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# 7. Historic Environment

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## 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 This chapter presents the preliminary assessment of the likely significant effects of the Project with respect to the Historic Environment. The Historic Environment is defined in Conservation Principles as<sup>1</sup>:

*“All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and deliberately planted or managed.”*

7.1.2 This is represented by features, or assets, including buildings, archaeological remains and artefact scatters. Some historic assets have been designated as Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings or Conservation Areas, Register Park and Gardens, and Registered Historic Landscapes. These and non-designated assets are managed in the planning process in accordance with national and local planning policy and guidance.

7.1.3 The preliminary assessment is based on information obtained to date. It should be read in conjunction with the Project description provided in **Chapter 4: Description of the Proposed Development**.

7.1.4 This chapter describes:

- the legislation, policy and technical guidance that has informed the assessment (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- consultation and engagement that has been undertaken and how comments from consultees relating to Historic Environment have been addressed (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- the methods used for baseline data gathering (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- overall baseline (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- embedded measures relevant to Historic Environment (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- the scope of the assessment for Historic Environment (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- the methods used for the assessment (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- the preliminary assessment of Historic Environment effects (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- preliminary assessment of cumulative (inter-project) effects (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);
- a summary of the preliminary significance conclusions (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**);

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<sup>1</sup> Cadw, Welsh Government (2011), Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales. (Online). Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/conservation-principles/conservation-principles> (Accessed August 2023).

- an outline of further work to be undertaken for the Environmental Statement (ES) (**Section Error! Reference source not found.**).

7.1.5 In addition, this Chapter is supported by the following appendices:

- **Appendix 7A:** Desk-based assessment;
- **Appendix 7B:** Historic environment gazetteer;
- **Appendix 7C:** Desk-based assessment Written Scheme of Investigation; and
- **Appendix 7D:** Stage 1 Settings Assessment.

## Limitations and assumptions

7.1.6 The information provided in this Draft ES is preliminary, the final assessment of likely significant effects will be reported in the ES. The Draft ES has been produced to fulfil the Applicants consultation duties and enable consultees to develop an informed view of the likely significant effects of the Project.

7.1.7 The following overall limitations have been identified:

- The baseline data collection has involved the completion of a desk-based assessment. This is a predictive tool and relies on a series of assumptions and extrapolations to develop an understanding of the potential extent and character of archaeological remains within the Proposed Development Site (the 'Site'); and
- The desk-based assessment has involved the collection of data from the Historic Environment Record (HER). The HER is continually updated as further data regarding the historic environment becomes available; for example, when the results of recent archaeological investigations are made available. As the HER is a record only of known features, it is not a reliable predictive tool, but can provide useful information that can be used with other information to develop an understanding of the potential presence, nature and significance of archaeological remains.

7.1.8 There are no limitations relating to Historic Environment that affect the robustness of the preliminary assessment of the potential likely significant effects of the Project.

## 7.2 Relevant legislation, planning policy and technical guidance

7.2.1 This section identifies the legislation, planning policy and technical guidance that has informed the assessment of effects with respect to Historic Environment. Further information on policies relevant to the Project is provided in **Chapter 5: Legislation and policy overview**.

### Legislation

7.2.2 A summary of the relevant legislation is given in **Table 7.1**.

**Table 7.1 Legislation relevant to the Historic Environment assessment**

Legislation	Legislative context
<b>The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023<sup>2</sup></b>	<p>The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 made provision to consolidate legislation relating to the historic environment in Wales in a fully bilingual and accessible format. It provides for the protection of monuments, buildings and conservation areas by bringing together and restating already-existing legislation (both primary and secondary) in one place.</p> <p>Although the legislation is now an Act of Senedd Cymru, it will not be brought into force until the latter part of 2024.</p>
<b>Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016<sup>3</sup></b>	<p>The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 made a number of amendments to the 1979 and 1990 Acts to address the needs of the Welsh historic environment. It also introduced several stand-alone provisions for Wales.</p> <p>The 2016 Act gave more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments, enhanced existing mechanisms for the sustainable management of the historic environment, and introduced greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.</p>
<b>Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990<sup>4</sup></b>	<p>Covers the registration of listed buildings and designation of conservation areas. A Listed Building may not be demolished, altered, or extended in any manner which would affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest without Listed Building Consent being granted. There are three grades of listing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grade I: buildings of exceptional interest;</li> <li>• Grade II*: particularly important buildings of more than special interest; and</li> <li>• Grade II: buildings of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve them.</li> </ul>
<b>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979<sup>5</sup></b>	<p>The basic legislation that provides for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the scheduling of monuments of national importance;</li> <li>• the control of works to scheduled monuments through the scheduled monument consent process;</li> <li>• action against unauthorised works or deliberate damage to scheduled monuments; and</li> <li>• the acquisition and guardianship of ancient monuments.</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> National Assembly for Wales (2023) Historic Environment (Wales) Act. (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2023/3/contents/enacted> (Accessed July 2023).

<sup>3</sup> National Assembly for Wales (2016) Historic Environment (Wales) Act. (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2016/4/contents> (Accessed August 2023).

<sup>4</sup> UK Public General Act (1990) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents> (Accessed August 2023).

<sup>5</sup> UK Public General Act (1979) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46/contents/2006-10-01> (Accessed August 2023).

## Planning policy

A summary of the relevant national and local planning policy is given in **Table 7.2**.

**Table 7.2 Planning policy relevant to the Historic Environment assessment**

Policy	Policy context
<b>National planning policy</b>	
<b>Planning Policy Wales, Edition 11<sup>6</sup></b>	<p>National planning policy for Wales is set out in Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11, 2021) (PPW). Chapter 6, 'Distinctive and Natural Places', explains how planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. It also sets out the planning policies for the sustainable management of specific categories of historic assets.</p> <p>PPW sets out the role of local authorities in the protection of the historic environment, working with other agencies such as Cadw and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts. PPW states that development plans should reflect national policies for the protection of the historic environment. It also notes the various historic environment designations which exist for the protection of monuments, historic buildings and areas, as well as historic landscapes.</p> <p>PPW also sets out the treatment of the historic environment in the development management process. It states that the desirability of preserving an ancient monument and its setting is a material consideration in determining a planning application, and that there should be a presumption in favour of the physical preservation of monuments of national importance. For archaeological remains of lesser importance, it will be necessary to weigh the importance of the archaeology against other factors, such as the need for the development. Where a local authority decides that physical preservation of archaeology is not justified then it will be appropriate for provision to be made for the recording of archaeology in advance of its loss, and this can be secured through a planning condition.</p> <p>PPW notes the statutory requirement to have regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings and their settings. The protection of World Heritage Sites and their settings should also be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Similarly, parks, garden and landscapes included in the 'Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales's should be considered.</p>
<b>Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (February 2021)</b>	<p>The National Development Framework Future Wales – the National Plan 2040, sets out the Welsh Government's land use priorities and provides a national land use framework. The development plan for Wales influences all levels of the planning system in Wales and helps to shape Strategic and Local Development Plans prepared by councils and national park authorities.</p> <p>Policy 35 – 'Valleys Regional Park' is relevant to south-east Wales. "<i>The Welsh Government supports the establishment of the Valleys Regional Park. Strategic and Local Development Plans should embed its principles into their planning frameworks. The Welsh Government will work with local authorities, the third sector and key partners to support the Valleys Regional Park and maximise opportunities for new development.</i>"</p> <p><i>"The Welsh Government, communities and partners have developed a positive framework through 'Our Valleys, Our Future' to drive change and</i></p>

<sup>6</sup> Welsh Government (2021). Planning Policy Wales, Edition 11 (Online). Available at: <https://gov.wales/planning-policy-wales> (Accessed August 2023).

Policy	Policy context
	<p><i>regeneration. The Valleys Regional Park seeks to maximise the social, economic and environmental potential of the Valleys’ natural and cultural historic assets and it is important the planning system supports its delivery.”</i></p>
<p><b>Local planning policy</b></p>	
<p><b>Caerphilly County Borough Council Local Development Plan<sup>7</sup></b></p>	<p>The current Local Development Plan was adopted on 23 November 2010. The Local Development Plan identifies where new developments such as housing, employment, community facilities and roads, will go.</p> <p>The historic environment is considered in Strategy Policy 6 of the Local Development Plan, Placemaking. ‘<i>Development proposals should contribute to creating sustainable places by having full regard to the context of the local, natural, historic and built environment and its special features through:</i></p> <p><i>A An appropriate mix of uses that reflect the role and function of settlements</i></p> <p><i>B A high standard of design that reinforces attractive qualities of local distinctiveness</i></p> <p><i>C Design in accordance with best practice in terms of designing out crime</i></p> <p><i>D A location and layout that reflects sustainable transport and accessibility principles and provides full, easy and safe access for all</i></p> <p><i>E The incorporation of resource efficiency and passive solar gain through layout, materials, construction techniques, water conservation, and where appropriate the use of sustainable drainage systems</i></p> <p><i>F The efficient use of land, including higher densities where development is close to key transport nodes</i></p> <p><i>G The incorporation and enhancement of existing natural heritage features</i></p> <p><i>H The incorporation of mitigation measures that improve and maintain air quality.’</i></p>

## Technical guidance

A summary of the technical guidance for the Historic Environment is given in **Table 7.3**.

<sup>7</sup> Caerphilly County Borough Council (2010). Local Development Plan up to 2021 (Adopted November 2010). (Online). Available at: <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/caerphillydocs/ldp/written-statement.aspx> (Accessed July 2023).

**Table 7.3 Technical guidance relevant to the Historic Environment assessment**

Technical guidance document	Context
<b>Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment</b> <sup>8</sup>	TAN 24 was adopted in May 2017 to provide guidance on how the planning system should consider the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning applications.
<b>Cadw. Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales</b> <sup>9</sup>	Sets out the general principles to consider when planning changes to historic assets and applying for listed building, conservation area and scheduled monument consent.
<b>Cadw. Setting of Historic Assets in Wales</b> <sup>10</sup>	Sets out the principles used to assess the potential impact of development or land management proposals within the settings of World Heritage Sites, ancient monuments (scheduled and unscheduled), listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens, and conservation areas.
<b>Cadw. Managing Historic Character in Wales</b> <sup>11</sup>	Explains why it is important to recognise historic character and use it as an evidence base for conservation, regeneration and planning work. It shows how policies and programmes to manage change can take inspiration from the past to help create and sustain distinctive places for the future.
<b>Cifa. Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment</b> <sup>12</sup>	Sets out standards for the production of archaeological desk-based assessments.
<b>Cifa. Standard and guidance for stewardship for the historic environment</b> <sup>13</sup>	Defines the outcome of work that satisfies aspirations for good stewardship and describes best practices for achieving it.

## 7.3 Consultation and Engagement

### Overview

- 7.3.1 The assessment has been informed by consultation responses and ongoing stakeholder engagement. An overview of the approach to consultation is provided in **Section 2.4 of Chapter 2: Approach to preparing the Environmental Statement.**

<sup>8</sup> Cadw, Welsh Government (2017). Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment. (Online) Available at: <https://gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-24-historic-environment> (Accessed August 2023).

<sup>9</sup> Cadw 2017. Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales. (Online) Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/heritage-impact-assessment> (Accessed August 2023).

<sup>10</sup> Cadw 2017. Setting of Historic Assets in Wales. (Online) Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/setting-historic-assets> (Accessed August 2023).

<sup>11</sup> Cadw 2017. Managing Historic Character in Wales. (Online) Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/historic-character/managing-historic-character> (Accessed August 2023).

<sup>12</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014. Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (Online) Available at: <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa> (Accessed August 2023).

<sup>13</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014. Standard and guidance for stewardship for the historic environment. (Online) Available at <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa> (Accessed August 2023).



## Scoping Opinion

- 7.3.2 A Scoping Direction was issued by the Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW), on behalf of the Welsh Ministers, on 12 December 2022. A summary of the relevant responses received in the Scoping Opinion in relation to Historic Environment and confirmation of how these have been addressed within the assessment to date is presented in **Table 7.4**.
- 7.3.3 The information provided in the Draft ES is preliminary and not all of the Scoping Direction comments have been addressed at this stage, however, all comments will be addressed within the ES.

**Table 7.4 Summary of EIA Scoping Direction Responses for Historic Environment**

Consultee	Consideration	How addressed in this Draft ES
<b>Cadw</b>	Further clarification requested on the process to identify potential for effects on designated historic assets located within 5km of the Proposed Development	A Stage 1 Settings Assessment has been undertaken for all the designated historic assets within 5km of the Proposed Development. This has been shared with Cadw and the inclusion of three additional historic assets within the settings assessment has been requested. The agreed Stage 1 assessment is included as <b>Appendix 7D</b> . The provisional assessment of effects on settings of historic as originally proposed is included in <b>Section</b> Error! Reference source not found.. An assessment of the additional historic assets requested by Cadw will be included within the Final ES.
<b>The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT)</b>	Requested completion of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) to agree scope of archaeological desk-based assessment to assess potential for direct disturbance of archaeological assets	A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological desk-based assessment has been agreed with GGAT and Cadw. This is included as <b>Appendix 7C</b> .

## Technical Engagement

- 7.3.4 Technical engagement with consultees in relation to Historic Environment is ongoing. A summary of the technical engagement undertaken to date is outlined in Error! Reference source not found..

**Table 7.5 Technical engagement on the Historic Environment assessment.**

Consultee	Consideration	How addressed in this Draft ES
<b>Cadw</b>	Effects on designated historic assets located within 5km of the Proposed Development.	Consultation is underway. Effects on designated assets within 5km are considered in the assessment.

<b>Cadw</b>	Effects on registered historic landscapes of outstanding historic interest and the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site located within 10km of the Proposed Development.	Consultation is underway. Effects on the registered historic landscapes and World Heritage Site are considered in the Stage 1 Assessment included as <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT)</b>	Direct disturbance of archaeological assets.	An archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared and is included as <b>Appendix 7A</b> . Consultation with GGAT will continue.

## 7.4 Data gathering methodology

### Study area

- 7.4.1 In order to inform an assessment of effects on archaeological remains within the Site and the surrounding area, the following study areas were assessed:
- a 5km study area from the boundary of the Site has been used to identify historic assets that may be subject to potentially significant effects arising from changes to their settings; and
  - a 1km study area from the boundary of the Site has been used to identify historic assets which may be subject to potentially significant effects arising from direct disturbance.

### Desk Study

- 7.4.2 A desk study has been completed in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), which sets out the sources to be consulted in order to establish the archaeological baseline for the Site. The WSI was agreed with the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Archaeological Planning Officer and is included as **Appendix 7C**. A summary of the organisations that have supplied data, together with the nature of that data is outlined in **Table 7.6**.

**Table 7.6 Data sources used to inform the Historic Environment assessment**

Organisation	Data source	Data provided
<b>The Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust</b>	Historic Environment Record	HER data within 1km study area radius from the Site boundary.
<b>Cadw</b>	Registers of Designated Historic Assets including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens and conservation areas within 5km of the Site	National datasets.

<b>National Monument Record (NMR), RCAHMW</b>	Archive	Aerial photographs.
<b>National Library of Wales</b>	Archive	Cartographic sources.
<b>Gwent Archives</b>	Archive	Historic and cartographic sources.
<b>Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales</b>	DataMapWales	Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) Composite dataset.
<b>British Museum and National Museum Wales</b>	Portable Antiquities Scheme data	Archaeological finds by the public.

## Survey work

- 7.4.3 A site walkover was undertaken by Katie Pitt, WSP UK Limited on 19 July 2023. This comprised a visual inspection of the Site including its topography and land use, as well as designated historic assets within a 5km study area. The known non-designated historic assets within the Site were visited.

## 7.5 Overall baseline

### Current baseline

- 7.5.1 The archaeological and historical background of the Site is described in the Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment, included as **Appendix 7A**.

### Designated historic assets

- 7.5.2 There are no designated historic assets located within the Site boundary. One listed building group, farmhouse Swffryd-ganol including front garden wall, Barn Range including cow-house at Swffryd-ganol (Cadw 22673-22674) lies on the periphery of the 1km study area to the north-west of the Site. No scheduled monuments or registered park and gardens, conservation areas, or World Heritage Sites are located within 1km of the Site boundary.
- 7.5.3 A Stage 1 Assessment has been carried out for all the designated historic assets within the 5km study area, in accordance with The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales<sup>14</sup> (**Appendix 7D**). The selection of historic assets to be included in the ES has been completed with reference to the Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) that have been calculated to show the area of theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines based on a four-turbine layout of 145m turbine height (maximum blade tips), as shown on **Figure 7.1**. From the results of the Stage 1 Settings Assessment, four scheduled monuments, eight listed buildings (or groups), and two conservation areas are proposed to be assessed further within the EIA process. All of the scoped in designated assets are listed within Error! Reference source not found. **and 7.11**.

<sup>14</sup> Cadw (2017). Setting of Historic Assets in Wales. (Online) Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/setting-historic-assets> (Accessed August 2022).

**Table 7.7 Scoped In Designated Assets within 5km of the Site.**

Reference	Name	Rationale
1441	Charcoal Blast Furnace at Abercarn	Within ZTV. 1.24 km to the south-west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.
2349	Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle	Within ZTV. 3.39 km to the south-east of the Site. Potential effect due to prominent position in the landscape and proximity to development.
2381	St Illtyd Castle Mound	Within ZTV. 3.62 km to the north of the Site. Potential effect due to prominent position in the landscape and proximity to development.
3964	Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir	Within ZTV 3.51 km to the north-west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.
1866	St Illtyd's Church	Within ZTV. 3.65 km to the north of the Site. Potential effect due to prominent position in the landscape and proximity to development.
	<b>Former Navigation Colliery Group</b>	Within ZTV. 1.64 km to the west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.
1889	Former Navigation Colliery Offices	
1890	Former Navigation Colliery Chimney	
1891	Former Navigation Colliery South Winding Engine House	
1892	Former Navigation Colliery Lamp Room	
1893	Former Navigation Colliery Workshops and Stores	
1894	Former Navigation Colliery North Winding Engine House	
1895	Former Navigation Colliery Electrical Outbuilding	
1896	Former Navigation Colliery Power House and Pump House	
1896	Former Navigation Colliery Fan House and Fan Drift	

Reference	Name	Rationale
1897	Rear Revetment Wall S	
21267	Former Navigation Colliery Powder Store and adjoining N Rear Revetment Wall	
16425	Former Navigation Colliery Heapstead and Main Revetment Wall	
16426	Former Navigation Colliery Middle Revetment Wall	
16427	Former Navigation Colliery Baths	
16428		
1903	Church of St Luke	Within ZTV. 1.10 km to the south-west of the Site. Set into the wooded hillside above the Ebbw Vale just above the centre of Abercarn. Potential effect due to proximity to development.
20995	Welsh Presbyterian Church	Within ZTV. 1.06 km to the south-west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.
1900	<b>Rhyswg Fawr Farmhouse Group</b>	Within ZTV. 1.2 km to the south of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.
20998	Rhyswg Fawr Farmhouse and walled forecourt	
	Barn at Rhyswg Fawr	
21002	Ty Mynydd	Within ZTV. 2.40 km to the west of the Site. Upland farmhouse. Potential effect due to proximity to development.
22673	<b>Swffryd-ganol Group</b>	Within ZTV. 0.98 km to the north of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.
	Swffryd-ganol including front garden wall	
22674	Barn Range including cow-house at Swffryd-ganol	
	Oakdale	Within ZTV 3.68 km to the west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.

Reference	Name	Rationale
	Newbridge	Within ZTV 1.77 km to the west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.

## Non-designated historic assets

- 7.5.4 There are three records of non-designated historic assets located within the Site boundary and these are listed in Error! Reference source not found.. There are 74 non-designated HER records within the 1km study area, which are included in **Appendix 7C** and shown on **Figure 7.2**.

**Table 7.8 Non-Designated Assets within the Site (GGAT HER)**

HER Ref	Name	Easting	Northing	Period	Type
GGAT11121g	Bee Bole, Penycacau Farm, Crumlin	323200	198300	Post medieval	Bee bole
GGAT04981g	Pwllgwinae	323100	196400	Post medieval	Pool
GGAT04973g	Glan-shon	322450	196000	Post medieval	Farmhouse

## Historic assets within Site boundary

### Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval buried remains

- 7.5.5 There is very little prehistoric evidence within the 1km study area to indicate the presence of previously unknown archaeological remains dating to these periods within the Site boundary, and therefore the potential for prehistoric remains is considered to be low.
- 7.5.6 There is no Roman evidence within the study area to indicate the presence of previously unknown archaeological remains dating to this period within the Site boundary, and therefore the potential for Roman remains is considered to be low.
- 7.5.7 There are isolated medieval archaeological sites within the 1km study area, including Llantarnam Abbey and Hafodyrynys Grange and mill. Being upland pasture, the medieval activity across the Site is likely to have been limited to grazing stock and establishing or maintaining low-density field boundaries. Therefore, the Site has a low archaeological potential for unknown medieval remains.

### Post-Medieval buried remains

- 7.5.8 Outside of the known post-medieval farmsteads recorded within the Site (Glan-shon (GGAT04973g) Bee Bole, Penycacau Farm (GGAT11121g)) that have high archaeological potential, the Site is upland pasture and has limited potential for post-medieval archaeology. Such remains would be largely limited to buried features and finds relating to farmsteads, agricultural activity and field boundaries.

- 7.5.9 From the mid-19th century, the study area became an area of major coal mining industry. Collieries in the study area include the Celynen South Colliery and Cwmcarn Colliery.
- 7.5.10 A boundary stone for mineral rights, dated 1839, is located just outside of the eastern corner of the northern parcel of the Site. As such the Site has a low potential for unknown post-medieval and modern remains.

## Summary

- 7.5.11 The Site has a history of pastoral use, as well as including areas of open ground. An assessment of the available data has concluded that the general archaeological potential of the Site from the prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods is low.
- 7.5.12 Outside of the known post-medieval farmsteads and pool recorded within the HER, there are remains of post-medieval agricultural land divisions in localised areas of the Site, as well as the remains of mineral rights boundaries in the immediate vicinity. These remains are of low (local) significance. As such the Site has a low potential for unknown post-medieval and modern remains.

## Historic assets subject to potential effects arising from changes to settings

### Scheduled Monument: Charcoal Blast Furnace at Abercarn (Cadw 1441)

- 7.5.13 The monument comprises the remains of an Industrial blast furnace, dating to the 18th century and fuelled by charcoal. The remains include a square stone stack on the bank above the Ebbw River, stone charging house, waterwheel pit and wireworks. The charging house was later used as a forge.
- 7.5.14 The monument has a local setting within the town of Abercarn with strong links to the Ebbw River and the surrounding streets. The monument is of significance for its potential to enhance and illustrate our knowledge and understanding of the development of the iron industry in Wales. It is located in a locally secluded and wooded part of the built-up area of the valley base in the town of Abercarn, within the ZTV and adjacent to large modern buildings.

*Plate 1. Scheduled Monument: Charcoal Blast Furnace at Abercarn (Cadw 1441). View south.*



*Plate 2. Scheduled Monument: Charcoal Blast Furnace at Abercarn (Cadw 1441). View north-east towards the Site*



### Scheduled Monument: Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle (Cadw 2349)

7.5.15 The monument comprises the remains of a motte and bailey castle, a military stronghold built during the medieval period, possibly built on the site of an earlier, Iron Age, hillfort. The motte and bailey occupies a prominent position on a conical shaped hill at the west end of Mynydd Henllys. The hill slopes steeply on all sides, and there are panoramic views in all directions. The motte is located at the eastern end of the hilltop. It is steep-



sided, 7m high with a flat summit 17m in diameter, and a bank and ditch run around the long oval hilltop enclosing an area of approximately nine acres. The interior of the enclosed area is gently sloping and featureless, with a trig point. A track runs through the middle of the enclosed area, with newly-built steps leading over the ramparts at the western end.

- 7.5.16 The monument is of significance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval defensive organisation and later prehistoric defensive organisation and settlement. The well-preserved monument forms an important element within the wider later prehistoric and medieval context and the structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail. It is located within the ZTV.

*Plate 3. Scheduled Monument: Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle (Cadw 2349). View north towards the Site*



### Scheduled Monument: St Illtyd's Castle Mound (Cadw 2381)

- 7.5.17 The scheduled monument of St. Illtyd's Castle Mound is located on the northern edge of the village, west of St Illtyd's Church (Grade II\* Listed, 1866), in a prominent location on high ground with views across the valley to the north and west. It is of high heritage significance for its historic and archaeological interest, with potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval defensive organisation. The monument comprises the remains of a motte and ditch, dating to the medieval period (approximately 1066 -1540 AD). The monument consists of a steep-sided mound that is 35m in diameter, with a flat summit 17m in diameter. It is located immediately to the east of the medieval, possible pre-Conquest church of St Illtyd, which may be located within the former bailey. Beyond this to the east are the buried footings of 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century towers of Castell Taliorum. The relationship between motte, church and castle is uncertain, however there is group value between these upland early ecclesiastical and successive secular sites, which lie within the former Welsh lands of Gwynllwg and Senghenydd that could equally be interpreted as Norman or Welsh.

- 7.5.18 The setting of St. Illtyd's Castle Mound has been affected by the construction of a modern farm immediately adjacent to the east of the monument. The farm is located between St. Illtyd's Motte and St Illtyd's Church, which transects the setting of the group of medieval historic assets. It is within the ZTV.

*Plate 4. Scheduled Monument: St Illtyd's Castle Mound (Cadw 2381. View south-east towards the Site*



#### Scheduled Monument: Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir (Cadw 3964)

- 7.5.19 The monument consists of a dam, a barrier of concrete or earth built across a river to create a reservoir of water, dating to the 18th century. It is of high heritage significance for its historic and archaeological interest. The Pen y Fan Reservoir or Pound y Coedcae, was built around 1794-6 to serve the Monmouthshire Canal. The Crumlin Arm of the canal had many locks and heavy traffic, so was not sufficiently supplied by the small river. Two other reservoirs were also built at Abercarn and Hafodyrynys. The Pen y Fan reservoir was formed by a large earth dam with stone facings, forming banks on three sides of a gentle slope and was much larger than other contemporary industrial ponds. A low bank to the north marks the original extent of the reservoir. The outlet to the canal feeder forms a stone-lined, oval tunnel, and a valve chamber is set into the bank.
- 7.5.20 The monument is of significance regarding 18th - 19th century water supply, drainage and industrial practices. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of associated archaeological features and deposits. The structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information concerning chronology and building techniques. Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir has group value with the Crumlin Arm of the Monmouthshire Canal which ran to the south-east of the reservoir. The Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir is located in an area of undulating topography with a wooded area to the immediate north-east. It is located within the ZTV.

*Plate 5. Scheduled Monument: Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir (Cadw 3964). View south-east towards the Site*



**Listed Buildings, Grade II and II\*: Former Navigation Colliery Group (Cadw 1889-1897, 16425-16428, 21267)**

- 7.5.21 Navigation Colliery Crumlin was built by the firm of Partridge Jones and Company between 1907 and 1911. The firm was one of the largest coal combines in south Wales, owning nine collieries in the Gwent valleys. Navigation Colliery was a show-pit of the period with high quality buildings and up-to-date machinery. It was one of the earliest collieries in south Wales to be built in brick rather than local stone with brick dressings. It closed in 1967 and is disused since.
- 7.5.22 Navigation Colliery Crumlin has a secluded, wooded, localised setting in Crumlin. The colliery site contains a nearly complete colliery complex with group value, having historic and archaeological interest. It is located within the ZTV in the town of Crumlin on the western side of the valley base, adjacent to the River Ebbw.

*Plate 5. Listed Building: Former Navigation Colliery Group. View south-east towards the Site, from driveway.*



#### Listed Building, Grade II\*: St Illtyd's Church (Cadw 1866)

- 7.5.23 St Illtyd's Church is largely late medieval, possibly with earlier masonry incorporated. Early medieval origins are indicated by a circular churchyard. First references to the church are found in a 9th century poem, and it was believed to have been rebuilt in the late 12th century by the Cistercians. The church closed in the 1930s due to subsidence of local coalmines. It was acquired by Blaenau Gwent Borough Council in 1991, and fully restored. It is listed by Cadw as a well-preserved medieval parish church retaining much original detail, including roofs and saddleback tower, as well as fine provincial early 19th century memorials. The church is located on high ground (approximately 350m Above Ordnance Datum; AOD). It is of heritage significance for its historic and archaeological interest.
- 7.5.24 St Illtyd's Church has group value with the adjacent St. Illtyd's Castle Mound. It has been affected by the construction of a modern farm located between St. Illtyd's Castle Mound and St Illtyd's Church, which transects the setting of the group.
- 7.5.25 St Illtyd's Church is located in a prominent position on high ground which overlooks the valley to the north. Mature trees screen the northern and western sides of St. Illtyd's Church, whose churchyard is accessed from the southern road frontage. It is located within the ZTV, on the northern edge of the village.

*Plate 6. Listed Building: St Illtyd's Church (Cadw 1866). View south-east towards the Site*



#### Listed Building, Grade II\*: Church of St Luke (Cadw 1903)

- 7.5.26 The Church of St Luke was built 1923-6 (foundation stone dated AD MLM xxiii), by architect J Coates Carter, of Cardiff and Penarth. It is a large church in simplified Early Gothic style, constructed of roughly dressed freestone and concrete with some ashlar dressings. Its plan is an aisled nave with parish rooms, a tall southern tower, chancel with overlapping aisles, northern porch, and a two-storey western front with tall, crenelated and buttressed centre bay. It became redundant in the 1980s.
- 7.5.27 It has a localised setting within the town of Abercarn, set into the wooded hillside above the Ebbw Vale just above the centre of the town, with the church frontage accessed from the north. It is of heritage significance as one of the most strikingly original churches built in Britain between the World Wars, with both historic and archaeological interest. It is located within the ZTV.

*Plate 7. Listed Building: Church of St Luke (Cadw 1903). View south*



*Plate 8. Listed Building: Church of St Luke (Cadw 1903). View north-east towards the Site*



**Listed Building, Grade II: Welsh Presbyterian Church (Cadw 20995).**

7.5.28 The Welsh Presbyterian Church is located on a steeply wooded slope, close to the Church of St Luke, reached by a steep flight of steps from Gwyddon Road to south and by a drive from Twyn Road just off the High Street. It was built by Sir Benjamin Hall (1802 - 1867) in 1853. He was local landowner of Abercarn House (now demolished), Lord Lieutenant and an MP who became First Commissioner of Works 1855-8 and who gave

his name to Big Ben. Created a baronet by Queen Victoria in 1859, he became Lord Llanover and with his wife Lady Llanover a patron of Welsh language and culture.

- 7.5.29 The Welsh Presbyterian Church is a simple small chapel in Gothic Revival style, constructed of roughly dressed freestone with tooled ashlar dressings, those round the doors painted. Its plan is of nave with bellcote, chancel, southern porch, and north-eastern vestry. It has a localised setting within the town of Abercarn, set into the wooded hillside above the Ebbw Vale just above the centre of the town, with the church frontage accessed from the south. It is of heritage significance as a chapel of special interest to Welsh church history almost entirely unaltered since its opening in 1853, with both historic and archaeological interest. It is located within the ZTV.

*Plate 9. Listed Building: Welsh Presbyterian Church (Cadw 20995). View north-west*



#### Listed Building, Grade II: Rhyswg Fawr Farmhouse Group (Cadw 1900, 20998)

- 7.5.30 High on the mountain reached by a long lane and track rising from the south-eastern end of Abercarn, on the south side of the Gwyddon valley, Rhyswg Fawr Farmhouse is early 17th century, with later alterations. The left unit is the original house; the right unit was formerly a byre and later incorporated into the dwelling, with an inserted floor probably in place of an earlier hayloft. This land was part of Llantarnam Abbey estate and the former house name, Rhyswg Grange, may refer to a medieval outlier of the monastic settlement here. In the 16<sup>th</sup> century the estate was leased by Queen Elizabeth to Earl of Pembroke and in 1570 the second earl inherited his estate, including the land of Llantarnam Abbey. Later the estate was owned by the owner of Abercarn Ironworks and then by the Crawshay Ironmasters. Subsequently Abercarn Estate was merged with Llanover Estate on the marriage of Sir Benjamin Hall and Augusta Waddington, the later Lord and Lady Llanover.
- 7.5.31 Rhyswg Fawr Farmhouse is a long farmhouse incorporating former byre. It is built of limewashed rubble with a steep felted roof, formerly stone tiled. It is of historic significance as a traditional regional upland farmhouse retaining most of its historic fabric, having group value with nearby large barn of regional character. It is located within the ZTV.

### Listed Building, Grade II: Ty Mynydd (Cadw 21002)

- 7.5.32 Ty Mynydd is located on the mountain to the west of Abercarn, north-east of the mountain hamlet of Mynyddislwyn and reached by a track from the Craig y Darren Lane. Ty Mynydd dates to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, constructed from whitened stone rubble with a stone tiled roof and centre ridge stack. It is built into the hillside, possibly having a former longhouse plan with animal accommodation on downhill side. It is of historic significance as an upland farmhouse of regional character retaining much of its historic fabric. It is located within the ZTV.

### Listed Building, Grade II: Swffryd-ganol Group (Cadw 22673, 22674)

- 7.5.33 Swffryd-ganol is situated on the hillside, approximately 0.75 km north-east of Sofrydd, reached via a farm track at the end of Farm Road. It is a 17th century farmhouse, much remodelled in the early 19th century, with a plan that possibly had a cross-passage entry and downslope byre. It is a rubble built, two storey farmhouse of L-plan, enclosed by a drystone rubble wall. Swffryd-ganol is of historic significance as an unspoilt upland farmhouse, with early 17th century origins, that retains its stone-tiled roof and original interior detail. It has group value with the nearby Barn Range including cowhouse at Swffryd-ganol. It is located within the ZTV.

### Conservation Area: Oakdale (499)

- 7.5.34 Oakdale village was built in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century to house the miners who worked in Oakdale Colliery. The village has a central road linked to a horseshoe design layout. The Oakdale Conservation Area has a localised urban setting that is located within the ZTV.

*Plate 5. Oakdale. View east towards the Site*



### Conservation Area: Newbridge (309)

- 7.5.35 Newbridge is located on the Ebbw River, the settlement expanded in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries with the establishment of the Celyn Colliery. The Celyn Collieries



Workingmen's Institute, Memorial Hall and Church of St Paul are at the centre of the conservation area, which has a localised urban setting within the ZTV.

Plate 5. Newbridge. View east towards the Site



## Future baseline

7.5.1 There are no known committed development(s) or forecasted changes that would materially alter the baseline conditions during the construction, and operation phases of the Proposed Development. It is likely that continuing pastoral use of the Site would result in no change to any archaeological remains that may be present.

## 7.6 Embedded measures

7.6.1 A range of environmental measures have been embedded into the Proposed Development as outlined in **Section 4.4**. Error! Reference source not found. outlines how these embedded measures will influence the Historic Environment assessment.

**Table 7.9 Summary of the embedded environmental measures related to the Historic Environment**

Receptor	Potential changes and effects	Embedded measures	Compliance mechanism
<b>Construction</b>			
<b>Designated assets within 5km with potential effects</b>	Effects to the significance of the historic asset through change to its setting	Designs have kept effects to a minimum. The construction phase will be temporary.	Development design

Receptor	Potential changes and effects	Embedded measures	Compliance mechanism
<b>Sub-surface Archaeology</b>	Direct disturbance to sub-surface archaeology.	Effects on previously unknown archaeology within the Site would be mitigated through archaeological recording such as an excavation or watching brief in any areas of impact, if appropriate. The exact method of archaeological recording would need to be agreed and would subsequently be secured through a DNS condition.	DNS planning condition
<b>Sub-surface Archaeology</b>	Direct disturbance to known sub-surface archaeology.	The assets are of local significance and would be avoided by the designs of the Proposed Development.	Development design
<b>Pwllgwinæ pool (GGAT04981g)</b>	Direct disturbance to standing and sub-surface archaeology.	To ensure construction works do not encroach into the area of the assets they will be temporarily fenced off throughout construction works.	DNS planning condition
<b>Operation</b>			
<b>Designated assets within 5km with potential effects</b>	Effects to the significance of the historic asset through change to its setting	Designs have kept effects to a minimum.	Development design

## 7.7 Scope of the assessment

### The Proposed Development

7.7.1 All of the constructional and operational effects of the Proposed Development have been considered in this assessment.

### Spatial Scope

- 7.7.2 The spatial scope of the assessment of Historic Environment covers the area of the Proposed Development contained within the red line boundary, together with the Zones of Influence (Zols) that have formed the basis of the study area described in **Section Error! Reference source not found.**
- 7.7.3 The spatial scope of the assessment of Historic Environment covers the area of the Proposed Development with a 5km study area. Within this spatial scope, effects to historic assets arising from changes to their settings have been assessed within the 5km study area (**Figure 7.1**), while a 1km study area has been used to assess archaeological potential within the Site and to identify likely direct effects (**Figure 7.2**).

## Temporal Scope

- 7.7.4 The temporal scope of the assessment of Historic Environment is consistent with the period over which the Proposed Development would be carried out and therefore covers the construction and operational periods.
- 7.7.5 Decommissioning activities would not be expected to result in notable additional ground disturbance, though this would depend on the location of any on-site temporary compound. The removal of turbines and grid connection infrastructure would end any operational period effects on the settings of historic assets and would not give rise to any additional effect. As a result of this decommissioning period effects are not assessed.

## Potential Receptors

- 7.7.6 The receptors taken forward for assessment have been identified through desk-based assessment, and consultation with Cadw.
- 7.7.7 The receptors that will potentially be affected by the Proposed Development comprise:
- sub-surface archaeological remains surviving within the Site; and
  - identified scheduled monuments, listed buildings, registered historic landscape and conservation areas.
- 7.7.8 With regard to effects on settings, a Stage 1 Assessment has been carried out for all the designated historic assets within 5km from the Site, in accordance with The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (**Appendix 7D**). The selection of historic assets to be included in the Draft ES has been completed with reference to the ZTV that have been calculated to show the area of theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines based on a four-turbine layout of 145m turbine height (to blade tips).
- 7.7.9 Including those assets identified in **Appendix 7D**, the principal Historic Environment receptors that have been identified as being potentially subject to significant effects are summarised in **7.10**.

**Table 7.10 Historic Environment receptors subject to potential effects**

Receptor	Reason for consideration
<b>On- Site sub-surface archaeological remains</b>	There is the potential for effects as a result of groundworks and other construction activities that are likely to completely or partially remove identified and as yet unknown historic assets.
<b>Off-Site designated assets (as identified through Stage 1)</b>	Within ZTV. Within 5km of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to development.

## Likely significant effects

- 7.7.10 The effects on Historic Environment assessment receptors which have the potential to be significant and have been taken forward for assessment are summarised in **Table 7..**

**Table 7.11 Historic Environment assessment receptors scoped in for further assessment**

Receptors	Justification
<b>Sub-surface archaeological remains</b>	There is potential for loss of or disturbance to sub-surface archaeological remains as a result of groundworks and other construction activities that are likely to completely or partially remove identified and as yet unknown historic assets.
<b>Scheduled Monuments</b>	
<b>Scheduled monument: Charcoal Blast Furnace at Abercarn (Cadw 1441)</b>	The Charcoal Blast Furnace at Abercarn has a local setting in Abercarn town. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Scheduled monument: Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle (Cadw 2349)</b>	Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle is situated in a prominent position on a conical shaped hill at the west end of Mynydd Henlllys. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Scheduled monument: St Illtyd Castle Mound (Cadw 2381)</b>	St Illtyd Castle Mound is located on the northern edge of the village, west of St Illtyd's Church, in a prominent location on high ground with views across the valley to the north and west. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Scheduled monument: Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir (Cadw 3964)</b>	The Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir is located in an area of undulating topography with a wooded area to the immediate north-east. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Listed Buildings</b>	
<b>St Illtyd's Church (Cadw 1866)</b>	St Illtyd's Church is located in a prominent position on high ground which overlooks the valley to the north. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Former Navigation Colliery Group (Cadw 1889-1897, 16425-16428, 21267)</b>	Navigation Colliery Crumlin has a secluded, wooded, localised setting in Crumlin town. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Church of St Luke (Cadw 1903)</b>	The Church of St Luke has a localised setting within the town of Abercarn, set into the wooded hillside above the Ebbw Vale just above the centre of the town. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Welsh Presbyterian Church (Cadw 20995)</b>	The Welsh Presbyterian Church has a localised setting within the town of Abercarn, set into the wooded hillside above the Ebbw Vale just above the centre of the town. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Rhyswg Fawr Farmhouse Group (Cadw 1900, 20998)</b>	Upland farmhouse on the south-eastern side of Abercarn, on the south side of the Gwyddon valley. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Ty Mynydd (Cadw 21002)</b>	Upland farmhouse located on the mountain to the west of Abercarn, north-east of the mountain hamlet of Mynyddislwyn. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .

Receptors	Justification
<b>Swffryd-ganol Group (Cadw 22673, 22674)</b>	Upland farmhouse situated on the hillside, approximately 0.75 km north-east of Sofrydd. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Conservation Areas</b>	
<b>Conservation Area: Newbridge</b>	The Newbridge Conservation Area is located on the Ebbw River within the valley base. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .
<b>Conservation Area: Oakdale</b>	The Oakdale Conservation Area is located on a very gently steeply sloping hillside with a south-westerly aspect. Effects on asset through change in setting completed for reasons given in <b>Appendix 7D</b> .

7.7.11 The effects that are to be scoped out of the assessment at this stage are outlined within **Appendix 7D**.

## 7.8 Assessment methodology

7.8.1 The generic project-wide approach to the assessment methodology is set out in **Chapter 2: Approach to Preparing the Environmental Statement**, and specifically in **Sections 2.7 to 2.10**. However, whilst this has informed the approach that has been used in this Historic Environment assessment, it is necessary to set out how this methodology has been applied, and adapted as appropriate, to address the specific needs of this Historic Environment assessment.

### Determining the significance of effects

7.8.1 The EIA Regulations recognise that developments will affect different environmental elements to differing degrees, and that not all of these are of sufficient concern to warrant detailed investigation or assessment through the EIA process. The EIA Regulations identify those environmental resources that warrant investigation as those that are “*likely to be significantly affected by the development*”.

7.8.2 The EIA Regulations do not define significance and it will be necessary to state how this will be defined for the EIA. The significance of an effect resulting from a development during construction or operation is most commonly assessed by reference to the sensitivity or value of a receptor and the magnitude of the effect, as set out in **Table 7**. This approach provides a mechanism for identifying areas where mitigation measures may be required and to identify the most appropriate measures to alleviate the risk presented by the development.

7.8.3 For the purposes of assessing the significance of effects, heritage significance has also been assigned to one of four classes of value, with reference to the heritage interests described in Conservation Principles and relying on professional judgement as informed by policy and guidance. The hierarchy given in **Table 7** reflects the TAN24 distinction between designated and non-designated historic assets. TAN24 further distinguishes between designated assets of the highest heritage significance (i.e., scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, Registered Battlefields, grade I and II\* listed buildings, grade I and II\* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites) and other

designated historic assets. **Table 7.** details the basis for assessing receptor value (heritage significance).

**Table 7.12 Establishing the heritage significance of assets**

Heritage significance	Summary rationale	Examples
<b>High</b>	Asset has significance for an outstanding level of archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest	All designated historic assets or non-designated assets of demonstrably schedulable quality
<b>Medium</b>	Asset has significance for a high level of archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest	Locally listed buildings and buildings of merit. Regionally significant non-designated historic assets of archaeological interest.
<b>Low</b>	Asset has significance for elements of archaeological architectural, historic or artistic interest	Locally-significant historic assets of archaeological interest and important hedgerows
<b>Negligible</b>	Due to its nature of form/condition/survival, cannot be considered as an asset in its own right	Non-extant Historic Environment Record (HER) references

7.8.4 **Table 7.** details the basis for assessing magnitude of change.

**Table 7.13 Establishing the magnitude of change**

Magnitude	Criteria
<b>High</b>	Loss of significance of an order of magnitude that would result from total or substantial demolition/disturbance of a historic asset or from the disassociation of an asset from its setting.
<b>Medium</b>	Loss of significance arising from partial disturbance or inappropriate alteration of asset which will adversely affect its importance. Change to the key characteristics of an asset's setting, which gives rise to harm to the significance of the asset but which still allows its archaeological, architectural or historic interest to be appreciated.
<b>Low</b>	Minor loss to or alteration of an asset which leaves its current significance largely intact. Minor and short-term changes to setting which do not affect the key characteristics and in which the historical context remains substantially intact.
<b>Negligible</b>	Minor alteration of an asset which does not affect its significance in any discernible way. Minor and short term or reversible change to setting which does not affect the significance of the asset.

7.8.5 The matrix in **Table 7.** has been prepared to guide the assessment of whether effects on the historic environment for the purposes of EIA are to be considered significant or not. The classification of the effect is judged on the relationship of the magnitude of impact to the assessed heritage significance of the resource. As a general rule, major and moderate effects (shaded in **Table 7.**) are considered to be significant and minor and negligible effects are considered to be not significant. However, professional judgement is applied, where appropriate, to determine significance of effect.

**Table 7.14 Significance evaluation matrix**

		Heritage Significance of Receptor			
		Negligible	Low	Medium	High
Magnitude	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Minor	Minor
	Low	Negligible	Minor	Minor	Moderate
	Medium	Minor	Minor	Moderate	Major
	High	Minor	Moderate	Major	Major

## 7.9 Preliminary assessment of Historic Environment effects

### Construction Phase Direct Disturbance

#### Sub-surface archaeology

- 7.9.1 Limited intrusive groundworks would take place in specific areas across the Site, including:
- upgrading of existing tracks and construction of new access tracks and passing places inter-linking the turbine locations and substation;
  - temporary site compounds;
  - wind turbine foundations;
  - wind turbine crane hard standing, with adjacent blade storage areas;
  - cable trenches; and
  - switchroom and substation compound.
- 7.9.2 Invasive works of this nature would adversely affect any surviving sub-surface archaeological remains, reducing or removing their ability to be further interpreted. This would result in, at worst, a loss of archaeological interest in specific areas of the Site.
- 7.9.3 The Site has a history of pastoral use, as well as including areas of open ground. An assessment of the available data has identified very low density post-medieval recorded archaeological remains.
- 7.9.4 To reduce potential archaeological impacts and mitigation, the design of the Proposed Development has avoided the locations of the post-medieval historic assets, field boundary walls and all non-designated assets known within the Site boundary.

## Construction Phase Effects on Setting

- 7.9.5 The Proposed Development is located at a sufficient distance (a minimum of 950m) from the scoped in designated historic assets to ensure that no visual, noise or dust impacts will arise during the construction period. Any effects on setting would therefore arise from visual changes only. These would be similar to those of the operational phase, with construction period changes being at their greatest toward the completion of construction. Therefore, the potential for effects arising from changes to setting during construction period are not distinguishable from operational period effects and are considered in that section.

## Operational Phase Impacts

### Sub-surface archaeology

- 7.9.6 The construction phase of the Proposed Development would have completely or partially removed any sub-surface archaeological remains as a result of ground works or other construction activities. As a result, there would be no additional effects in the operational phase.

### Effects on the setting of historic assets

- 7.9.7 There would be no impact or a negligible magnitude of impact to the identified historic assets and as such the significance of effects on the setting of the historic assets is summarised in Error! Reference source not found. with a rationale provided in each case.

## 7.10 Preliminary assessment of cumulative (inter-project) effects

- 7.10.1 A preliminary cumulative effects assessment (CEA) will be undertaken for the Project which considers the combined impacts with other developments on the same single receptor or resource (inter-project effects). The detailed method followed in identifying and assessing potential cumulative effects is set out in **Section 2.8 of Chapter 2**.
- 7.10.2 The potential effects of the Proposed Development cannot be considered in isolation.
- 7.10.3 There are a number of operational, consented or proposed wind energy developments within the general vicinity of the development site (Figure 6.7).
- 7.10.4 Those assets where it was determined that there was no change, or that the effect of the Proposed Development would be negligible, have not been considered within the cumulative assessment, as significant cumulative effects are unlikely to occur.
- 7.10.5 The proposed Mynydd Maen Solar Farm (DNS/CAS-02446-R8X8W2) at the Site in addition to the Proposed Development would likely have a low to medium magnitude of change to non-designated historic assets of low significance, which would result in minor (not significant) effects.

## 7.11 Preliminary significance conclusions

- 7.11.1 A summary of the results of the preliminary Historic Environment assessment is provided in **Error! Reference source not found.**



**Table 7.15 Summary of significance of effects during the construction phase**

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity/ importance/ value of receptor <sup>1</sup>	Magnitude of change <sup>2</sup>	Significance <sup>3</sup>	Summary rationale
<b>Previously unknown archaeology</b>	Low	Low	Minor	There is a low potential for the presence of previously unknown archaeology, which would be expected to be of a similar local (low) significance to the known archaeology at the Site.
<b>Pwllgwinae pool (GGAT04981g)</b>	Low	Low	Minor	The asset is of local significance and would not be directly impacted by the proposed wind farm, however, to ensure works don't encroach into the area of the asset it would be temporarily fenced off.
<b>Glan-shon (GGAT04973g)</b>	Low	None	No effect	The asset is of local significance and would be avoided by the design of the Proposed Development.
<b>Bee Bole, Penycacau Farm (GGAT11121g)</b>	Low	None	No effect	The asset is of local significance and would be avoided by the design of the Proposed Development.
<b>Stone field boundary walls and sheepfold</b>	Low	None	No effect	The assets are of local significance and would be avoided by the design of the Proposed Development.
<b>Mineral rights boundary stone</b>	Low	None	No effect	The asset is of local significance, is outside of the Site boundary, and would not be directly impacted by the Proposed Development.

1. The sensitivity/importance/value of a receptor is defined using the criteria set out in **Section** [Error! Reference source not found.](#) and is defined as [negligible, low, medium, and high].
2. The magnitude of change on a receptor resulting from activities relating to the development is defined using the criteria set out in **Section** [Error! Reference source not found.](#) and is defined as [negligible, low, medium and high].
3. The significance of the environmental effects is based on the combination of the sensitivity/importance/value of a receptor and the magnitude of change and is expressed as major (significant), moderate (significant) or minor/negligible (not significant), subject to the evaluation methodology outlined in **Section** [Error! Reference source not found.](#)

**Table 7.16 Preliminary summary of significance of effects during the operational phase**

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor <sup>1</sup>	Magnitude of change <sup>2</sup>	Significance <sup>3</sup>	Summary rationale
<b>Sub-surface archaeological remains</b>	Low	None	None	The construction phase of the Proposed Development would have removed any sub-surface archaeological remains in areas of impact. As a result, there would be no additional effects in the operational phase.
<b>Scheduled monument: Charcoal Blast Furnace at Abercarn (Cadw 1441)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 1.63km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of one of the turbines to blade tip. The monument has a local setting within the town of Abercarn with strong links to the Ebbw River. It is located in a secluded, wooded and built-up area of the valley base in the town of Abercarn.
<b>Scheduled monument: Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle (Cadw 2349)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 3.48km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the four turbines to blade tip. Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle is situated in a prominent position on a conical shaped hill at the west end of Mynydd Henllys. The hill slopes steeply on all sides, and there are panoramic views in all directions. This would introduce a new element into views from the monument to the north but would not alter views in other directions.
<b>Scheduled monument: St Illtyd Castle Mound (Cadw 2381)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 4.35km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the four turbines to blade tip. St Illtyd Castle Mound is located on the northern edge of the village, west of St Illtyd's Church, in a prominent location on high ground with views across the valley to the north and west. South-easterly views from

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor <sup>1</sup>	Magnitude of change <sup>2</sup>	Significance <sup>3</sup>	Summary rationale
				the monument toward the Site are obscured in the majority by the houses and trees of St Illtyd village.
<b>Scheduled monument: Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir (Cadw 3964)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 4.74km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the four turbines to blade tip. The Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir is located in an area of undulating topography and is encircled by mature trees. Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir has a local setting with the Crumlin Arm of the Monmouthshire Canal.
<b>St Illtyd's Church (Cadw 1866)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 4.35km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the four turbines to blade tip. St Illtyd's Church is located in a prominent position on high ground which overlooks the valley to the north and has a local setting with the village of St Illtyd.
<b>Former Navigation Colliery Group (Cadw 1889-1897, 16425-16428, 21267)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 2.85km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of at least some of the turbines to blade tip. Navigation Colliery Crumlin has a secluded, wooded, localised setting in Crumlin town.
<b>Church of St Luke (Cadw 1903)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 1.48km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of one of the turbines to blade tip. The Church of St Luke has a localised setting within the town of Abercarn, set into the wooded hillside (with an eastern aspect) above the Ebbw Vale just above the centre of the town, with the church frontage accessed from the north. The easterly aspect of the hillside blocks views towards the Site.

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor <sup>1</sup>	Magnitude of change <sup>2</sup>	Significance <sup>3</sup>	Summary rationale
<b>Welsh Presbyterian Church (Cadw 20995)</b>	High	None	None	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 1.44km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of one of the turbines to blade tip. The Welsh Presbyterian Church has a localised setting within the town of Abercarn, set into the wooded hillside (with an easterly aspect) above the Ebbw Vale just above the centre of the town. The eastern aspect and secluded wooded location blocks views towards the Site. The setting of the church would not be affected.
<b>Rhyswg Fawr Farmhouse Group (Cadw 1900, 20998)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 1.31km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of possibly one of the turbines to blade tip, being on the periphery of the ZTV. The upland farmhouse is on the south-eastern side of Abercarn, on a steeply sloping valley-side with a southern aspect that blocks northerly views to the Site.
<b>Ty Mynydd (Cadw 21002)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 2.80km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the four turbines to blade tip. Ty Mynydd is an upland farmhouse located on the mountain to the west of Abercarn, north-east of the mountain hamlet of Mynyddislwyn. The setting of the farmhouse, a localised rural setting surrounded by associated small, irregular fields, would not be affected.
<b>Swffryd-ganol Group (Cadw 22673, 22674)</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 2.03km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the four turbines to blade tip. Upland farmhouse situated on the hillside with a south-westerly aspect, approximately 0.75 km north-east of Sofrydd. The setting of the farmhouse, a localised rural setting surrounded by associated small, irregular fields, would not be affected.

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor <sup>1</sup>	Magnitude of change <sup>2</sup>	Significance <sup>3</sup>	Summary rationale
<b>Conservation Area: Newbridge</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 2.24km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the four turbines to blade tip. This would not affect the localised setting of the conservation area, which is within the urban centre of the town.
<b>Conservation Area: Oakdale</b>	High	Negligible	Minor (Not significant)	The Proposed Development would introduce turbines within approximately 4.39km of the monument and the ZTV indicates theoretical visibility of the four turbines to blade tip. This would not affect the localised setting of the conservation area, which is within the urban centre of the town.

1. The sensitivity/importance/value of a receptor is defined using the criteria set out in Section 7.8 and is defined as negligible, low, medium and high.
2. The magnitude of change on a receptor resulting from activities relating to the development is defined using the criteria set out in Section 7.8 and is defined as negligible, low, medium and high.
3. The significance of the environmental effects is based on the combination of the sensitivity/importance/value of a receptor and the magnitude of change and is expressed as major (significant), moderate (potentially significant) or minor/negligible (not significant), subject to the evaluation methodology outlined in Section 7.8.

## 7.12 Further work to be undertaken

- 7.12.1 The information provided in this Draft ES is preliminary, the final assessment of likely significant effects will be reported in the ES. It is anticipated that no further work is to be undertaken to support the Historic Environment assessment presented in the ES.