details

Order Number:	306776351_1_1
Customer Ref:	C9707
National Grid Reference:	271020, 200870
Slice:	A
Site Area (Ha):	67.75
Search Buffer (m):	1000

Site Details

CYP Solar Farm, SWANSEA, SA7 9HP



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Artificial Ground and Landslip

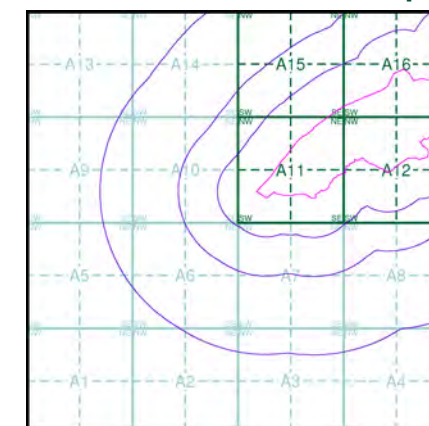
Artificial ground is a term used by BGS for those areas where the ground surface has been significantly modified by human activity. Information about previously developed ground is especially important, as it is often associated with potentially contaminated material, unpredictable engineering conditions and unstable ground.

Artificial ground includes:

- Made ground - man-made deposits such as embankments and spoil heaps on the natural ground surface.
- Worked ground - areas where the ground has been cut away such as quarries and road cuttings.
- Infilled ground - areas where the ground has been cut away then wholly or partially backfilled.
- Landscaped ground - areas where the surface has been reshaped.
- Disturbed ground - areas of ill-defined shallow or near surface mineral workings where it is impracticable to map made and worked ground separately.

Mass movement (landslip) deposits on BGS geological maps are primarily superficial deposits that have moved down slope under gravity to form landslips. These affect bedrock, other superficial deposits and artificial ground. The dataset also includes founded strata, where the ground has collapsed due to subsidence.

Artificial Ground and Landslip Map - Slice A



Order Details

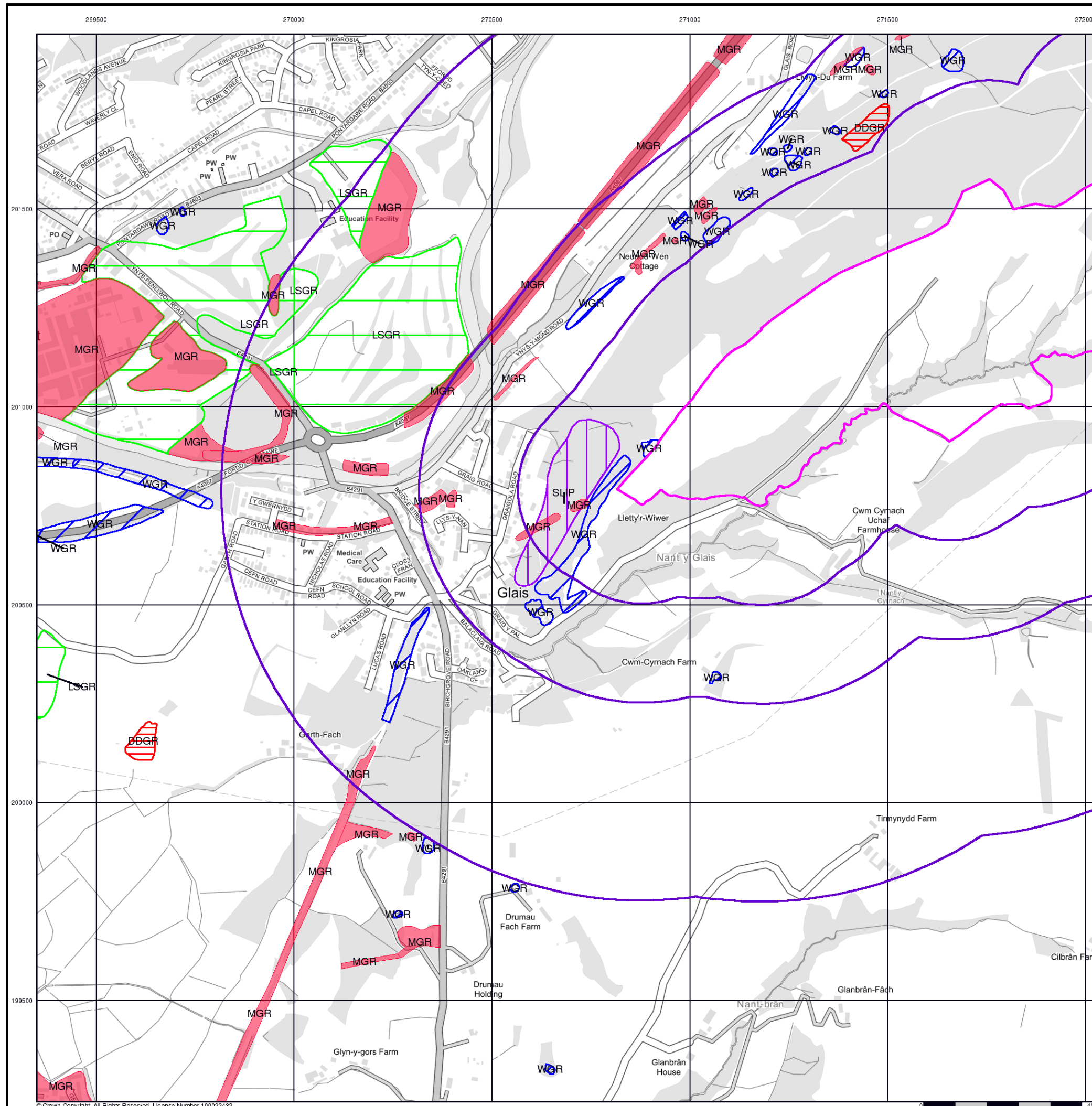
Order Number: 306776351_1_1
Customer Ref: C9707
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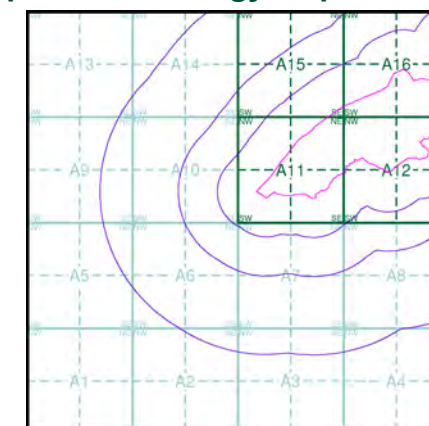
Superficial Geology

BGS 1:10,000 Superficial Deposits are the youngest geological deposits formed during the most recent period of geological time, which extends back about 1.8 million years from the present.

They rest on older deposits or rocks referred to as Bedrock. This dataset contains Superficial deposits that are of natural origin and 'in place'. Other superficial strata may be held in the Mass Movement dataset where they have been moved, or in the Artificial Ground dataset where they are of man-made origin.

Most of these Superficial deposits are unconsolidated sediments such as gravel, sand, silt and clay, and onshore they form relatively thin, often discontinuous patches or larger spreads.

Superficial Geology Map - Slice A



Order Details

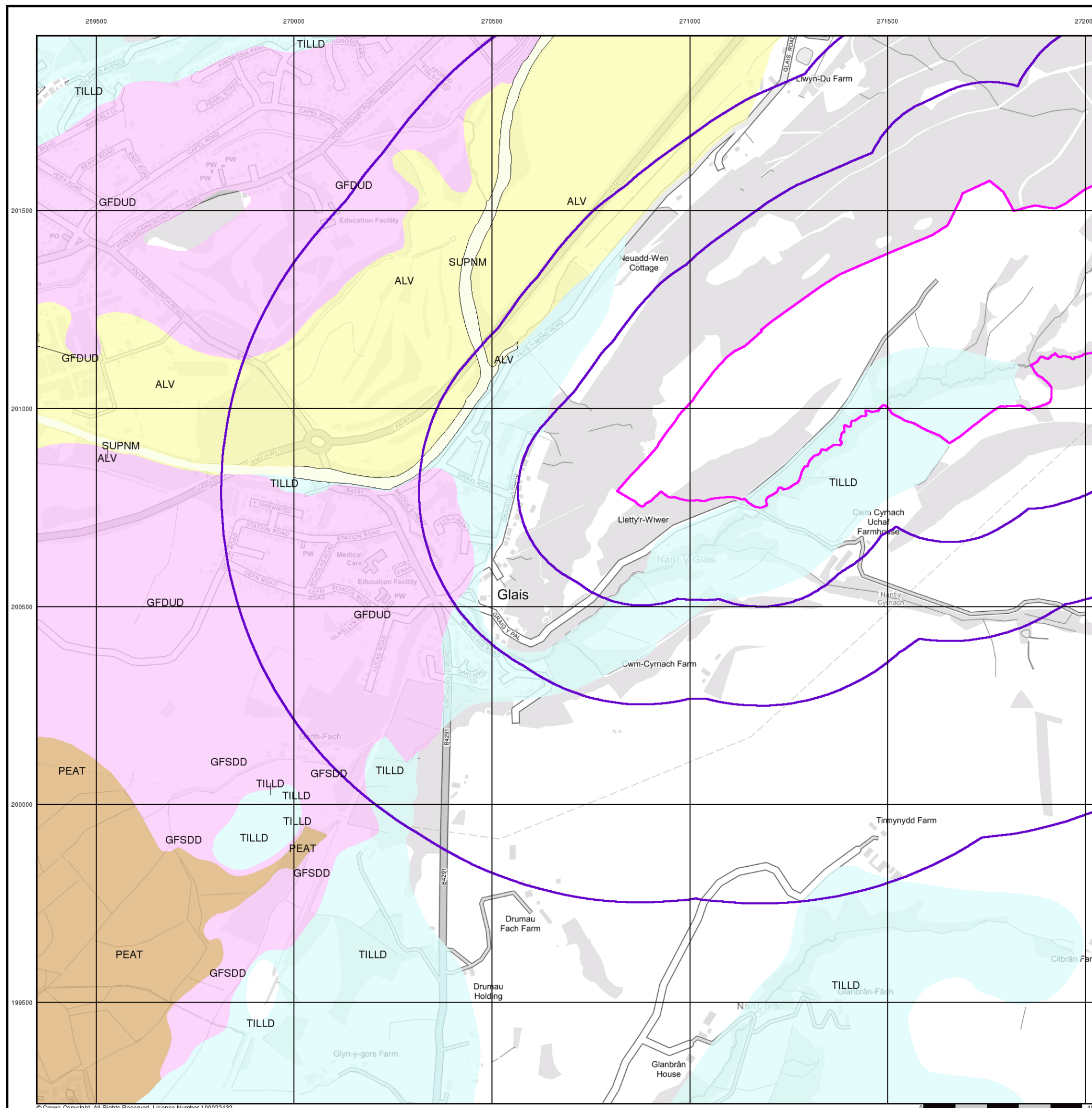
Order Number: 306776351_1_1
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National Grid Reference: 271020, 200870
Slice: A
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Bedrock and Faults

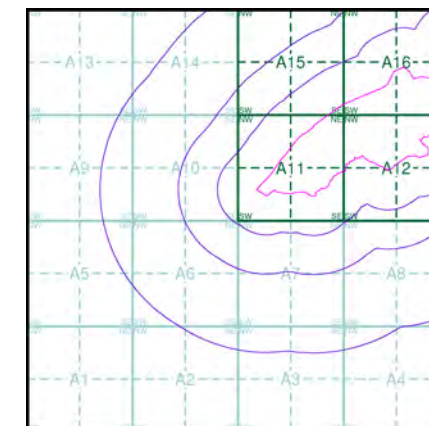
Bedrock geology is a term used for the main mass of rocks forming the Earth and are present everywhere, whether exposed at the surface in outcrops or concealed beneath superficial deposits or water.

The bedrock has formed over vast lengths of geological time ranging from ancient and highly altered rocks of the Proterozoic, some 2500 million years ago, or older, up to the relatively young Pliocene, 1.8 million years ago.

The bedrock geology includes many lithologies, often classified into three types based on origin: igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary.

The BGS Faults and Rock Segments dataset includes geological faults and thin beds mapped as lines such as coal seams and mineral veins. These are not restricted by age and could relate to features of any of the 1:10,000 geology datasets.

Bedrock and Faults Map - Slice A



Order Details

Order Number: 306776351_1_1
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