

Green Infrastructure Statement:

Minor Development / Homeowner

Site Address: Plas Farm, Cilybebyll, Swansea

Proposed Development: Plas Farm Hydro

Site description:

Installation of micro hydro electric station comprising of a predominately buried pipeline, intake, turbine house, turbine, buried electrical cable and outfall. The turbine house is a small timber clad, slate roofed shed at the end of the Plas Farm garden area close to the watercourse, housing the turbine and electrical control system. The pipeline is a 200mm diameter polyethylene pipe buried along a distance of 600m with a short section overground hidden within existing shrub and a ditch.

Surrounding Area description:

See General Layout Plan, PFH-GeneralLayout-A-270224-AC

The site is generally within farmland

Development Impacts:

Connectivity, creating gaps, losing trees, canopy cover, loss of vegetation/grassed areas, permeable surfaces, works within roof (bats?)

Vegetation on powerhouse footprint to be lost, short term impact to vegetation during pipeline burial, overground section enables limited impact to trees. No felling required. Apart from one tree to be felled due to severe ash die back, but a positive impact to fell it, as per tree survey recommendation.

Note ENWL have felled several trees down at the powerhouse end (our tree survey is after this felling so all is clear), These trees have been felled as part of entirely separate ENWL works to make the farm 3 phase.

Biodiversity Enhancements Proposed

Integrated Bird / Bat boxes

It is proposed to install bird and bat boxes along the route of the pipeline on nearby trees. 10 bird boxes and 10 bat boxes are proposed. This exact locations will be decided upon by an experienced ecologist.

This would create additional nesting habitats.

Conclusion.

It is considered that subject to the above, that the proposed development would maintain and / or enhance biodiversity, build resilient ecological networks and deliver net benefits for biodiversity by creating additional nesting habitats.

Thus ensuring that any adverse environmental effects are compensated for.

Signed

Edenroper

Dated. 29.04.2024