



ENERGYBUILD LTD. ABERPERGWM COLLIERY

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR AN AUXILIARY WORKSHOP SHED

MARCH 2024



ENERGYBUILD ABERPERGWM COLLIERY
ENGINE COTTAGE SITE
GLYNNEATH
NEATH
NPTCB
SA11 5TY

PLANNING CONSENT P2004/0729

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INTRODUCTION

Energybuild Ltd. is based in the Neath Valley, South Wales. We produce, process, and sell high quality anthracite products which are used mainly as a water filtration medium and for high quality carbon products which are used for the manufacture of carbon electrodes and carbon paste for battery manufacture etc. The mine has been in operation for over 30 years. It currently employs 200 direct employees; this number will expand very shortly with the employment of a further 10 people. Of this number 26 are electrical and mechanical engineering apprentices. We also engage a 10 full time contractors on site. The site benefits from a full planning consent (P2014/0729) and full mining license until 2039.

The Anthracite product is mined from a deep drift mine, the entrance of which is situated on the Aberpergwm Mine site itself. The coal production is by means of a board and pillar mechanized techniques utilizing state of the art mining equipment. We currently produce in excess of 2000 tons of product per week. This figure is again set to increase shortly with the onset of an extensive underground development/expansion program.

Also contained on site is a 400 tons per hour capacity, dense medium Anthracite processing plant which has the sophistication to refine the very specialist grade of products that is required by the specialist markets which we serve. To accompany the processing plant the site holds all the ancillary equipment and services required to pursue the undertaking e.g., product loading facilities, weighbridges, grading, and screening equipment etc. Please refer to Plan Reference **AC/AWS/324/1**

We produce Specialist anthracites for the following markets.

- Water Purification
- Activated Carbon
- Metal Processing and Reduction
- Industrial Colorants
- Carbon Powders
- Carbon Electrodes
- Cement Production

LOCATION AND SITE DESCRIPTION

Energybuild's Aberpergwm Colliery site is located to the South West of the village of Glynneath and to the North of the village of Blaengwrach/Cwmgwrach in the Neath Valley. It is accessed via the B4242 highway which the site is located adjacent to.

The business site is defined by the Planning Consent Boundary (consent number P20014/0729) as granted by Neath Port Talbot Borough Council in October 2018. All ongoing undertakings are carried on within this consented boundary and area. Please refer to Plans Reference, **AC/AWS/324/1** and **AC/AWS-GLOB/321/1**

Operations carried on at the site consist of the mining of Anthracite mineral from the underground drift mine, processing of the mined product into saleable product and subsequent sale and distribution of the products to various customers.

The backdrop to the site consists of mainly broadleaved woodland and scrub. A haul road passes through the site and winds up the top of the Hirfynydd mountain, which lies to the North of the Aberpergwm site where a waste repository for mine waste is located.

The village of Glynneath lies to the East of the and the village of Cwmgwrach/Blaengwrach lies to the South of the site. The whole site is well screened from the locality by broadleaved woodland area and scrub. The site is also screened internally by the provision of strategically places and planted earth bunds.

The site is fully operational and is currently being upgraded to meet the needs of the expanding enterprise, the construction of the auxiliary workshop shed is part of this site upgrade

The proposed New Auxiliary Workshop Shed is totally located within the operational site boundary(P2014/0729) and is in effect totally concealed by other pre-existing site structures, earth bunds and tree/vegetation screening.

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Energybuild propose to construct a New Auxiliary Workshop Shed. The shed will be located on previously prepared but unutilised ground and replace an already existing structure in the near vicinity which has become dilapidated and unsuitable for its intended purpose. The new building will be constructed in the same pattern and appearance as all other structures on site. The building itself is of a steel framed construction to B.S.5950 – industrial Specification. The building details are shown in the table below and on plan **REF AC/AMSDet/324/1**

Due in the main to the planned expansion of the underground mining operation, the installation of new and sophisticated mining machinery, a more sophisticated general workshop are is required to meet the extra demand and to allow for a safer and cleaner working environment.

The building will be constructed on a pre-existing legacy concrete base which was previously designed for the purpose. This will obviate the need for any excavation works.

The building will be manufactured on site by skilled craftsmen which will obviate the need for external transportation. It is scheduled that the total erection including the provision of external cladding will take no longer than seven days.

WASHERY AUXILIARY SHED					
HEIGHT M	9.805	WIDTH M	13.095	LENGTH M	13.38
FLOOR AREA M²	175.2111				
CONSTRUCTION METHOD	" H" SECTION STEEL FRAME WITH EXTERNAL CLADDING				
STANCHIONS	610 X 305 X 149 Kg/M				
RAFTERS	610 X 305 X 149Kg/M				
CLADDING	0.7 mm 1000/32PLASTIC COATED BOX PROFILE				
CLADDING COLOUR	JUNIPER GREEN				
FOUNDATION DETAIL	BUILDING CONSTRUCTED ON PRE-EXISTING CONCRETE BASE				

CONSIDERATION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

NOISE

The planned construction period for the building is brief approx. one day for erection of the steelwork and a further four days for sheeting the building. The work will be carried out between the hours of 08:00 and 15:00. The building foundation has already been constructed as a part of a previous development and will not include any excavation works or the use of heavy machinery. Consequently, it is considered that noise generated during construction will not present any adverse impact on the local communities or site adjacent environs.

The proposed new shed location is screened by existing trees to the North and other site structures will totally encompass it at all other aspects of view. This will aid in the mitigation of any noise which may be produced during its construction. The sheds proposed location is not visible from any, highway, footpath or bridlepath.

The site operates a comprehensive noise management policy which allows for the proactive investigation and the instigation of corrective measures in relation of any potential nuisance noise source.

DUST

The Company operates a comprehensive dust suppression policy and is constantly vigilant in its observations of changing weather conditions and site operations. The site is also equipped with a sophisticated dust suppression system, the use of water bowsers is also available to supplement this should the need arise.

The generation of dust or other form of emission is not considered to present a problem during the construction phase or operational phase of the development due in the main to its brevity and the lack of requirement for any heavy excavation works . Weather conditions and emissions are observed daily and recorded in a book provided for the purpose. Any complaints that may arise will also be recorded in the book.

VISIBILITY

The building itself is obscured from any viewpoints external to the site by other structures and a tree screen. It is not visible from any footpath, bridleway or highway.

LIGHTING

It is not proposed to provide any lighting sources which are external to the building.

ECOLOGY

The proposed shed erecting site has already been prepared in relation to groundworks by virtue of past activities. The area is currently unutilised but regularly accessed by vehicles and inspected. cursory checks have indicated no adverse impacts to ecology by virtue of construction and operation of the auxiliary workshop shed.

DRAINAGE

No foul water drainage is associated with this development. Toilets and washing facilities are provided within the nearby bath house and laboratory building.

Clean rain water falling on the building will be directed to the sites existing, sophisticated and approved drainage system.

TRANSPORT

No external transport facilities are required.

CONCLUSION

Energybuild proposes to construct a New Auxiliary Workshop Shed. The new building will replace an existing and dilapidated on site construction. The dimensions of the new shed are shown in the preceding paragraphs and on plan **AC/AMSD/324/1**

The New Auxiliary Workshop Shed is not a large construction it will be in the character and outward appearance of the existing comparable site structures.

The construction phase will take no longer than five days, this will be facilitated by the previous construction of ground works and foundations.

The building is not considered intrusive to the public in any way. It is well screened, not visible from any footpath or bridleway. The structure will provide a more suitable housing for the purpose of small vehicle maintenance. Operations will be fully enclosed within the outer enclosure. The new installation will contribute to providing a cleaner, more environmentally acceptable and safer working environment for onsite personnel.

INCLUSIONS

PLAN REF. AC/AWS/324/1

PLAN REF. AC/AWS-GLOB/321/1

PLAN REF. AC/AMSDET/324/1