

CONTAMINATION STATEMENT

Land at Baglan Energy Park, Chosen Industrial Park, Briton Ferry, Neath SA11 2HZ

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This contamination statement has been prepared in support of the planning application for the proposed Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at Baglan Energy Park, Chosen Industrial Park, Briton Ferry, Neath, SA11 2HZ. This statement provides an initial appraisal based on available site information and seeks to defer any detailed contamination investigations until after planning permission is granted.

2.0 Site History

- 2.1 The site is located within an established industrial area, historically associated with industrial and commercial activities. Baglan Energy Park has been developed on previously industrialised land, which may include past heavy industrial uses. A review of historical maps and trade directories suggests that the site may have been subject to land modification, but no detailed site-specific contamination assessments have been undertaken.

3.0 Site Settings and Surroundings

- Location: The site is within Baglan Energy Park, an area designated for industrial and commercial use.
- Surroundings: Adjacent land includes warehouses, storage areas, and industrial units. The M4 motorway is to the northeast.
- Topography: The site is relatively flat and level.
- Land Use: Currently vacant industrial land within a commercial setting.

4.0 Geology, Hydrogeology, and Hydrology

- 4.1 The site is identified within an area of historical industrial activity, which may have influenced the underlying geology and potential contamination.
- 4.2 Hydrogeological data suggests the presence of permeable soils and underlying aquifers, which may have some sensitivity to contamination.
- 4.3 The site is within Flood Zone 1, indicating a low risk of flooding.

5.0 Ecology and Archaeology

- 5.1 A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal has been conducted, identifying limited ecological constraints. No contamination-related ecological risks have been identified at this stage.
- 5.2 The site is not designated as an area of archaeological significance, though it is recorded within the abandoned mines catalogue, which may indicate potential ground stability issues.

6.0 Future Site Plans

- 6.1 The proposed development involves the installation of a 30MW BESS, associated grid connection infrastructure, and security fencing. The BESS will be located on previously developed land and will involve minimal ground disturbance. The site will primarily consist of impermeable surfaces, which will limit any potential contamination migration.

7.0 Site Reconnaissance and Preliminary Risk Assessment

- 7.1 A visual site inspection indicates no obvious signs of contamination (e.g., staining, chemical odours, waste materials, or evidence of spills). Given the site's industrial history, there remains a potential for underlying contaminants, but no immediate risks have been identified.

8.0 Identification of Potential Contaminant Sources, Pathways, and Receptors

- Potential Sources: Previous industrial use, possible underground infrastructure, made ground or imported fill materials.
- Pathways: Permeable soils, surface water runoff, potential leaching into groundwater.
- Receptors: Groundwater, adjacent commercial land users, construction workers.

9.0 Regulatory Consultations

- 9.1 At this stage, no formal regulatory consultations with Environmental Health, the Environment Agency, or other relevant bodies have taken place. Should planning permission be granted, appropriate consultation and site investigations will be undertaken to assess and mitigate any potential contamination risks.

10.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

- 10.1 Based on the preliminary information available:
- There are no immediate visual or olfactory indications of contamination on site.
 - Given the site's industrial setting and past usage, there is a potential for contamination, though its nature and extent remain unknown.
 - A full contamination assessment, is recommended to be conditioned as part of the planning approval process rather than undertaken at this stage.
 - Should planning permission be granted, further investigations will be conducted to determine if any remediation measures are necessary.
- 10.2 It is therefore proposed that a detailed contamination assessment be deferred until planning consent is obtained, at which point appropriate site investigations can be carried out in accordance with regulatory requirements.