

Adeilad y Goron,
Parc Cathays, Caerdydd,
CF10 3NQ

Crown Buildings,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff, CF10 3NQ



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Ein Cyf/Our Ref: DNS/3247619
Dyddiad/Date: 03/11/2021

Statkraft UK Ltd
Denbighshire County Council
Natural Resources Wales
Cadw
The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Joint Committee
Welsh Government - Soil Policy & Agricultural Land Use Planning Unit
Welsh Government – Department for Economy and Infrastructure

(Sent via e-mail)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) ('The 1990 Act') The Developments of National Significance (Wales) Regulations 2016 (as amended) ('The DNS Regulations') The Developments of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016 (as amended) ('The DNS Procedure Order')

Application by: Statkraft UK Ltd

Site address: Land at Gwernigron Farm, The Roe, St Asaph, Denbighshire

The appointed Inspector, Melissa Hall BA (Hons), BTP, MSc, MRTPI, has asked me to contact you regarding this Development of National Significance (DNS) examination. This communication constitutes official notification of important matters related to this DNS examination. Please read the following information in its entirety. If anything is unclear, please contact us. This letter should be treated as:

1. Notice under Section 62L (5) of the 1990 Act that the determination period shall be further suspended.

The application was suspended on 12 August 2021 until 4 November 2021 to allow sufficient time for the submission of additional information requested by the Inspector.

In addition to providing a response to the Inspector's request for further information on 21 September 2021, the applicant submitted a Notification of Intention to Vary Development of National Significance ("the Variation") which was accepted on 12 August 2021. The applicant confirmed that the purpose of the proposed variation to the layout was to respond to representations received by Natural Resources Wales, Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, Welsh Government Climate Change, Welsh Government Department of Economy and Infrastructure and Denbighshire County Council within its Local Impact Report. The amendments to the scheme comprise: (i) the removal of rows of panels from the south-eastern parcel of land on higher quality agricultural land, the southern site boundary adjacent to the A55 and in the central part of the northern section of the development; (ii) the setting back of panels along the eastern boundary to allow additional screening; (iii) additional hedgerow and tree planting across the site, necessitating the removal of panels to facilitate the additional planting; and (iv) clarification of the temporary nature of the site compound to the south of Gwernigrn Farmhouse.

Given the extent of the information requested, it was considered necessary to consult other parties. The suspension period therefore allowed for time for PEDW to undertake a 5-week publicity and consultation period in respect of the additional information. The same 5 week period was intended to allow for publicity and consultation on the Variation.

We are now in a position to publish and consult on the additional information and Variation for a period of 5 weeks, commencing no later than 5 November 2021.

In light of the above, the current suspension of the determination period is hereby extended. The determination period will now resume on **17 December 2021**.

This would inevitably mean that preparations and arrangements for the hearings would be taking place over the Christmas period. I would therefore be grateful if you could advise as soon as possible if there are any issues associated with availability during this time that would affect proper preparation or participation, so that the Inspector can give consideration to whether it would prudent to suspend until the New Year.

2. Consultation on the Additional Information and details of the Variation submitted by the Applicant

The additional information and details of the Variation submitted by the Applicant is available on the following links:

[Elwy Solar Energy – Developments of National Significance \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](https://planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

<https://gov.wales/developments-national-significance-dns-applications>

The Local Planning Authority (LPA), Specialist Consultees and other interested parties may make representations on this information if they wish or may be content to address matters in hearing statements. Should you wish to comment on the additional information, your representation must be received by **10 December 2021**. All representations will be published to the gov.wales website.

3. Other matters

The Inspector reminds parties that the letter of 10 August 2021 setting out the procedure by which this examination will proceed, remains valid with the exception of the dates of the hearings. We will be in contact regarding the dates of and arrangements for the hearing sessions closer to the time, but anticipate that they will be held no earlier than 25th January 2022 and no later than 5 February 2022.

In the event that the Inspector proceeds with the topic specific hearing sessions as detailed in Annex A to the letter of 10 August 2021, a note setting out the matters for discussion in more detail will be issued in due course. Those participating in a hearing will be formally invited to submit a hearing statement in response to matters and issues identified by the appointed Inspector, should they wish to do so. Such invitations will be sent out at the same time as the full confirmation of the hearing details and hearing statements **must be submitted to PEDW two weeks prior to the relevant hearing session.**

I would also remind you that you may submit Statements of Common Ground, ideally prior to the relevant hearing session, if any matters are now agreed by parties which would allow discussions to be more focused.

Please contact us if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Rhys Spencer

Rhys Spencer

Case Officer