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FIT Scheme Turbine – Land 325m NE of Charleton Farm, Charleton, Montrose

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 1987

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2. View of the stripped turbine base, from SSE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on 21 November 2011 at Land 325m north-east of Charleton Farm, Charleton, Montrose (NGR: NO 7210 6142) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mint Energy Ltd.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 08 November 2011 was produced by CFA on behalf of Mint Energy Ltd. The WSI was designed to fulfil the requirements of the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeology Service (ACAS) on behalf of Angus Council.

1.2 Background

Planning permission (Ref. 11/00366/FUL) has been granted for the erection of a new wind turbine situated approximately 325m north-east of Charleton Farm (Fig. 2). The planning permission was subject to a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief during all ground breaking operations, subsequently altered by ACAS to comprise only the turbine base.

There were no known sites of archaeological interest within the development area. However, there were reasons to believe the land in question had the potential to contain archaeological remains, due to the presence of sites in the vicinity. At least one ring-ditch, part of a rectilinear enclosure and other indeterminate marks, observed during aerial reconnaissance (NMRS No. NO76SW 100), are located south-west of the proposed development area.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the watching brief were:

• To establish the presence or absence of archaeological features or deposits during groundbreaking and to mitigate any impact on those features or deposits as identified.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 General

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Fieldwork. Recording of all elements followed established CFA methods, as detailed in the approved WSI.

2.2 Archaeological Watching Brief

The terms of the WSI required an appropriate programme of archaeological investigation (watching brief) to monitor ground breaking works. Excavation was undertaken with a JCB 3CX fitted with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision.

The ground breaking works consisted of the excavation of a square area measuring 5.5m by 5.5m to a maximum depth of 1.4m.

All discoveries, including soil profiles and subsoil characteristics, were recorded using standard CFA recording forms and digital photography.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

Numbers in bold in the following text refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 1.

The area was stripped of topsoil to an average depth of 0.3m to reveal the natural subsoils (Fig. 3). The topsoil consisted of mid-brown silty soil (001). The subsoil consisted of orange gravel (002) in the north-western half of the excavated turbine base and orange silty sand (003) in the south-eastern half.

There were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified.

4. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was carried out during ground works for the erection of a new wind turbine at Land 325m north-east of Charleton Farm, Charleton, Montrose.

There were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified during the watching brief.

The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) and copies of reports will be lodged with the Angus Council Sites and Monuments Record.

A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 3) and an online OASIS form will be completed.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context No.	Description
001	Topsoil – mid-brown silty soil
002	Subsoil – orange gravel
003	Subsoil – orange silty sand

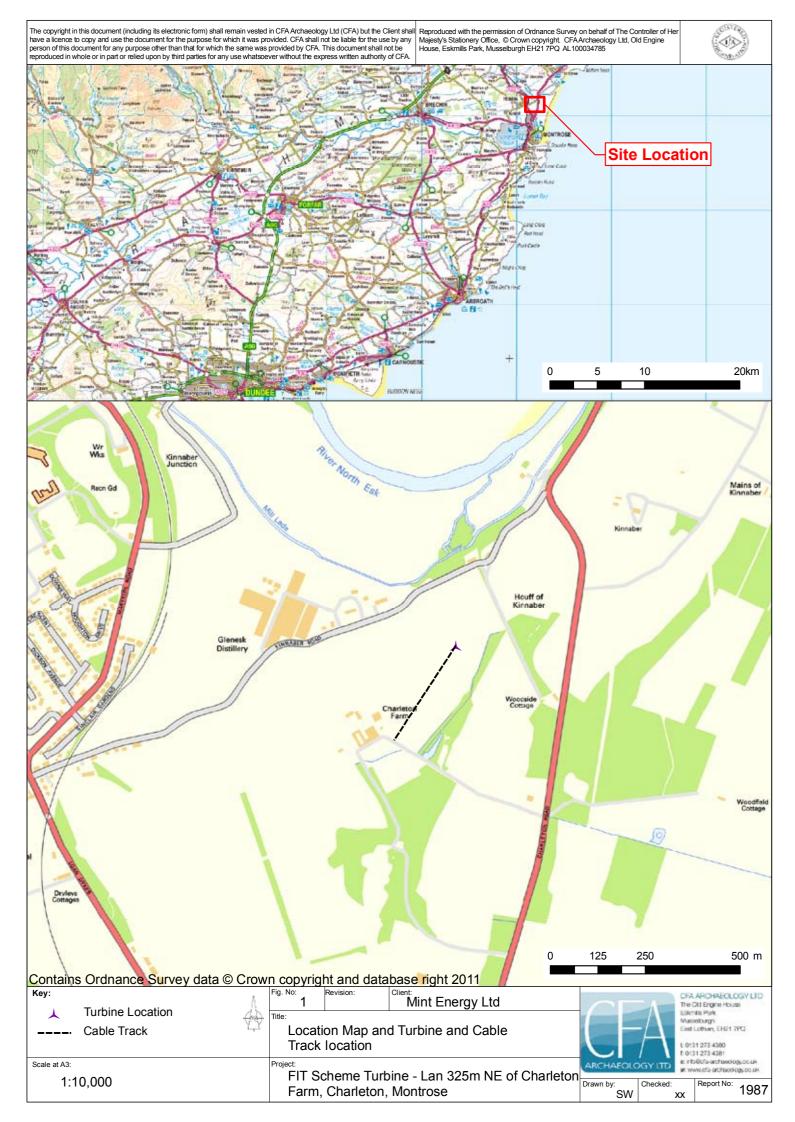
APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

Digital Images

Number	Description	From	Conditions
1	Showing cable track already excavated	SW	Overcast
2	Cable track	NE	Overcast
3	Cable track	SW	Overcast
4	Turbine base under excavation	SW	Overcast
5	SSE facing section showing topsoil (001)	SSE	Overcast
6	Topsoil removed to reveal underlying subsoil	SSE	Overcast
7	Working shot of topsoil removal	SSE	Overcast
8	Working shot of the removal of the subsoil	S	Overcast
9	Detail of the ENE facing section of the turbine base	ENE	Overcast
10-11	NNW facing section showing the topsoil and subsoil	NNW	Overcast

APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Angus
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	FIT Scheme Turbine – Land 325m NE of Charleton Farm, Charleton,
TROJECT IIILE/SITE NAME.	Montrose
PROJECT CODE:	MINT2
PARISH:	Glamis
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Gary Savory
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	-
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	-
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	-
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NO 7210 6142
START DATE (this season)	November 2011
END DATE (this season)	November 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out during ground works for the erection of a new wind turbine at Land 325m north-east of Charleton Farm, Charleton, Montrose. There were no features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance identified during the watching brief.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mint Energy Ltd
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
EMAIL ADDRESS:	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	National Monuments Record of Scotland (archive) Angus Sites and Monuments Record (report)



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