Superseded

Our mission is to create a smarter energy future

Construction and operation of micro-energy storage facility on verge at Central Avenue and Road No 3 Junction, Baglan, Port Talbot, SA12 7AX.

Green Infrastructure Statement (in accordance with Section 6.2.5 of PPW)

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Superseded

1. Introduction

This Statement has been prepared in accordance with new policy guidelines; it is a short and simple statement '*proportionate to the scale and nature of the development'.*

The site is a rectangular shape, measuring roughly 24m.sq, ~6m in length, ~4m in width and 2.3m in height. The site sits on an on a vacant grass adjacent to Central Avenue near existing electricity substation.

2. The Proposed Development

The proposed development is for a 200kW/800kWh Energy Storage Systems (Battery Box') and would be just one of the many ESS's being developed by AMP Clean Energy around the UK.

A Battery Box imports electricity from the local electricity network when demand for electricity is low or when there are high levels of renewable energy available. It then exports that electricity back to the grid when required in periods of high demand.

The proposed development will consist of the installation of a concrete plinth, the battery containerised units and associated equipment, and the construction of a new fence surrounding the Battery Box.

The construction of the site would take approximately 4 weeks. The electrical equipment is manufactured off site and is lifted into position on the concrete plinth before the electrical connection is complete.

3. GI Strategy

In Planning Policy Wales (PPW) paragraph 6.2.1., Green Infrastructure (GI) is defined as:

"*The network of natural and semi-natural features, green spaces, rivers, and lakes that intersperse and connect places. Green infrastructure can function at a range of different scales; from entire ecosystems such as wetlands and rivers to parks, fields and gardens at the local scale and street trees, hedgerows, roadside verges, and green roofs/walls at the micro scale*."

The Environment (Wales) Act 2016, PPW 12 and Future Wales, The National Plan 2040 (Policy 9) requires the LPA to seek to enhance biodiversity through the planning process, the need for identification of biodiversity enhancements has been clarified in the letter from Welsh Government to Wales LPA Heads of Planning dated 23rd October 2019.

In PPW12, chapter 6 states that the GI *"will be proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed"* and *"In the case of minor developments this will be a short description and should not be onerous requirement for applicants".*

The extent of the proposed development is minimal, with the site spanning 24m.sq in size. Only a small area of managed grassland will be removed to allow for the installation of the concrete plinth.

When operating, AMP Clean Energy expect the Battery Box will save ~160 tonnes of Carbon each year and ~4,800 tonnes of carbon over the project's lifecycle, contributing toward the collective goal of Net-Zero.

4. Introducing New Habitats

Prior to the first beneficial use of the development, if approved, at least two bug boxes shall be erected on the exterior of the development and shall be retained thereafter for as long as the development remains in existence.

The implementation of the insect boxes aims to enhance the biodiversity of the area and is deemed to be proportionate to the scale and nature of the development.

5. Conclusion

The extent of the proposed development is minimal and in keeping with its surroundings, having very little impact on biodiversity. A very small area of managed grass will be removed as part of the battery storage development.

Two bug boxes will be installed, and maintained thereafter, enhancing the biodiversity of the area. This is deemed proportionate to the scale and nature of the development.