

**Powys County Council  
Mid Wales Conjoined Public Inquiry**

**Electricity Act 1989 (sections 36, 37, 62(3) & schedule 8)  
Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (section 90)**

**Initial outline statement**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This initial outline statement has been produced on behalf of Powys County Council ("the Council").
- 1.2 This statement reflects the current position of the Council and is based upon the decisions that the Council has made on each of the six schemes listed below.
- 1.3 The Council is reviewing and will continue to review its position in the light of any new information received, whether from the applicants or other authorities or interested parties. On this basis, the Council is unable to confirm that the submissions made below will remain part of its final case(s).
- 1.4 The County Council will seek to confirm its final position within the Statement of Case(s) to be submitted in accordance with the Inquiry timetable.

**2. Applications in Powys to which this outline statement refers.**

- 2.1 Application by Vattenfall dated 30 November 2007 for consent to construct and operate a 59.5MW wind turbine generating station, referred to as **Llanbadarn Fynydd**.
- 2.2 Application by Fferm Wynt Llaithddu Cyf dated 7 May 2008 for consent to construct and operate a 66.7MW wind turbine generating station, referred to as **Llaithddu**.
- 2.3 Application by Celtpower Limited dated 9 May 2008 for consent to construct and operate a 126MW wind turbine generating station, referred to as **Llandinam**.
- 2.4 Application by RES UK & Ireland Limited dated 27 March 2009 for consent to construct and operate a 100MW wind turbine generating station, referred to as **Llanbrynmair**.
- 2.5 Application by RWE nPower Renewables Limited dated 11 December 2008 for consent to construct and operate a 130 - 250MW wind turbine generating station, referred to as **Carnedd Wen**.
- 2.6 Application by SP Manweb plc dated 2 December 2009 for consent to install and keep installed a 132kv overhead electric line connection from the proposed Llandinam wind farm to Welshpool substation referred to as **Llandinam 132kv overhead line**.

**3. Llanbadarn Fynydd**

- 3.1 In March 2012, the Council's position was that the transportation delivery route chosen by the applicant had significant unresolved issues.
- 3.2 in relation to the trunk road objection, the County Council that Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI) in the form of a Strategic Traffic Management Plan ("STMP") and access drawings is being prepared. The County Council, therefore, maintains its objection at this time, but will review the further material upon receipt.
- 3.3 In respect of the local highway network, until such time that it can be demonstrated that the network can accommodate the development, the Council maintains its objection on this ground.
- 3.4 The Council believes that the proposal will have an unacceptable landscape and visual impact including an associated detrimental effect on tourism and other economic factors. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.
- 3.5 The Council objected on the grounds that there was a lack of certainty as to whether the proposed developments would contribute to or result in the necessity for significant grid infrastructure development which may have the potential for further adverse impact on the landscape and the visual, economic and environmental well-being of the area. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

#### **4. Llaithddu**

- 4.1 In September 2012, the Council regarded the proposed transportation route as being unacceptable.
- 4.2 In relation to the trunk road objection, the County Council understands that SEI in the form of an STMP is being prepared. The Council therefore maintains its objection at this time, but will review the further material upon receipt.
- 4.3 The Council objected because of concerns raised in relation to the likely levels of disruption envisaged on the highway network and the consequent detrimental impact on the amenities of Powys residents and businesses. The Council is securing further advice on this matter and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.
- 4.4 In the light of concerns expressed by the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) regarding cumulative impacts and lack of mitigation, the Council objected on landscape and visual impact grounds. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.
- 4.5 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have an unacceptable adverse impact on curlews.
- 4.6 The Council objects on the basis that there is presently insufficient information to demonstrate that the proposed development would not have an

unacceptable impact on the hydrology and peat resource in relation to the site. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

- 4.7 The Council objected on the grounds that there was insufficient information to demonstrate that there will not be unacceptable adverse noise impacts. It is understood that the Council is likely to be able to confirm that conditions to control noise aspects will be able to be agreed prior to the inquiry. On this basis, it is likely that the Council will remove this as a ground of objection.
- 4.8 In the light of the objection made by the CCW, the County Council objected on the grounds that insufficient information was submitted to demonstrate that there was no obvious reason why a grid connection would not be possible. The County Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.
- 4.9 The Council continues to consider other grounds of objection such as socio-economic impact. The Council is securing further advice on this matter and will seek to clarify the matters within the formal statement of case.

## **5. Llandinam**

- 5.1 In September 2012, the County Council considered that the transportation route was unacceptable.
- 5.2 In relation to the trunk road objection, it is the County Council's understanding that the applicant is preparing SEI in the form of a revised Traffic Management Plan. The County Council, therefore, maintains its objection at this time, but will review the further material upon receipt.
- 5.3 In respect of the local highway network, until such time that it can be demonstrated that the network can accommodate the development, the Council maintains its objection.
- 5.4 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposal would have an unacceptable landscape and visual impact.
- 5.5 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have an unacceptable adverse impact on interests of biodiversity.
- 5.6 The Council objects on the grounds that there is insufficient information to demonstrate that the proposed development would not have an unacceptable impact on hydrology and peat resource. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.
- 5.7 The Council objected on the grounds that there was insufficient information to demonstrate that there will not be unacceptable adverse noise impacts. The Council hopes to agree conditions to control noise aspects prior to the inquiry. If so, the Council will withdraw its objection on this ground.
- 5.8 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have a detrimental impact on cultural heritage. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm the position in the formal statement of case.

5.9 The Council continues to consider other grounds of objection such as socio-economic impact. The Council is securing further advice on this matter and will seek to clarify the matter within the formal statement of case.

## **6. Llanbrynmair**

6.1 In September 2012, the Council objected on the grounds that the proposed development would have an unacceptable impact on the local highway network. The County Council understands that SEI is being prepared. The Council, therefore, maintains its objection at this time, but will review the further material upon receipt.

6.2 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposal would have an unacceptable landscape and visual impact.

6.3 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have an unacceptable ecological and ornithological impact. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position within the formal statement of case.

6.4 The Council currently objects on the grounds of hydrological impacts. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position within the formal statement of case.

6.5 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have a detrimental impact on cultural heritage. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position within the formal statement of case.

6.6 In the light of the CCW response, the County Council objects on the grounds that insufficient information has been submitted to demonstrate that there is no obvious reason why a grid connection would not be possible. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

6.7 The Council continues to consider other grounds of objection such as socio-economic impact. The Council is securing further advice on this matter and will seek to clarify the matter within the formal statement of case.

## **7. Carnedd Wen**

7.1 In March 2012, the Council's position was that it objected on transportation grounds. The County Council understands that Supplementary Environmental Information (SEI) in the form of an STMP is being prepared. The Council, therefore, maintains its objection at this time, but will review the further material upon receipt.

7.2 The Council objects on the grounds of the grounds of the proposed development's ecological impacts. The Council is aware that the applicant is preparing SEI to address this issue and will consider such material upon receipt.

7.3 The Council objects on the grounds of unacceptable landscape and visual impact including an associated detrimental effect on tourism and other

economic factors, both for Powys and the Snowdonia National Park. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

7.4 The Council objected on the grounds that there was a lack of certainty as to whether the proposed developments would contribute or result in the necessity for significant grid infrastructure development which may have the potential for further adverse impact on the landscape including visual, economic and environmental well-being of the area. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

## **8. Llandinam 132kv overhead line**

8.1 The Council objects on the grounds that insufficient information has been submitted to demonstrate that there are overriding reasons for the proposed line to be overhead instead of being placed underground.

8.2 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have an unacceptable landscape and visual impact.

8.3 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have an unacceptable impact on biodiversity. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

8.4 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have an unacceptable impact on cultural heritage. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

8.5 The Council objects on the grounds that the proposed development would have an unacceptable impact on the public rights of way network and recreation. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

8.6 The Council objects in the light of the comments from CCW on the grounds that insufficient need for the proposed overhead line has been demonstrated to outweigh its adverse impacts. The Council is securing further advice and will seek to confirm its position in the formal statement of case.

8.7 The Council continues to consider other grounds of objection such as socio-economic impact. The Council is securing further advice on this matter and will seek to clarify the matter within the formal statement of case.

## **9. Conclusions**

9.1 The submissions set out in this initial outline statement reflect the County Council's current position. These are subject to possible change and any amendments will be detailed within the formal statement of case.