

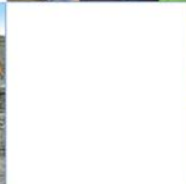
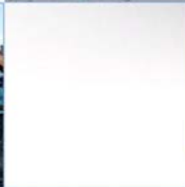
# VG Energy Call Out: Cockburn Farm, Duns:

## Watching Brief Data Structure Report

AOC Project 21819

Planning Ref: 10/00658/FUL

May 2011



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

## Cockburn Farm, Duns, Borders Watching Brief Data Structure Report

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<b>On Behalf of:</b>	<b>VG Energy Ltd</b> Waterside Farm Glasgow Road Galston Ayrshire KA4 8PB
<b>National Grid Reference (NGR):</b>	<b>NT 7627 5877</b>
<b>AOC Project No:</b>	<b>21819</b>
<b>Prepared by:</b>	<b>Lindsay Dunbar</b> <b>Thomas Bradley-Lovekin</b>
<b>Illustration by:</b>	<b>Stefan Sagrott</b>
<b>Date of Fieldwork:</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> February 2011, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 and 10<sup>th</sup> May 2011</b>
<b>Date of Report:</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> May 2011</b>

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

**Author:** Lindsay Dunbar and Tom Lovekin      **Date:** 10<sup>th</sup> May 2011

**Approved by:** John Gooder      **Date:** \*\*<sup>th</sup> May 2011

**Draft/Final Report Stage:** Draft      **Date:** \*\*<sup>th</sup> May 2011

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## Abstract

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This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief on the erection of three 15 m high wind turbines undertaken by AOC Archaeology Group at Cockburn Farm, Duns.

Each of the three turbine platforms required the excavation of a 5.0 m by 5.0 m area by a minimum of 0.80 m deep with an additional 2.5 m by 2.0 m trench for cabling which was of similar depth. The two turbines when then connected by a service trench some 0.55 m wide (0.30 m wide at base) and 0.65 m deep which extended for approximately 500 m from the turbines south-east to Cockburn Farm.

Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered during the watching brief.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

1.1 AOC Archaeology Group was commissioned by VG Energy Ltd to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the erection of three 15 m high wind turbines at Cockburn Farm, Duns. The watching brief was undertaken in response to a planning condition (10/00658//FUL). The works were designed to satisfy the requirements of the local planning authority, Scottish Borders Council (SBC) who are advised on archaeological matters by Dr. Chris Bowles, Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Officer. The works were conducted according to the terms of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (AOC 2011) approved on behalf of SBC by Dr. Bowles and in accordance with the principles set out in *Scottish Planning Policy* (Scottish Government February 2010) and *PAN 42* (SOEnD 1994).

### 1.2 Location

1.2.1 The proposed development area is centred at NGR: NT 7627 5877 (Figure 1) and lies to the east of a farm track within Cockburn Farm. A tree belt is situated to the immediate south, with open fields forming the wider landscape. The farm buildings lie to the south-east.

### 1.3 Archaeological background

1.3.1 The scheduled sites of Cockburn Law fort and field system lie approximately 1 km to the north-east. A small curvilinear enclosure (NMRS NT75NE 110) has been recorded as cropmarks on oblique aerial photography within the field to the immediate south. The local SMR also records two burials discovered in the 1930s some 150 m to the east. The exact location of the burials is unknown. Another possible enclosure lies 500 m to the west.

## 2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The objectives of the archaeological watching brief are:

- i) to safeguard the archaeological resource that may be disturbed by the proposed development works;
- ii) in the event of significant archaeological features and /or small finds being unearthed, to liaise with Borders Council / Dr Bowles and the client as to the most appropriate response for safeguarding these features; either by preservation *in situ* (the default response), if at all feasible, or by archaeological recording.

## 3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The works involved an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of three turbine platforms and their associated service track which led from the turbines to Cockburn Farm. Excavation was conducted by a wheeled excavator utilising a smooth bladed bucket. All ground breaking was monitored by an experienced field archaeologist.

- 3.2 All recording was carried out according to AOC Archaeology Group's standard practices. A black and white print and digital photographic record of the archaeological works was taken (Appendix 1).

## 4 RESULTS

- 4.1 Each of the three turbine platforms required the excavation of a 5.0 m by 5.0 m area by a minimum of 0.80 m deep with an additional 2.5 m by 2.0 m trench for cabling which was of similar depth. The three turbines when then connected by a service trench some 0.55 m wide (0.30 m wide at base) and up to 0.65 m deep which extended for approximately 500 m from the turbines downslope to the south-east to Cockburn Farm.
- 4.2 The topsoil across the watching brief area was a well sorted dark brown ploughsoil varying from 0.25 m to 0.35 m in depth across the watching brief area. The only exceptions to this being within the ground works for Turbine 3, located higher up the hill slope than the other turbines where the depth of the plough soil decreased to 0.09m and north-east of the track to the Farm where a modern bank of redeposited topsoil increased the depth to nearer 0.60 m. Within the Turbine 3 excavations the plough soil was found to be sealed by a 0.31m thick deposit of dark yellowish brown sandy clayey silt subsoil. Natural subsoil across the excavations consisted of a mottled yellow grey gravel.

## 5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Neither significant features nor unstratified artefacts were encountered during the watching brief.

## 6 RECOMMENDATIONS

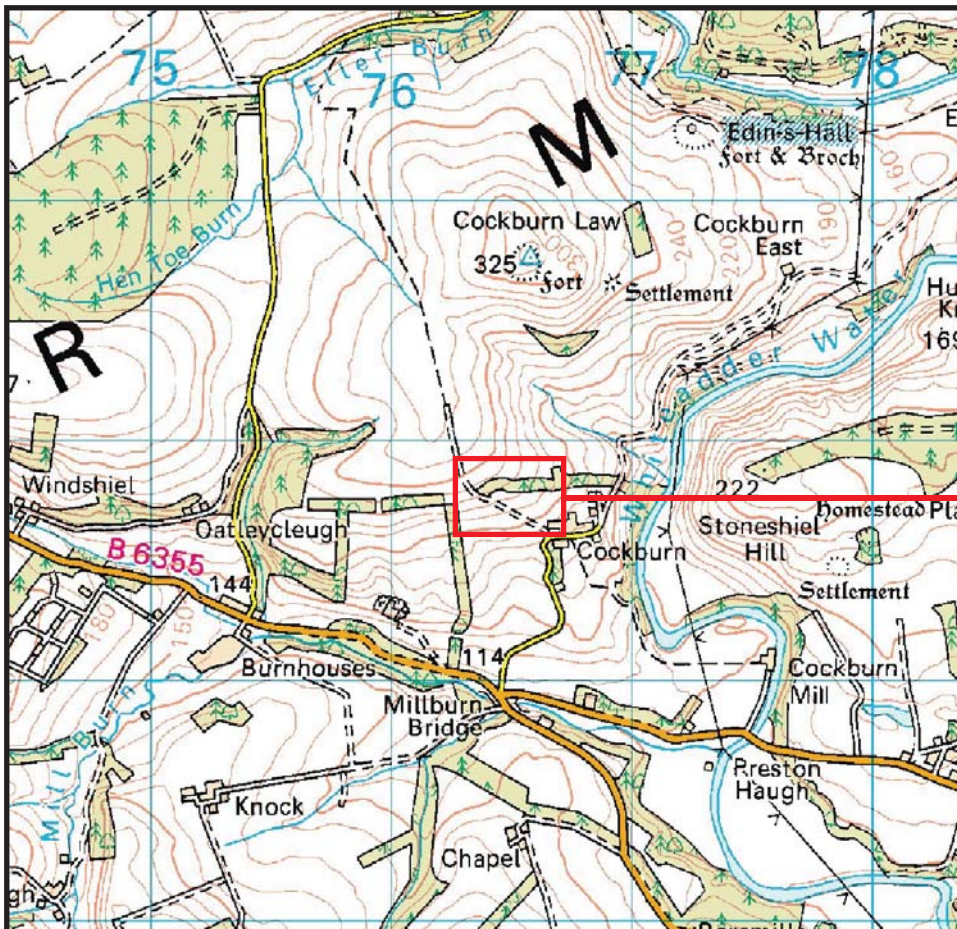
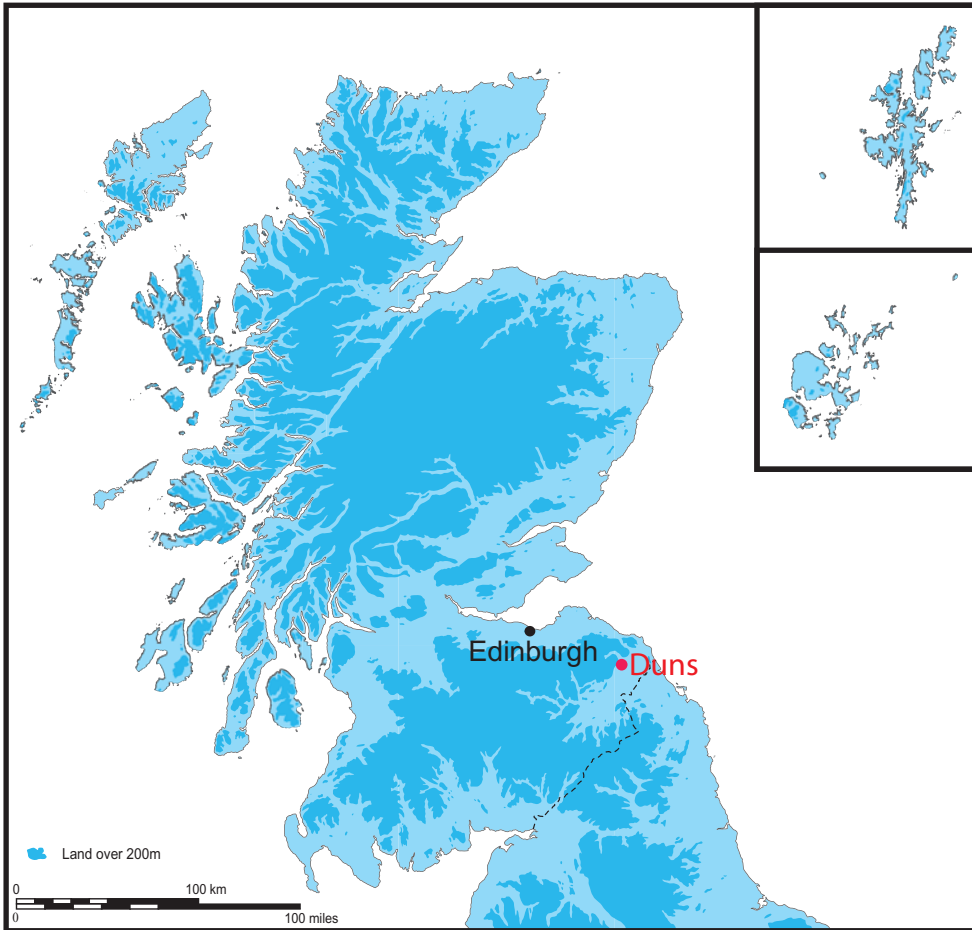
- 6.1 No further archaeological works are considered necessary. This recommendation will require confirmation by Dr Bowles on behalf of Scottish Borders Council.

## 7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

AOC 2011 *Watching brief on the erection of two wind turbines at Cockburn Farm, Duns: Written Scheme of Investigation (1<sup>st</sup> February 2011)*. Unpublished AOC Method Statement.

SOEnD 1994 *Planning advice Note 42, Archaeology and Planning*. Scottish Office Environment Department.

Scottish Government 2010 *Scottish Planning Policy*. (February 2010)



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Figure 1: Location of the site at Cockburn Farm, Duns

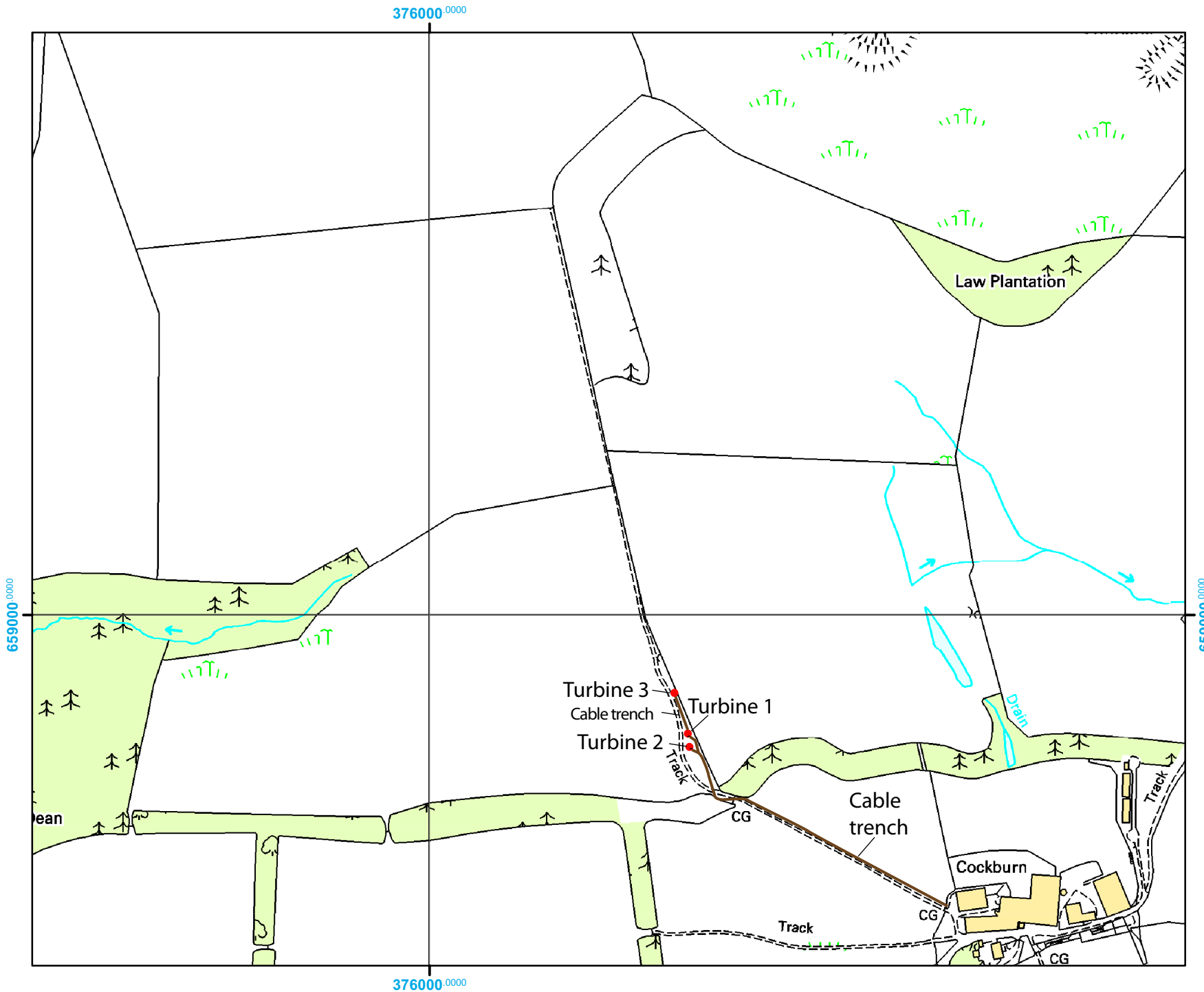
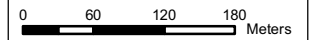


Figure 2: Location of monitored works at Cockburn Farm



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Project No.:	21819_A
Date:	31.3.2010
Scale at A4:	1:6,432



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**VG Energy Call Out:  
Cockburn Farm, Duns:  
Watching Brief, Data Structure Report**

**Section 2: Appendices**

## APPENDIX 1: Photographic Record

### Digital Film 1

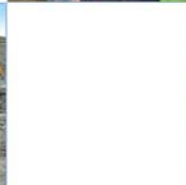
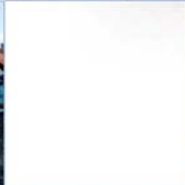
Frame	Description	From
1-2	Registration shot	-
3-4	Post-excavation view of Turbine 1	S
5-6	Post-excavation view of cable trench for Turbine 1	S
7-8	Post-excavation view of Turbine 2	S
9-10	Post-excavation view of cable trench for Turbine 2	N
11-12	Post-excavation view of cable trench upper section – near to turbines	S
13-14	Post-excavation view of cable trench middle section	S
15-16	Post-excavation view of cable trench lower section close to Cockburn Farm	S

### Digital Film 2 May 2011

Frame	Description	From
1	Pre-excavation view of Turbine 3 with Turbines 1 and 2 in the background	N
2	Post-excavation view of northeast corner of Turbine 3 ground works showing representative section of deposits	W
3-4	Excavations for Turbine 3 in progress	W
5	Post-excavation view of Turbine 3	SW
6	Post-excavation view of anchor trench for Turbine 3	S
7	Unstratified roughly hewn stone recovered during the excavation of cable trench 20m south of Turbine 3.	-
8	Post-excavation view of cable trench linking Turbines 1 and 3	S

**APPENDIX 2: 'Discovery and Excavation in Scotland' Report**

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Scottish Borders
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME</b>	Cockburn Farm, Duns Watching Brief
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	AOC21819
<b>PARISH:</b>	Duns
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Lindsay Dunbar, Andrew Sibley and Thomas Bradley-Lovekin
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	AOC Archaeology
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S)</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	Centred on NT 7627 5877
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2011
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	10 <sup>th</sup> May 2011
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. DES ref.)	None
<b>MAIN DESCRIPTION:</b> (NARRATIVE) (May include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the erection of three 15 m high wind turbines at Cockburn Farm, Duns.</p> <p>Each of the three turbine platforms required the excavation of a 5.0 m by 5.0 m area by a minimum of 0.80 m deep with an additional 2.5 m by 2.0 m trench for cabling which was of similar depth. The three turbines were then connected by a service trench some 0.55 m wide (0.30 m wide at base) and 0.65 m deep which extended for approximately 500 m from the turbines south-east to Cockburn Farm.</p> <p>Neither significant archaeological features nor artefacts were encountered during these watching brief works.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/a
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	VG Energy Ltd.
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Edgefield Road Industrial Estate, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9SY
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	<a href="mailto:admin@aocarchaeology.com">admin@aocarchaeology.com</a>
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Archive to be deposited in NMRS



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