



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol**
Cymru
**Natural
Resources**
Wales

Ein cyf/Our ref: CAS-123927-P4Y6
Eich cyf/Your ref: DNS/3227364

Maes Newydd
Llandarcy
Neath Port Talbot
SA10 6JQ

Mr Rhys Rigby
Major Casework and Chart Case Officer
The Planning Inspectorate
Crown Buildings
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Dyddiad/Date: 20 October 2020

Annwyl / Dear Mr Rigby

Town and Country Planning Act 1990
The Developments of National Significance (Wales) Regulations 2016
Application by: Spring Dev 02 LTD.
Site Address: Land to the East of the A48 (Coordinates E257386, N209389) and
Land to the South West of Tycroes (Coordinates E259219, N209551; & E259904,
N209590), Carmarthenshire.

Thank you for consulting Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the above Development of National Significance application, which we received on 1 October 2020.

Our role is to advise the Planning Inspectorate as a specialist consultee under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 - The Developments of National Significance (Wales) Regulations 2016. We are also the 'appropriate nature conservation body' under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the Habitats Regulations).

The proposed development comprises of ground-mounted Photo Voltaic (PV) solar panels consisting of 3 separate parcels of land. Permission would be required for 40 years and the installation would have the design capacity for between 36-40MW of electricity generation.

We provided the applicant with formal pre-application advice on 28th February 2020. We raise no new concerns from those raised in that response.

In summary:

- We have identified sensitive receptors (European and UK protected sites) within 2 kilometres of the site.

- The site supports/has the potential to support European Protected Species (Otter, Dormice, bats and Marsh Fritillary butterfly) which could be adversely affected during the construction phase.

Please note that our comments are made purely on the information contained within the submission, they are without prejudice to any comments we may subsequently wish to make, including upon receipt of further or more detailed information, which we may need to consider in determining any Environmental Permit.

Protected sites

The European and UK protected sites identified within 2km include:

- Caeau Mynydd Mawr Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Caeau Afon Gwili Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Felin Fach Meadows Cwmgwili SSSI

The Conservation and Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) require the Competent Authority, before authorising a project likely to have a significant effect on a European site, to undertake an appropriate assessment of the implications for that site in view of that sites' conservation objectives. The applicant for development consent for Developments of National Significance must provide the Competent Authority with such information as may reasonably be required for the purposes of the assessment or to enable them to determine whether an appropriate assessment is required.

Protected Species

Further to our pre-application response letter of 28th February 2020, we note revisions have been made to the 'Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA), Land to the east of the A48 and Land to the south west of Tycroes, April 2020' and Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, Proposed cable route for: Land to the east of the A48 and Land to the south west of Tycroes, April 2020. We support these revisions.

Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP)

The general approach and principles within the Construction Environment Management Plan, produced by SPRING and dated April 2020 appear reasonable. The recommendations from the PEA for the cable route and application site should be included in the CEMP.

Flood Risk

The proposed cable route crosses the River Gwili, which is classed as Main River. Therefore, it is likely that this activity requires a Flood Risk Activity Permit.

I hope these comments are of assistance. If you require clarification, or further information in relation to this case, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address.



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Yn ddiffuant / Yours sincerely

Miss Rhian Isaac
Ymgynghorydd Cynllunio Datblygu / Development Planning Advisor