Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

Project newsletter: June 2021

Pennant Walters is developing proposals for a wind farm on a site at Mynydd Llanhilleth, which lies east of the settlements of Llanhilleth, Brynithel, Aberbeeg and Six Bells, and west of Pontnewynydd, Abersychan and Pontypool. The A472 runs along the valley to the south of the site.

The proposals are for up to 12 wind turbines with an indicative height of up to 180m to tip. It is estimated that the wind farm will generate up to 48MW of electricity, which is equivalent to providing enough power to meet the annual electricity needs of approximately 24,000 homes*.

*https://www.renewableuk.com/page/UKWEDExplained

24,000 homes powered by this proposal

Opportunities for **Community Benefit**

Construction jobs and supply chain opportunities

Pre-application public consultation

This project is deemed a Development of National Significance, meaning that we will need to apply to the Planning Inspectorate Wales, which will make a recommendation to Welsh Ministers with whom lies the final decision on whether or not to grant planning permission.

We'd like to invite you take part in the first stage of consultation on the early proposals. We've arranged a number of public drop-in sessions and an online virtual exhibition to provide you with information about the proposals and seek your feedback.

Public Exhibitions:
Come and find out more, and provide your feedback on the early proposals:

Llanhilleth Miners Institute,
Meadow St, Llanhilleth, Abertillery NP13 2JT
2pm - 7pm, Thursday 15th July 2021

Garndiffaith Community Centre (Millenium Centre),
Top Rd, Garndiffaith, Abersychan, Pontypool NP4 7LT
12 noon - 4pm Saturday 17th July 2021

Coronavirus considerations
We are conscious that Covid guidelines can change at short notice. Therefore, if you intend to visit us at one of the above events, please do let us know using the contact details to the right, and check the project website immediately prior to your visit for the latest arrangements. Please bring a mask to wear.

Whilst we hope this won't be the case, if we have to change or cancel an event due to increased restrictions, information will be posted on the website in advance.

Common Land Consultation

Land within the proposed site boundary falls under the common land register and we are therefore required to prepare and submit an application to the Planning Inspectorate Wales under the Commons Act 2006.

This means that alongside our consultation for the proposed wind farm, we will also be undertaking a specific consultation in relation to the fact that part of the site falls within Mynydd Llanhilleth Common.

Working closely with the landowners, we will be seeking to deregister a section of Common Land in order to build the proposed wind farm. We are in the process of defining which areas of Common Land may be required, and identifying replacement land nearby. This process is a central consideration throughout the development of these proposals.

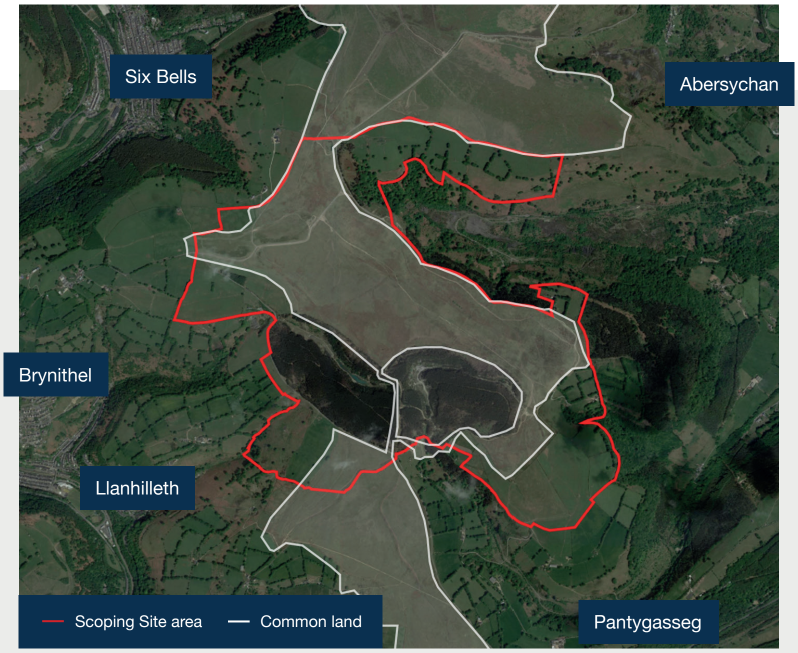
We are keen to hear from anyone that has an interest in or uses the Common to help us ensure we minimise any possible effects, and maximise any potential broader benefit through this process. Visit the public exhibitions and website for further details.

If you have a question or comment relating to Mynydd Llanhilleth Common, please email: Mynydd-Llanhilleth@pennantwalters.co.uk, and put 'Common Land' in the email header.

Get in touch

We would like to hear your views on the emerging proposals for the Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm. Please let us know your initial thoughts by filling out a feedback form online or at the public events:

Email: Mynydd-Llanhilleth@pennantwalters.co.uk
Phone: 0800 699 0081 (freephone)
Post: send to FREEPOST TC CONSULTATION
(no further address or stamp required)



Gathering the necessary environmental information

For proposed energy projects such as this, the applicant generally needs to undertake an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). This involves undertaking surveys and assessments on the existing local environment, and how the proposals may change or influence things like local habitats, biodiversity, visual amenity, flood risk and archaeology, to name a few.

This information plays a central role in helping to design the proposals to ensure that the project fully considers all aspects of the environment within which it lies.

Community Benefit

Apart from the obvious carbon reduction and energy sustainability benefits to Wales, there is a significant opportunity to deliver other, more local benefits as a result of this Project.

As a local Welsh owned company, this project will be ‘locally owned’, however we are also exploring further local shared ownership and community ownership opportunities. Pennant Walters also operates a community fund for each of its wind farm projects, which invests money into the local communities in the surrounding area. To date, around £3.5million has been distributed in South Wales to qualifying initiatives.

We are keen to hear local thoughts on how best to manage the Community Fund, so please let us know your views.

The site and early proposals

The site is located on Mynydd Llanhilleth, and whilst the majority of the site boundary lays within Torfaen County Borough, parts do extend into Blaenau Gwent County Borough.

The proposed development includes:

- Up to 12 wind turbines, anticipated to be 4 – 6MW each with an indicative height of up to 180m to tip;
- Turbine foundations, crane pads and laydown areas;
- An electrical substation and control building;
- Underground power cables linking the turbines and the on-site substation;
- Construction of access tracks;
- Permanent anemometer mast for wind turbine performance monitoring;
- Construction enabling works; and
- A temporary construction and storage compound.

We appreciate that these proposals are in proximity to a number of local amenity locations popular with visitors – such as Tirpentwys Cut and the Blue Lagoon. This is something we are looking at very carefully as we consider how to design the scheme to avoid impacts on the local area. We are committed to ensuring that the Blue Lagoon and surrounding woodland will remain unchanged, and that existing access arrangements for leisure on Mynydd Llanhilleth are retained. In addition, we don’t propose to undertake any tree felling on forestry areas.

We have a grid connection point identified not far to the east of the site, and will be working with Western Power Distribution to consider the most appropriate route for cables to access this. Permission to connect to the local electricity network will form a separate process, led by Western Power Distribution.

About us

We are Wales’ largest home-grown renewable energy developer. Pennant Walters is part of the Walters Group based in Hirwaun - a local company operating nationally, employing up to 500 people, many of which are in South Wales.

Since 2003 Pennant Walters has developed, built and now operates six wind farms in South Wales producing a total of 127MW. We seek to develop a long-lasting relationship with all stakeholders including surrounding communities, landowners, local authority and regulators.

We have developed all of our renewable energy projects in former coalfields of South Wales, so we have a strong track record of delivering projects on sites like Mynydd Llanhilleth.

Find out more: www.pennantwalters.co.uk

Fferm Wynt Mynydd Llanhiledd

Cylchlythyr y prosiect: Mehefin 2021

Mae Pennant Walters yn datblygu cynigion am fferm wynt ar safle ym Mynydd Llanhiledd, sydd yn gorwedd i`r dwyrain o safleoedd Llanhiledd, Brynithel, Aberbîg a Chwe Chloch, ac i`r gorllewin o Bontnewynydd a Phont-y-pŵl. Mae`r A472 yn rhedeg ar hyd y cwm i`r de o`r safle.

Mae`r awgrymiadau ar gyfer cael 12 tyrbin wynt gydag uchder dangosol i fyny at 180m i`r pen. Amcangyfrifir bydd y fferm wynt yn generadu i fyny at 48MW o drydan, sy`n gywerth â darparu digon o bŵer i gyfarfod anghenion trydan blynyddol 24,000 o gartrefi*.

*https://www.renewableuk.com/page/UKWEDExplained

24,000 o gartrefi wedi`u pweru gan y cais arfaethedig hwn

Cyfleoedd er **Budd Cymunedol**

Cyfleoedd am swyddi adeiladu a chadwyn cyflenwi

Ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus cyn cyflwyno cais

Ystyrir bod y prosiect hwn yn Ddatblygiad o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol a rhaid inni wneud cais i Arolygiaeth Gynllunio Cymru, a fydd yn gwneud argymhelliad i Weinidogion Cymru ynghylch rhoi caniatâd cynllunio ai peidio.

Fe hoffwn i chi gymryd rhan yng ngham cyntaf ymgynghoriad y cynlluniau arfaethedig cynnar. Rydym wedi trefnu nifer o sesiynau galw heibio cyhoeddus ac arddangosfa rithiol ar-lein er mwyn rhoi gwybodaeth i chi ynglŷn â'r argymhellion ac i ofyn am eich adborth.

Arddangosfeydd Cyhoeddus

Dewch i ganfod mwy, a darparu eich adborth ar y cynigion cynnar.

Sefydliad Glowyr LLanhiledd,
Meadow St, Llanhiledd, Abertyleri NP13 2JT
2yp - 7yn, dydd Iau 15fed o Orffennaf 2021

Canolfan Gymunedol Garndiffaith (Canolfan y Mileniwm),
Top Rd, Garndiffaith, Abersychan, Pont-y-pŵl NP4 7LT
12yb - 4yp dydd Sadwrn, 17fed o Orffennaf 2021

Ystyriaethau Coronafeirws

Rydym yn ymwybodol bod canllawiau Covid yn gallu newid ar fyr rybudd. Felly, os ydych yn bwriadu ymweld â ni yn ystod un o`r digwyddiadau, a wnewch chi, os gwelwch yn dda, wirio gwefan y prosiect yn union cyn eich ymweliad i nodi`r trefniadau diweddaraf. Dewch a mwgwd i`w wisgo os gwelwch yn dda. Tra ein bod ni`n gobeithio na fydd hyn yn digwydd, os bydd rhaid i ni newid neu ganslo digwyddiad oherwydd cynnydd yn y cyfyngiadau, bydd gwybodaeth yn cael ei bostio ar y wefan ymlaen llaw.

Ymgynghoriad Tir Comin

Mae tir o fewn ffin y safle awgrymedig yn dod o dan gofrestr tir comin ac felly mae`n ofynnol arnom ni i baratoi ac argymell cais i Arolygaeth Gynllunio Cymru o dan Ddeddf Tiroedd Comin 2006.

Golyga hyn, ynghyd â`n hymgynghoriad ar gyfer y fferm wynt, byddwn hefyd yn ymgymryd ag ymgynghoriad penodol yn berthnasol i`r ffaith bod rhan o`r safle yn dod o fewn Comin Mynydd Llanhiledd.

Trwy weithio`n agos gyda`r tirfeddianwyr, byddwn ni`n ceisio dadgofrestru adran o Dir Comin i ganiatáu adeiladu`r fferm wynt awgrymedig. Rydym ni yn y broses o ddiffinio pa ardaloedd o Dir Comin all fod yn ofynnol, ac adnabod tir newydd gerllaw. Mae`r broses hon yn ystyriaeth ganolog trwy gydol datblygiad yr awgrymiadau hyn.

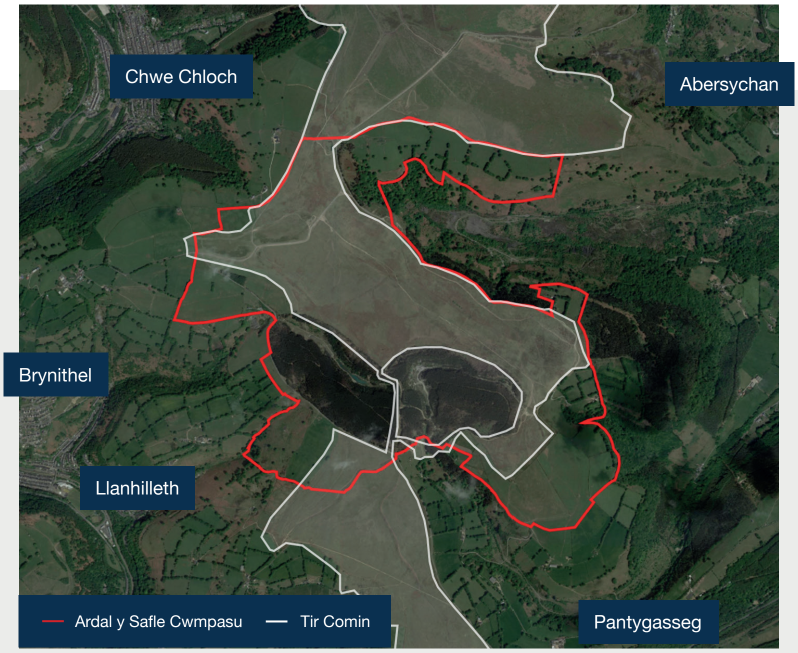
Rydym yn awyddus i glywed oddi wrth rywun sydd â diddordeb yn, neu`n defnyddio`r Comin i`n helpu i sicrhau ein bod ni`n isafu unrhyw effaith, ac uchafu unrhyw fudd ehangach trwy`r broses hon. Ymwelwch â`r arddangosfeydd cyhoeddus a`r wefan am fanylion pellach.

Os oes cwestiwn gennych chi neu sylwad sy`n berthnasol i Gomin Mynydd Llanhiledd, wnewch chi ebostio os gwelwch yn dda: Mynydd-Llanhilleth@pennantwalters.co.uk, a dodi 'Common Land' ar ben yr ebost.

Cysylltu

Hoffem glywed eich barn ar y cynigion sy`n dod i`r amlwg ar gyfer Fferm Wynt Mynydd Llanhiledd. Rhowch wybod i ni am eich meddyliau cychwynnol trwy lenwi ffurflen adborth ar lein neu yn ystod y digwyddiadau cyhoeddus.

Ebost: Mynydd-Llanhilleth@pennantwalters.co.uk
Ffôn: 0800 699 0081 (Ffôn am ddim)
Post: anfonwch at RHADBOST YMGYNGHORIAD TC
(dim angen cyfeiriad pellach na stamp)



Casglu'r wybodaeth amgylcheddol angenrheidiol

Ar gyfer prosiectau ynni arfaethedig o`r math hwn, rhaid i`r ymgeisydd fel rheol ymgymryd ag Asesiad Effaith Amgylcheddol Golyga hyn ymgymryd ag arolygon ac asesiadau ar yr amgylchedd lleol presennol, a sut all yr awgrymiadau newid neu ddylanwadu pethau fel cynefinoedd lleol, bioamrywiaeth, amwynder gweledol, risg llifogydd ac archeoleg, i enwi ond ychydig.

Mae'r wybodaeth yma'n ffurfio rôl ganolog wrth helpu dylunio a datblygu'r argymhellion er mwyn sicrhau fod y project yn ystyried holl agweddau'r amgylchedd.

Budd Cymunedol

Ar wahân i`r lleihad carbon amlwg a`r buddion cynaliadwyedd ynni i Gymru, mae yma gyfle arwyddocaol i sicrhau buddion lleol eraill, o ganlyniad i`r prosiect hwn.

Fel cwmni lleol sy`n eiddo i Gymru, bydd y prosiect hwn yn "eiddo lleol", fodd bynnag rydym hefyd yn archwilio cyfleoedd cydberchnogaeth leol a pherchnogaeth gymunedol ymhellach. Mae Pennant Walters hefyd yn gweithredu cronfa gymunedol ar gyfer pob un o`r prosiectau ffermydd gwynt, sy`n buddsoddi arian mewn i gymunedau lleol yn yr ardaloedd cyfagos. Hyd yn hyn, mae tua £3.5 miliwn wedi ei ddosbarthu ymhlith y mentrau cymwys yn Ne Cymru.

Rydym ni`n awyddus i glywed meddyliau lleol ar sut i reoli`r Gronfa Gymunedol, felly rhowch wybod i ni eich barn.

Y safle a chynigion cynnar

Mae safle wedi`i lleoli ar Fynydd Llanhiledd, a thra bod y mwyafrif o ffin y safle yn gorwedd o fewn Bwrdeistref Sir Torfaen, mae rhannau yn ymestyn mewn i Fwrdeistref Sir Blaenau Gwent.

Mae`r datblygiad arfaethedig yn cynnwys:

- I fyny at 12 o dyrbinau gwynt, disgwyliedig i fod yn 4 - 6MW yr un gydag uchder dangosol i fyny at 180m i`r pen;
- Seiliau tyrbin, padiau craen a mannau gosod;
- Is-orsaf drydanol ac adeilad rheoli;
- Ceblau tanddaearol yn cysylltu`r tyrbinau a`r is-orsaf ar safle;
- Adeiladu traciau mynediad;
- Mast anemomedr parhaol ar gyfer monitro perfformiad y tyrbinau gwynt;
- Adeiladwaith i alluogi gwaith; a
- Adeilad dros dro a chwrt storio.

Rydym ni`n gwerthfawrogi bod y cynigion hyn yn agos at nifer o leoliadau amwynder sy`n boblogaidd ymhlith ymwelwyr - fel y Tirpentwys Cut a`r Blue Lagoon. Mae hyn yn rhywbeth rydym yn edrych arno`n ofalus iawn wrth i ni ystyried sut i ddylunio`r cynllun mewn modd i osgoi effeithiau ar yr ardal leol. Rydym ni`n ymrwymedig i sicrhau bydd y Blue Lagoon a`r goedwig o`i amgylch yn dal heb newid, a bod trefniadau mynediad presennol ar gyfer hamdden ar Fynydd Llanhiledd yn cael eu cadw. Yn ychwanegol, nid ydym yn cynnig ymgymryd ag unrhyw dorri coed mewn ardaloedd coedwigaeth.

Mae gennym bwynt cysylltu grid ddim ymhell o ddwyrain y safle, ac yn gweithio gyda Western Power Distribution i ystyried y llwybr mwyaf priodol i geblau gael mynediad iddo. Bydd y caniatâd i gysylltu i`r rhwydwaith drydan lleol yn rhan o broses ar wahân, wedi ei harwain gan Western Power Distribution.

Amdanom ni

Ni yw datblygwr ynni adnewyddadwy cartref mwyaf Cymru. Mae Pennant Walters yn rhan o`r Walters Group sydd wedi ei leoli yn Hirwaun - cwmni lleol yn gweithredu`n genedlaethol, cyflogi i fyny at 500 o bobl, llawer ohonynt yn Ne Cymru.

Ers 2003 mae Pennant Walters wedi datblygu, adeiladu a nawr yn gweithredu chwe fferm wynt yn Ne Cymru gan gynhyrchu cyfanswm o 127MW. Rydym yn ceisio datblygu perthynas hir-dymor gyda phob rhanddeiliad gan gynnwys cymunedau, tirfeddianwyr, awdurdod lleol a rheoleiddwyr.

Rydym wedi datblygu ein holl brosiectau ynni adnewyddadwy mewn cyn-feysydd glo yn Ne Cymru, felly mae gennym record gref o gyflawni prosiectau ar safleoedd fel Mynydd Llanhiledd.

Dewch o hyd i fwy: www.pennantwalters.co.uk