



Ref: DNS/3260565

Nina Kinsey
Case Officer
Planning and Environment Decisions Wales
Crown Buildings
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Via Email: [REDACTED]

8 November 2021

Dear Nina Kinsey,

RE: The Developments of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016 - Proposed Solar development at Bryn-Y-Rhyd Farm, Llanedi, Pontardulais, SA4 0FD. Ref: DNS/3260565

I refer to your email of 28th October consulting the Department for Climate Change on the above DNS Application as a Specialist Consultee. This substantive response is made in accordance with:

- Article 23 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016; Part 1A Paragraph S of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012.
- Annex B of Technical Advice Note 6 – 2010
- Planning Policy Wales – Edition 11 - 2021

1. Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Report – Technical Assessment:

The Department for Climate Change has not previously surveyed the site. An ALC desk assessment and report has been prepared for the site (*undertaken by Rob Askew of Askew Land + Soil (ALS) Ref: C765 dated 1st June 2021*). The desk assessment report found the survey area to be 72ha **ALC subgrade 3b** and as such, is non-BMV land. The total area assessed was 72ha.

2. Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) – Technical Advice

The above ALC desk assessment report has been completed to an acceptable standard and can be accepted as an accurate reflection of the land quality on the site – ALC subgrade 3b.

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

The Predictive ALC Map uses the best available information to predict the grade of land on national basis and can be taken as the best available information for the site, as per publish [departmental guidance](#). A detailed ALC survey is not recommended for this site as it is unlikely to include Best and Most Versatile (BMV) agricultural land. Therefore BMV Agricultural Land Policy (PPW paragraph 3.58 & 3.59) will not apply to this application.

This response is confined to matters of technical detail (TAN 6; Annex B6) and does not relate to the merits or otherwise of the application, on which it is for the determining authority to take a view.

The view expressed does not bind any other part of Welsh Government commenting on the proposal.

I trust the above advice is clear and unambiguous. Please do not hesitate to contact me if necessary.

Yours sincerely,

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Paul McCullough
Agricultural Land Use & Soil Policy Advisor
Soil Policy & Agricultural Land Use Planning Unit

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