



Mr Harry Edgeworth
Team Leader – Casework 2
The Planning Inspectorate
Crown Building
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Our Ref: 02959-2094591
Your Ref: DNS/3213662

10 February 2021

Dear Mr Edgeworth,

Re: DNS/3213662 – Intention to Submit a Request for Variation to the Application under Article 27 of the DNS (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016

Thank you for your letters of 4 and 8 February 2021 requesting that the full details of the proposed changes, and the implications for the submitted evidence, are clearly set out for the Inspector's consideration.

I enclose a completed Notification of Intention to Vary Development of National Significance (Wales) Application form. The variation relates to (i) clarification of the site address and description of development and (ii) a minor amendment to vary the planning application boundary alongside the access track.

(i) Site Address and Description of the Development

The proposed address and description are set out on the enclosed application form and are in accordance with the text which the Inspector suggested. There are no implications for the submitted evidence as a result of this clarification.

(ii) Access Track Planning Application Boundary

The minor amendment to the access track planning application boundary is described in this letter and the supporting documents referenced in this letter, which are also listed on the application form.

The variation is to reduce the planning application area such that it does not extend over the county boundary into Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT). The entire planning application area would be located within Neath Port Talbot CBC and Bridgend CBC; and RCTCBC would not need to be consulted on the application.

We have reviewed the Environmental Statement (ES) and I confirm that, with the exception of the historic environment, the impact assessment is the same in all respects as for the original planning application boundary. The assessment of the historic environment concludes that moving the boundary will reduce the impact on historic assets and a note, titled Historic Environment Amendments, supporting that conclusion is enclosed with this application. The proposed variation would therefore not result in a substantial change to the nature of the development for which planning permission is sought.

I enclose Drawing No. 2959-RES-LAY-DR-LE-001 which shows the original planning application boundary and the county boundaries. It can be seen that the original application boundary (red) crosses the county boundary (blue) in several locations and by different amounts. The following comments relate to the numbered locations marked on that drawing.

1. The area numbered '1' on the enclosed drawing is a site of former stone extraction. The use of this stone for track widening was considered at the time the drawing was prepared but has since been discounted and would not be used. Stone from proposed borrow pits on the main wind farm site (illustrated on ES Figure 3.01) may be used for this purpose or stone may be imported from a local quarry. ES Chapter 9: Traffic, Transportation and Access has assessed the worst case for vehicle movements and assumes that all stone will be imported from local quarries, whilst noting that use of on-site borrow pits would reduce traffic movement. The proposed variation therefore has no impact on the assessment set out in Chapter 9.
2. The area numbered '2' on the enclosed drawing is also a site of former stone extraction. As with area '1', the use of stone from this location has been discounted and the proposed variation has no impact on the assessment.
3. The area numbered '3' relates to a proposed diversion of the access track. There had been a delay in securing the rights to travel over a short section of the existing access track and the diversion was proposed as an alternative in case those rights could not be secured. Fortunately that matter is now progressing, the diversion is no longer required and the original access route will be utilised. By not constructing the diversion, there will be less impact on the Scheduled Ancient Monument GM234 Bachgen Carreg, as detailed in the enclosed document Historic Environment Amendments.
4. The remaining smaller areas, which crossed the county boundary, provided very generous buffers from the proposed access track widening which can easily be reduced, while still providing sufficient room in which to complete the widening works. The proposed variation therefore has no impact on the assessment.

The proposed variation of the application boundary requires the following amendments to be made to the text of the ES Volume 2: Main Text:

- Chapter 2: Design Evolution Alternatives, paragraph 2, line 4 – '22 Ha' to be replaced with '18.6 Ha'.
- Chapter 3: Proposed Development, paragraph 3.27 - to be deleted.
- Chapter 7: Cultural Heritage amendments are addressed in the enclosed Historic Environment Amendments.

The original planning application boundary is shown on the following ES figures and new versions of these figures, showing the revised boundary, are enclosed with this application.

- Figure 1.2: Planning Application Boundary.
- Figure 5.1: Planning Application Boundary and SSA Boundary
- Figure 5.30: Planning Application Boundary & NDF Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Energy
- Figure 6.4: Ponds and Water Vole
- Figure 6.7: Access Survey

- Figure 7.3: Scheduled Monuments 10km
- Figure 7.4: Listed Buildings 10km
- Figure 9.3: Forestry Track Widening Penycymoedd Wind Farm to Site

I trust that this information satisfactorily demonstrates that the proposed variations would not result in a substantial change to the nature of the development for which planning permission is sought and I respectfully request that this variation is accepted.

Yours sincerely,



Senior Development Project Manager

E Chris.Jackson@res-group.com

T +44 2920 021 074

Encs