

Julie James AS/MS
Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Your ref: P-06-1310
Our ref: JJ/02435/22

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair - Petitions committee
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1SN

15 November 2022

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 27 October regarding a petition seeking the protection of Mynydd Eglwysilan and Cefn Eglwysilan. I note the petition specifically requests the Welsh Government formally recognise the archaeological, historic and prehistoric environments, as there is concern that a proposed wind farm will cause irreparable damage. I will be responding from a planning perspective given that my colleague, Dawn Bowden MS Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip, has responsibility for the historic environment in Wales, including CADW and the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments.

A Development of National Significance (DNS) proposal for a wind farm, which includes the area of Mynydd Eglwysilan and Cefn Eglwysilan, is listed on the Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) website - DNS/3272053 - Twyn Hywel Wind Farm (<https://planningcasework.service.gov.wales/> - Search for 3272053). At the time of writing, the proposal has not been formally submitted as a DNS application. The applicant, Twyn Hywel Energy Park Limited, has submitted a valid notice of intention to submit an application.

DNS applications are determined by Welsh Ministers and as the Minister with responsibility for planning it is likely, that should it formally be submitted, I will take the decision on this proposal. For this reason, I offer no comment on the proposal itself and this letter is written without prejudice to any future decision made by Welsh Ministers. However, I can provide you with information on the process and the policy framework.

The DNS process is rigorous and includes engagement and consultation with stakeholders, relevant local authorities and the public. Should an application be formally submitted and accepted, the applicant is required to undertake statutory pre-application consultation and engagement. Guidance on the process, consultation, how proposals are examined and a guide for communities are available on the [Welsh Government](#) website.

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Julie.James@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Julie.James@gov.Wales

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.

National planning policy is set out in [Planning Policy Wales](#) and [Future Wales](#). Both have policies for managing the development of renewable energy proposals, which include the consideration of the historic environment. Future Wales Policy 17 identifies 10 Pre-Assessed Areas for Wind Development. Parts of the potential development area of the proposed Twyn Hywel Wind Farm lie within Pre-Assessed Area 10. Within these areas there is a presumption in favour of large scale wind energy development subject to the criteria in Future Wales Policy 18. Future Wales Policy 18 focuses on the determination of DNS renewable energy proposals and sets out the criteria against which schemes are determined. The relevant Local Development Plan(s) will also contain policies which will be taken into account in the determination of any application.

Yours sincerely,



Julie James AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Newid Hinsawdd
Minister for Climate Change