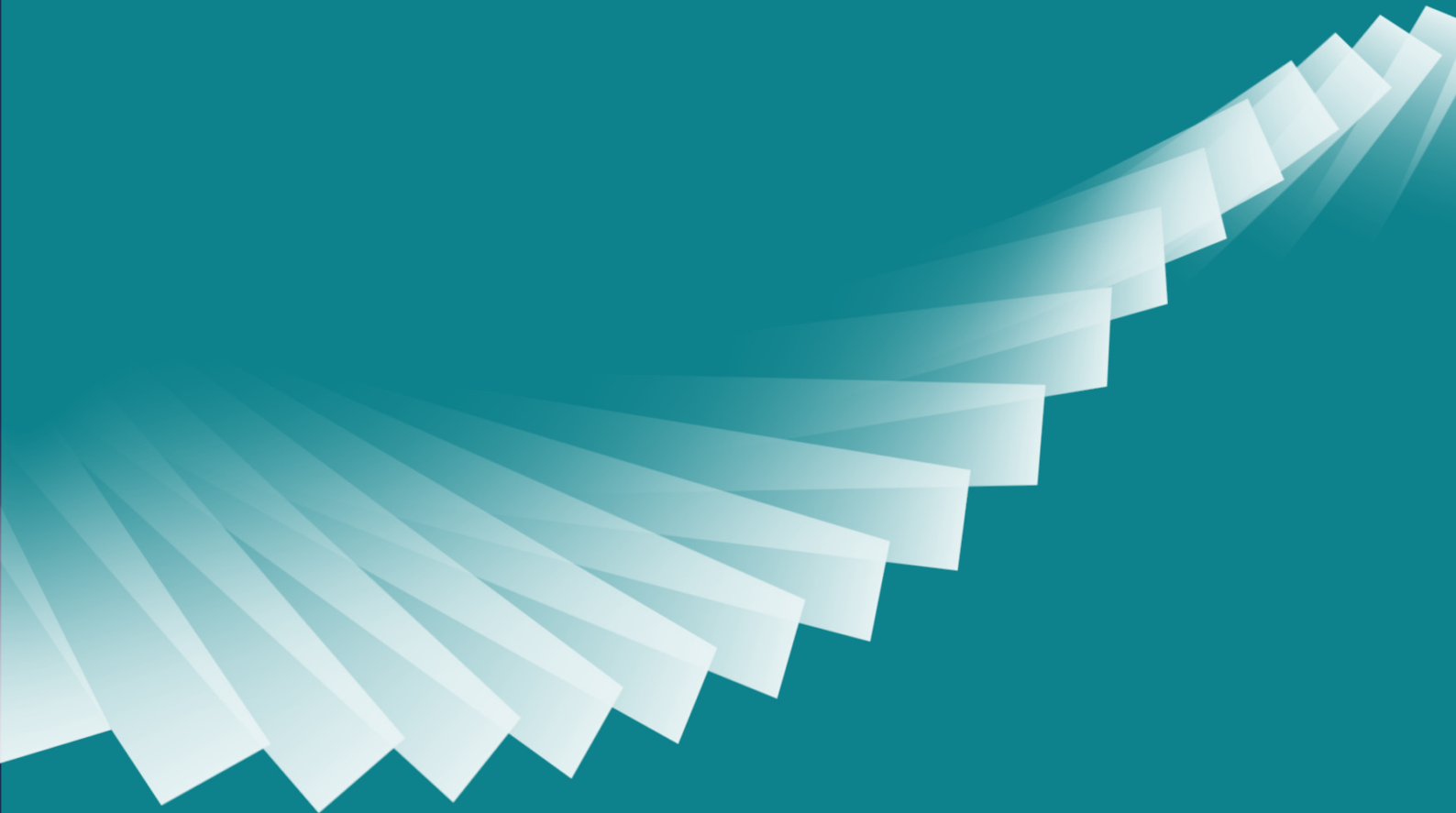




Bute Energy
Aberedw Energy Park

Appendix 2.3:

Consultation Response Table



Aberedw Energy Park Limited

Aberedw Energy Park Environmental Statement

Appendix 2.3: Scoping Response Table

Prepared by LUC
June 2025



Aberedw Energy Park Limited

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Appendix 2.3: Scoping Response Table

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A1.1.1 The Scoping Direction (**Appendix 2.2, Volume 3** of the ES) included comments received from a number of consultees. A summary of general EIA issues raised in response to the Scoping Report (**Appendix 2.1, Volume 3** of the ES) is provided in the table below. Topic specific responses are included in each topic chapter (**Chapters 5-11** of the ES)

Table 1.1 Scoping Response Table

Consultee	Date of Response	Issue Raised at Scoping and Subsequent Consultation	Response / Action Taken
Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) – DNS EIA Scoping Direction	5 th April 2024	In line with the requirements of Regulation 17 and Schedule 4 to the 2017 Regulations, any reasonable alternatives studied by the Applicant should be presented in the ES. The reasons behind the selection of the chosen option should also be provided in the ES, including where environmental effects have informed the choices made.	Reasonable Alternatives are considered in Chapter 3: Site Selection and Design Strategy .
		The Applicant should satisfy themselves that the ES includes all the information outlined in Schedule 4 of the 2017 Regulations. In addition, the Applicant should ensure that the Non-Technical Summary includes a summary of all the information included in Schedule 4.	Noted. The Non-Technical Summary is presented as a standalone document accompanying the ES. Chapter 2: Approach to the EIA sets out all the requirements from the EIA Regulations and identifies in which sections of the ES they are fulfilled.
		Any mitigation relied upon for the purposes of the assessment should be explained in detail within the ES. The likely efficacy of the mitigation proposed should be explained with reference to residual effects. The ES should provide reference to how the delivery of measures proposed to prevent/ minimise adverse effects is secured (through legal requirements or other suitably robust methods) and whether relevant consultees agree on the adequacy of the measures proposed.	Mitigation measures are set out in Chapter 4: Development Description and in specialist topic chapters (Chapters 5-11). To provide a single reference source, all embedded, applied and additional mitigation measures are included in the Schedule of Mitigation in Appendix 12.1 . The implementation of all measures noted in Appendix 4.2: Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be secured either through conditions attached to the planning permission, or through other regulatory mechanisms and licenses.
		The Applicant should ensure that the ES addresses any significant effects on population and human health, in light of the EIA Regulations 2017. This could be addressed under the separate topic chapters or within its own specific chapter.	Effects on population and human health are discussed in Chapter 2: Approach to the EIA and are considered in respective topic chapters (Chapter 10: Noise and Vibration and Chapter 11: Transport and Access). This has been agreed with PEDW as reported in the Scoping Direction (Appendix 2.2).
		Schedule 4 Part 5 of the EIA Regulations requires a description of the likely significant transboundary effects to be provided in an ES. The ES should address this matter as appropriate	Each technical chapter contains a section that identifies the likely effects on the environment that may arise as a result of the construction, operation and/or decommissioning (where necessary) of the Proposed Development, including geographical location. Due to

Consultee	Date of Response	Issue Raised at Scoping and Subsequent Consultation	Response / Action Taken
			the nature of the Proposed Development, its location and the likely significant effects identified, transboundary effects are not considered likely to occur.
		For topics scoped in but not subject to a standalone chapter, it may be helpful to users of the ES if it includes a summary table that signposts the chapters where these matters are addressed.	Topics scoped in but not subject to a standalone chapter have been considered in Chapter 2: Approach to the EIA .
		The Planning Inspectorate's guidance for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects – Advice Note 17: Cumulative Effects Assessment sets out a staged process for assessing cumulative impacts which the Applicant should follow when preparing the list of projects for inclusion in the ES; the Applicant should ensure that relevant schemes identified are addressed in the ES using the tiered approach set out in Advice Note 17. Based on the information set out in the scoping request, the approach to the assessment of cumulative impact is considered largely appropriate. Effects deemed individually not significant from the assessment, could cumulatively be significant, so inclusion criteria based on the most likely significant effects from this type of development may prove helpful when identifying what other developments should be accounted for. The criteria may vary from topic to topic. Best practice is to include proportionate information relating to projects that are not yet consented, dependent on the level of certainty of them coming forward. All of the other developments considered should be documented and the reasons for inclusion or exclusion should be clearly stated. Professional judgement should be used to avoid excluding other development that is close to threshold limits but has characteristics likely to give rise to a significant effect; or could give rise to a cumulative effect by virtue of its proximity to the proposed development. Similarly, professional judgement should be applied to other development that exceeds thresholds but may not give rise to discernible effects. The process of refinement should be undertaken in consultation with the LPA, NRW, Cadw and other consultees, where appropriate.	In accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's guidance for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects –Advice Note 17: Cumulative Effects Assessment, a staged process for assessing schemes has been adopted. Likely cumulative effects have been defined as the likely effects that the Proposed Development may have in combination with other wind and relevant solar schemes which are at application stage, consented, under construction or operational (i.e. the incremental effects resulting from the Proposed Development if all other wind and relevant solar schemes are assumed to be constructed/operational). The list of all wind and non-wind developments included in the cumulative effects assessment is presented in Appendix 2.9: Cumulative Developments. Cumulative wind development locations are shown in Volume 2, Figure 2.2: Cumulative Developments: wind farms. Chapter 2: Approach to the EIA explains the approach to the cumulative effects assessment and states the reasons for inclusion or exclusion of schemes.

Consultee	Date of Response	Issue Raised at Scoping and Subsequent Consultation	Response / Action Taken
		The scope of the cumulative assessment should be fully explained and justified in the ES.	
		The ES should be based on a worst-case scenario and as the Scoping Report states the proposed development may be decommissioned when its operational life ends (up to 40 years), decommissioning should be explored in a proportionate manner in the ES. At a minimum, the ES should clearly indicate how decommissioning of the site will take place, clearly indicate what will be left on site and what will be removed. The ES should address what the end of life cycle will be for the infrastructure on site. Therefore, decommissioning is scoped into the ES in a proportionate manner. PEDW welcomes the SR states an Outline Decommissioning Plan (ODP) will be submitted with the application and recommends the ODP should be included with as a technical appendix to the ES.	Chapter 4: Development Description provides details of the Site decommissioning. Appendix 4.5: Outline Decommissioning Plan explains the approach to decommissioning.
		The ES should ensure that risks of accidents are accounted for and mitigated against and a proportionate section on this aspect should be included in the ES, but not as a standalone chapter.	The consideration of flood risk is addressed in Chapter 9: Hydrology, Hydrogeology and Geology , and relevant safety considerations informing the final Energy Park design are described in Chapter 4: Development Description .
Soil, Peatland & Agricultural Land Use Planning Unit.	29 th January 2024	The proposals should include a detailed scheme for site decommissioning that can be confidently conditioned against. This is essential to meet the requirements of Policy 18(11) of Future Wales in terms of acceptable provisions relating to the decommissioning of the development at the end of its lifetime, including the removal of infrastructure and effective restoration.	Appendix 4.5: Outline Decommissioning Plan explains the approach to decommissioning.