REDFORD FARM WIND TURBINE GARVOCK LAURENCEKIRK ABERDEENSHIRE

Archaeological Watching Brief -



Carried out 19th January 2015 by **Murray Archaeological Services Ltd**



Report No: MAS 2015-03 by

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1. Background

- 1.1 The erection of a new 330kW wind turbine at Redford Farm, Garvock, Laurencekirk, required that an archaeological watching brief be maintained during the groundworks for the turbine base and hard standing [Planning ref: APP/2013/4038].
- 1.2 The Conditions were applied in the context of PAN (Planning Advise Note) 2/2011, SPP and SHEP, which states that it is necessary for developers to arrange for archaeological work to take place prior to development, on appropriate circumstances.
- 1.3 Murray Archaeological Services Ltd was commissioned by Green Cat Renewables Ltd to undertake the watching brief which was carried out on 19th January 2015.

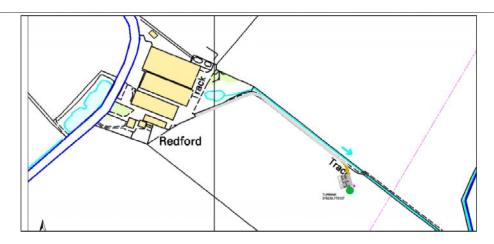
2. THE SITE

2.1 The site is located to the W of Laurencekirk and just to the N of the B9120 [NGR: NO 7622 7011 (centre of site); Parish: Garvock].

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Illus 1 Map, showing the location of the site circled in red. Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Licence number 100049810

2.2 The turbine is to be erected to the E of the farm steading buildings on the S side of a farm track (Illus.2, below). The site is also a short distance to the E of the Tullo Windfarm



Illus 2: Plan of site showing location of turbine marked as a green dot.

2.3 A crop mark site, visible on aerial photographs only, is located a short distance from the turbine site on the N side of the track. The crop marks show two possible ring ditches and several pits [Aberdeenshire SMR: NO77SE0040]

3. The Watching Brief

- 3.1 The soil strip of the area of the turbine base was observed. An existing track running SE from the steading buildings had been widened and an area of hard standing c.24m x 24m had been stripped and filled prior to the commencement of the watching brief.
- 3.2 An area c.32m x 28m for the turbine base was stripped using a full-slew mechanical digger with a 2m wide toothless ditching bucket. The area adjoined the area of hard standing to the W, E and S.
- 3.3 The field had been in crop and c.300 -350mm of dark plough soil overlay reddish-beige hard clayey natural with abundant stone mixed through.
- 3.4 Two stone drains running E-W crossed the area but no archaeological features or finds were evident.

4. Results

4.1 Although the site of the turbine is located a short distance to the NW of a known crop mark site, no archaeological features or finds were evident.



Ilus 3: General view, looking W, to Redford farm steadings and Tullo Windfarm.



Illus 4: Soil strip in progress, looking W



Illus 5: Area of turbine base following soil strip.

Catalogue of Digital Photographs (Supplied to Archives)

- 1-2 General views, looking W, towards Tullo Windfarm
- 3-6 Work in progress, looking W.
- 7-8 Views, looking NW, towards Tullo Windfarm
- 9-15 Area of turbine location being stripped, looking W
- 16-17 Area of turbine location, looking NW