

Environmental Statement: Chapter 1 – Introduction

Development of National Significance
Pre-Application Consultation

Alaw Môn Solar Farm

Land west of the B5112, 415m south of Llyn Alaw, 500m east of Llantrisant and 1.5km west of Llannerch-y-Medd, Anglesey

October 2023



1.0 Introduction

1.1 This Environmental Statement ('ES') has been prepared on behalf of Wylfa Green Ltd (the 'Applicant') and forms part of a suite of documents supporting an application for a Development of National Significance ('DNS') for a ground-mounted solar photovoltaic ('PV') farm, with a generating capacity of approximately 160 Mega-Watts ('MW') and a battery energy storage system facility, together with associated infrastructure (the 'Development') on land to the west of the B5112 and to the south of Llyn Alaw at Llantrisant, Anglesey (the 'Site', see Figure 1.1). The Site extends to approximately 268.77 hectares ('ha') and is contained within the administrative boundary of the Isle of Anglesey County Council ('IACC').

Requirement for EIA

1.2 The Development exceeds the 10MW threshold for energy generating projects in Wales and therefore constitutes a DNS under the Planning (Wales) Act 2015. The Planning (Wales) Act of 2015 states that Welsh Ministers are to determine DNS projects and applications should be made directly to them. The framework for applying for a DNS is detailed within the Developments of National Significance (Procedure) (Wales) Order 2016, as amended. The DNS application process is managed by Planning and Environment Decisions Wales ('PEDW') (formerly the Planning Inspectorate Wales ('PINS Wales')) on behalf of the Welsh Ministers.

1.3 A request for an EIA Scoping Opinion was issued to PINS Wales (now PEDW) on 6th May 2021 to seek agreement on the scope and methodology of the EIA. An EIA Scoping Direction was adopted by PINS Wales on 30th June 2021 (Appendix 2.2). Further information on the scoping exercise is provided in Chapter 2 EIA Methodology of the ES.

Organisation of the Environmental Statement

1.4 Regulation 17 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017 (the 'EIA Regulations') sets out the information an ES should include. Table 1.1 below shows where the Regulation 17 information has been provided in this ES. Table 1.1 sets out where the information required by Schedule 4 has been provided in this ES.

Table 1.1: Location of Information Required by Regulation 17 of the EIA Regulations

Specified Information		Location within ES
Reg 17 (3) An environmental statement is a statement which includes at least—		
(a)	a description of the proposed development comprising information on the site, design, size and other relevant features of the development;	Chapter 3
(b)	a description of the likely significant effects of the proposed development on the environment;	Technical Chapters 6-13
(c)	a description of any features of the proposed development, or measures envisaged in order to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment	Chapter 3 and Technical Chapters 6-13
(d)	a description of the reasonable alternatives studied by the developer, which are relevant to the proposed development and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for the option chosen, taking into account the effects of the development on the environment;	Chapter 4
(e)	a non-technical summary of the information referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (d);	Separate standalone NTS

Specified Information		Location within ES
(f)	any additional information specified in Schedule 4 relevant to the specific characteristics of the particular development or type of development and to the environmental features likely to be significantly affected	Technical Chapters 6-13
Reg 17 (4) An environmental statement must—		
(a)	the developer must ensure that the environmental statement is prepared by competent experts;	Each of contributors to the ES has set out their credentials in the introductory section of their technical assessment chapter.
(b)	the environmental statement must be accompanied by a statement from the developer outlining the relevant expertise or qualifications of such experts.	See statement attached to the ES Main Text Contents Page.
(c)	where a scoping opinion or direction has been issued in accordance with regulation 14 or 15, be based on the most recent scoping opinion or direction issued (so far as the proposed development remains materially the same as the proposed development which was subject to that opinion or direction);	Chapter 2
(d)	include the information reasonably required for reaching a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the development on the environment, taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment; and	Technical Chapters 6-13
(e)	be prepared, taking into account the results of any relevant UK environmental assessment, which are reasonably available to the person preparing the environmental statement, with a view to avoiding duplication of assessment.	No duplicate reports of any assessments contained in the ES have been provided as part of the DNS application.

ES Structure

- 1.5 This ES comprises 14 chapters and is supported by figures (located at the back of each chapter within Volume 1) and technical appendices (within a separate Volume 2).
- 1.6 A Non-Technical Summary ('NTS') of the full ES is provided as a separate standalone document. Table 1.1 sets out the structure of the ES.

Table 1.2 ES Structure

Chapter No.	Chapter Title	Description
Volume 1 - Chapters and supporting figures		
1	Introduction	Introduction to the ES, EIA requirements, details of project team, ES organisation and availability.
2	EIA Methodology	Methods used to prepare each chapter, description of ES structure and content, generic significance criteria, scoping and consultation.
3	Site and Development Description	Site description and details of the Development. Summary of effects with respect to climate change, energy and sustainability.
4	Alternatives and Design Evolution	Outline of the main alternatives considered by the Applicant.
5	Construction Methodology and Phasing	Details of anticipated programme for development and construction methodology.

Chapter No.	Chapter Title	Description
6	Cultural Heritage	Assessment of the effects of the Development with respect to Cultural Heritage.
7	Landscape and Visual Effects	Assessment of the effects of the Development with respect to Landscape and Views.
8	Biodiversity	Assessment of the effects of the Development with respect to Biodiversity.
9	Water Environment	Assessment of the effects of the Development with respect to the Water Environment.
10	Transport and Access	Assessment of the effects of the Development with respect to Transport and Access.
11	Air Quality	Assessment of the effects of the Development with respect to Air Quality.
12	Noise and Vibration	Assessment of the effects of the Development with respect to Noise and Vibration.
13	Agricultural Land	Assessment of the effects of the Development with respect to Agricultural Land.
14	Summary and Residual Effects	Summary of the ES.
Standalone Document	Non-Technical Summary	Summary of the ES in non-technical language.
Volume 2	Technical Appendices	Technical data and reports to support the chapters in Volume 1.

Project Team

- 1.7 The ES has been coordinated by Stantec on behalf of the Applicant and presents the results of technical studies carried out in conjunction with a number of specialist consultants appointed by the Applicant. The project team is listed in Table 1.3 along with their respective disciplines and contributions to the ES.

Table 1.3 Project Team

Organisation	Expertise
Wylfa Green Ltd	The Applicant
Stantec	Environmental Planning and Landscape and Views
Pegasus Group	Planning and Cultural Heritage
BSG Ecology	Biodiversity
RMA Environmental	Water Environment
Transport Planning Associates	Transport and Access
Air Quality Consultants	Air Quality
Inacoustic	Noise and Vibration
Askew Land & Soil	Agricultural Land
Kernon Countryside Consultants Ltd	Agricultural Land

Other Documents

- 1.8 A number of other documents will be submitted in support of the DNS application. These include:
- Planning Statement, including Welsh Language Impact Statement;
 - Design and Access Statement;
 - Economic Statement;

- Arboricultural Impact Assessment;
- Habitats Regulations Assessment: No Significant Effects Report;
- Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment;
- Consultation Report; and
- Statements of Common Ground.

Environmental Statement Availability

- 1.9 Comments can either be made via the pre-application consultation website or can be forwarded to the following address:

Enso Energy
Unit 1 & 2
Cirencester Office Park
Cirencester
GL7 6JJ

Tel: 01452 764685

Email: alaw@ensoenergy.co.uk

The ES may be purchased in volumes, the costs for which are set out below:

- Non-Technical Summary (NTS) - £15;
- Volume 1: ES Main Text & Figures - £250;
- Volume 2: ES Appendices - £450; and
- Full copy (Volumes 1 and 2 with NTS) of the ES on a data stick - £15.

- 1.10 For copies of any of the above, please contact the Environmental Planning team at Stantec:

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