



Green Infrastructure Statement

ABERPERGWM COLLIERY

WELDING WORKSHOP

JULY 2026

ENERGYBUILD LTD
ABERPERGWM COLLIERY
ENGINE COTTAGE SITE
GLYNNEATH
NEATH
NPTCBC
SA11 5AJ

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Introduction

This statement has been prepared by Energybuild Ltd in compliance with Planning Policy Wales Edition 12 (PPW 12), and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 duty to show that development has a net benefit to biodiversity and green infrastructure. Due to the small scale nature of this application, it is a simple statement *'proportionate to the scale and nature of the development proposed and will describe how green infrastructure has been incorporated into the proposal'*.

The Site

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 over 230 direct employees. Of these, 28 are electrical and mechanical engineering apprentices. We also engage 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. Coal production is by means of a board and pillar mechanized techniques utilizing state-of-the-art mining equipment. We currently produce more than 2200 tons of products 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.

We produce specialist anthracites for the following markets:

- Water Purification
- Activated Carbon
- Industrial Colorants
- Carbon Powders
- Carbon Electrodes

Proposed Development

Energybuild Ltd is applying to Neath Port Talbot CBC for consent to locate a welding workshop on site in the location as shown on the attached plan.

The company's welders and fabricators currently work from a small corner of the washery plant building. The new workshop will give them proper and adequate space and a designated area of their own. Plans of the building and its dimensions are attached.

The location of the workshop has been carefully considered in an area of the site which is not visually intrusive from outside the site, as with all of our buildings it will be covered in Juniper Green

sheets to further limit its impact on the surrounding area.

Impacts of the workshop installation

Considering the location of the workshop, on previously stoned ground used for storage and within the site boundaries the impacts of the installation are considered to be very limited.

The Step-wise Approach (Paragraph 6.4.15/21 of PPW12)

We have considered the stepwise approach required by Planning Policy Wales 12 and set out below our

1. **Avoidance:** The use of welding machinery is intrinsic to our operation for repairs, making parts etc, therefore the requirement unavoidable. The team has worked out of the washery building for a number of years however the arrangement has never been suitable and with the growing nature of the business a new location is necessary.
2. **Minimisation:** The building will be hidden from outside the site by the washery building itself and will be green in colour, similar to all other fixed structures on the site
3. **Mitigation:** To reduce any possible impacts we have planned to locate the workshop in an area of the site which was previously underutilised, having just been used for storing parts/machinery. It has no ecology value and is set back from the site boundary.
4. **Compensation/Enhancement:** To ensure that the development creates a net gain in terms of biodiversity, we propose to locate a number of new bird and bat boxes in suitable locations close by.

Conclusion

The new workshop will be a very small aspect of the existing site infrastructure, and will be removed from site once operations cease.

Notwithstanding this, we acknowledge the importance of green infrastructure connectivity and the need to enhance our landscape and ecological features. With this in mind, ongoing site operations will be monitored and controlled by virtue of the Site Ecological Management and Monitoring Plan.