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Berry Burn Windfarm Near Logie, Moray

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 2199

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**Berry Burn Windfarm
Near Logie, Moray**

Archaeological Watching Brief

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) during January to May 2013 at Berry Burn Windfarm, near Logie, Moray (NGR: NJ 08345 44960) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Wind Prospect Ltd.

Berry Burn Windfarm is a consented development and there were no archaeological conditions: however, a voluntary programme of targeted watching briefs was agreed upon by the developer and accepted by the Aberdeenshire Council Archaeologist on behalf of Moray Council.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 20 November 2012 was produced by CFA on behalf of Wind Prospect Ltd for a targeted watching brief during wind farm construction. A Method Statement dated 06 July 2012 was produced by CFA for work relating to the repair and upgrade of the hill track running from Tomcork Farm up to the wind farm.

1.2 Background

Previous work undertaken in relation to the construction of the wind farm includes an Environmental Appraisal undertaken by ASH (ASH 2011) and a desk-based assessment and field survey undertaken by AMEC (AMEC 2012). They identified a number of sites of archaeological significance which the development was subsequently designed to avoid.

An additional two reports were commissioned by Wind Prospect to review the known baseline information by means of a walkover survey of the substation platform and the main access route (Gray 2012a, 2012b). As a result, a programme of archaeological work was undertaken to mitigate the potential effect on the archaeological resource, including a watching brief during ground breaking operations associated with the construction of the Substation Compound (Kirby 2012).

This report presents the results of a programme of targeted archaeological watching briefs during ground breaking operations related to construction of Turbines 25, 27 and 30 (Fig. 1) within the main wind farm, and of mitigation works along the route of the access track from Tomcork.

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of the watching brief were:

- To establish the presence or absence of archaeological features or deposits during groundbreaking in a targeted watching brief 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 Watching Brief

Soil stripping was subject to a watching brief on various sections of the development. All groundbreaking work was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Soil was stripped using a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a smooth-bladed ditching bucket.

All excavation and on-site recording was carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, by photography and by completing standard CFA record forms.

The stratification of all excavated areas was recorded whether or not significant archaeological deposits were identified.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

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

The deposits within the areas of soil stripping generally consisted of between 0.1m to 0.7m of dark humic peat (**001**) and up to 0.5m of mixed beige sandy-gravel subsoil (**002**) overlying cleaner beige/orange-brown sandy-gravel/clay natural (**003**). Deposit **002** was present intermittently throughout the area and in places was found to encase isolated pockets of peat. Isolated pockets of peat were also present within the natural (**003**).

3.2 Watching brief/demarcation results

The widening of the bell mouth corner and the construction of the site compound at the junction of the track to Tomcork Farm were monitored due to their proximity to sites NJ04NW0017 and NJ04NW0018. These sites were fenced off to ensure that they were not damaged during the works (Fig. 1, 3-5). Some spoil had been dumped on top of the linear bank forming part of Site NJ04NW0017 and this was carefully removed by machine as much as possible, under archaeological supervision.

Sites NJ04NE0013a-f, at the road junction near Berry Burn Farm, were fenced off to ensure that they were not damaged during the works (Fig. 2).

A new section of road designed to bypass south of Tomcork Farm would have had an impact on sites NJ04NW0053a, b and c (Fig. 1). Additional survey was carried out to record the structures along this stretch and to allow micro-routing of the road to avoid the remains and the roadline was moved to the south, away from the sites (Fig. 1, 6).

A watching brief was carried out during the construction of the access track to and the bases of three turbines, T25, T27 and T30 (Fig. 2). An area measuring c.1.06ha for each turbine base was stripped of topsoil under archaeological supervision, along with approx 900m of associated access track (Fig. 7).

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

4. CONCLUSION

A watching brief was carried out during ground works related to the construction of a compound, three turbine bases/hard standings (T25, T27& T30) and associated access roads at Berry Burn Wind Farm, Moray. A previous desk-based study identified that numerous archaeological features would have been impacted by the works so a strategy to avoid these features by moving road lines and fencing off features was implemented. 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 Moray 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.

5. REFERENCE

AMEC 2012 *Berry Burn Wind Farm: Access Route-Assessment for Hydrology, Hydrogeology and the Historic Environment*, AMEC Environment & Infrastructure UK Limited.

ASH 2011 *Berry Burn Substation Environmental Appraisal*, ASH design + assessment.

Gray, H 2012a *Berry Burn Wind Farm Walk-over Survey of Substation Platform*, CFA Report No. 2088.

Gray, H 2012b *Berry Burn Wind Farm Track Upgrade Walk-over Survey of Substation Platform*, CFA Report No. 2089.

Kirby, M 2012 *Substation Compound, Berry Burn Windfarm, Near Logie, Moray. Archaeological Watching Brief*. CFA Report No. 2134.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

Context	Description
001	Turf and peat topsoil.
002	Mixed beige sandy-gravel subsoil encasing pockets of peat.
003	Beige/orange-brown sandy-gravel/clay natural. Contains pockets of deeper peat.

APPENDIX 2: Digital Photographic Register

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1-2	General shots of T27 area	ENE	Snow/rain
3	General shot over area to be watched T27	N	Snow/rain
4	Shot of quarry to NW of T27 base	E	Snow/rain
5-6	Shot of platform 15-20m E of haul road at CH300	NNW	Snow/rain
7-9	General shots of T25 area	NNW	Overcast
10-11	General shots of access route and T30 area	E	Overcast
12-13	Possible grouse butt	SW	Overcast
14-16	General access route	NW/SE	Overcast
17-19	Shots of fencing of west side of platform area	S	Overcast
20	Looking SE down access track from T25	NW	Overcast
21	Looking towards T30	SE	Bright
22	T30 stripped of peat with natural glacial till sub angular boulder layer	SW	Bright
23	East half of T30 hard stand stripped to natural silty sand with numerous boulders	S	Bright
24-25	West half of T30 stripped of peat to grey degraded stone	SE	Bright
26-27	West half of T30 hard stand stripped to silty sand layer	NW	Bright
28-31	Shots of stripping area on the W of T27	SE	Overcast
32-35	Photos of modern drainage ditch in peat	SE	Overcast
36-37	Photo of ditches 5 & 1	W	Overcast
38-39	Stripping peat at T27	NE/NW	Overcast
40	Natural boulder surface below peat	N	Overcast
41-42	Removal of peat from T27	NE	Overcast
43-45	T27, boulders below peat	NE/NW	Overcast
46-47	Excavations at T27	E	Overcast
48-49	Remains of tree stumps and roots at base of peat, T27	NE	Overcast
50	Field officer conducting Watching Brief	NW	Overcast
51-52	T27 excavations	NW	Overcast
53-54	T27 excavations	NW	Snow
55	T27 excavations	E	Snow
56	T27 excavations	W	Snow
57	Tree stump found towards base of peat	SE	Snow
58-59	T27 excavations	W/NW	Snow
60	General shot road to 727	NW	Snow
61-64	Wood in layers of peat	NA	Snow
65-66	General shot of hard stand T27	SW	Snow
67-69	W end of T27	SE	Snow
70-71	T27 excavations	WE	Snow
72-73	Wood revealed in peat at T27	NE	Snow
74-76	T27 excavations	NE	Snow
77-78	Photos of S side of T27	NE	Snow
79	T27 excavations N side	SW	Snow
80	Loading peat from N side of T27	W	Snow
81-85	Stripping N side of T27		
86-88	Battering trench edges of T27	N/NW	Clear
89	T27 area showing natural below peat	N	Clear





90-91	T27 area showing natural below peat	S/E	Clear
92-101	Shots of bell mouth area widening	NA	Clear
102-103	Various shots of stones in cairn field NJ04NW0017		
104	Natural geology exposed in bell mouth area	S	Clear
105-106	Excavations of bell mouth area	S	Clear
107-111	Excavation of Bell mouth showing cairn field NJ04NW0017	S	Clear
112	Soil stripping at compound	S	Clear
113	Fencing off site NJ04NW0018 showing spoil from compound at rear	SE	Clear
114	Fencing off site NJ04NW0018 showing spoil from compound at rear	SW	Clear
115-116	Fenced off site NJ04NW0018 showing spoil from compound at rear	SE	Clear
117	Road line marked by posts passing to the S of sites NJ04NW0053a, b & c	NW	Clear
118	Site NJ04NW9917 fenced off	S	Clear
119	Site NJ04NW9917 fenced off	NW	Clear
120	Excavations of bell mouth area	E	Clear

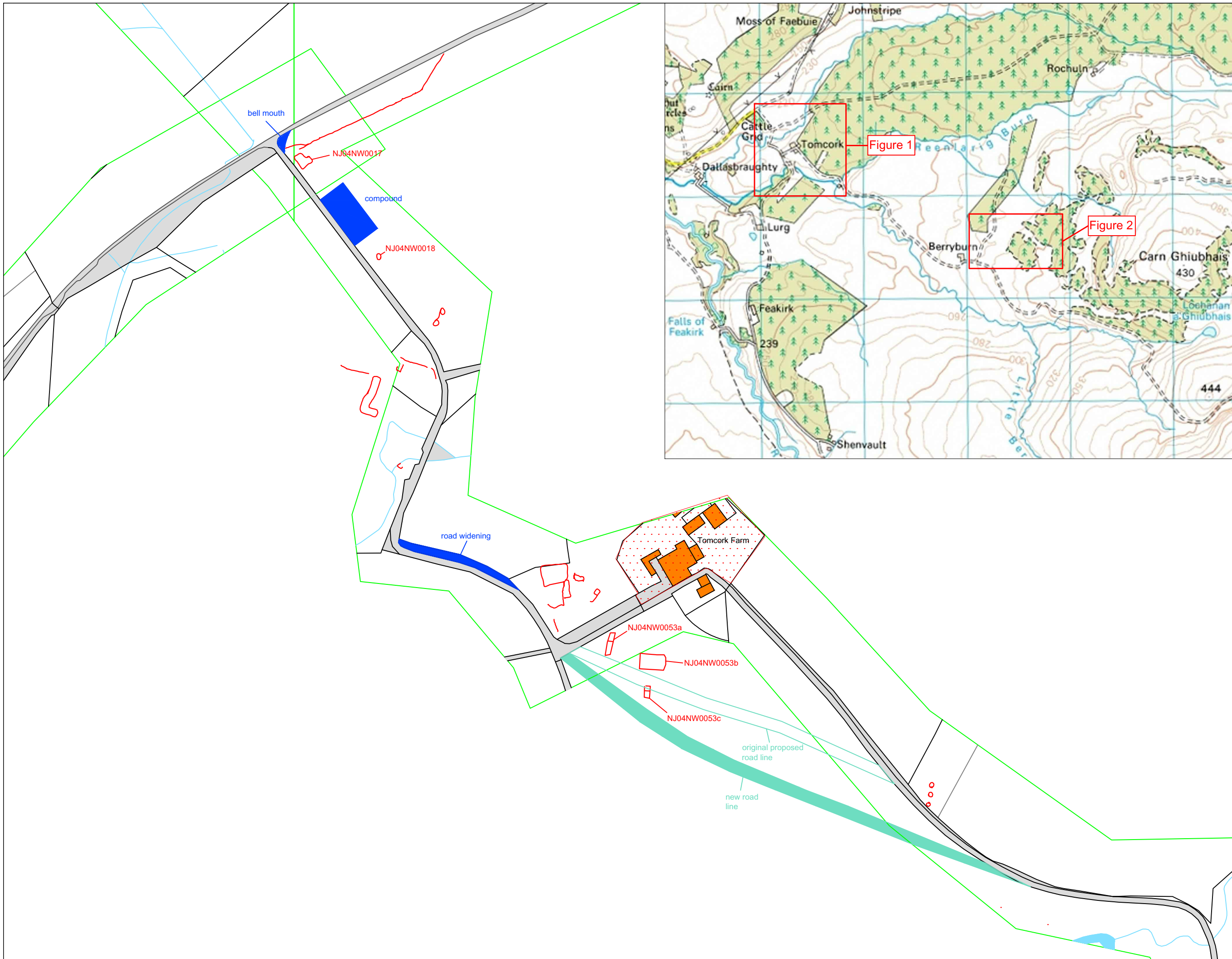
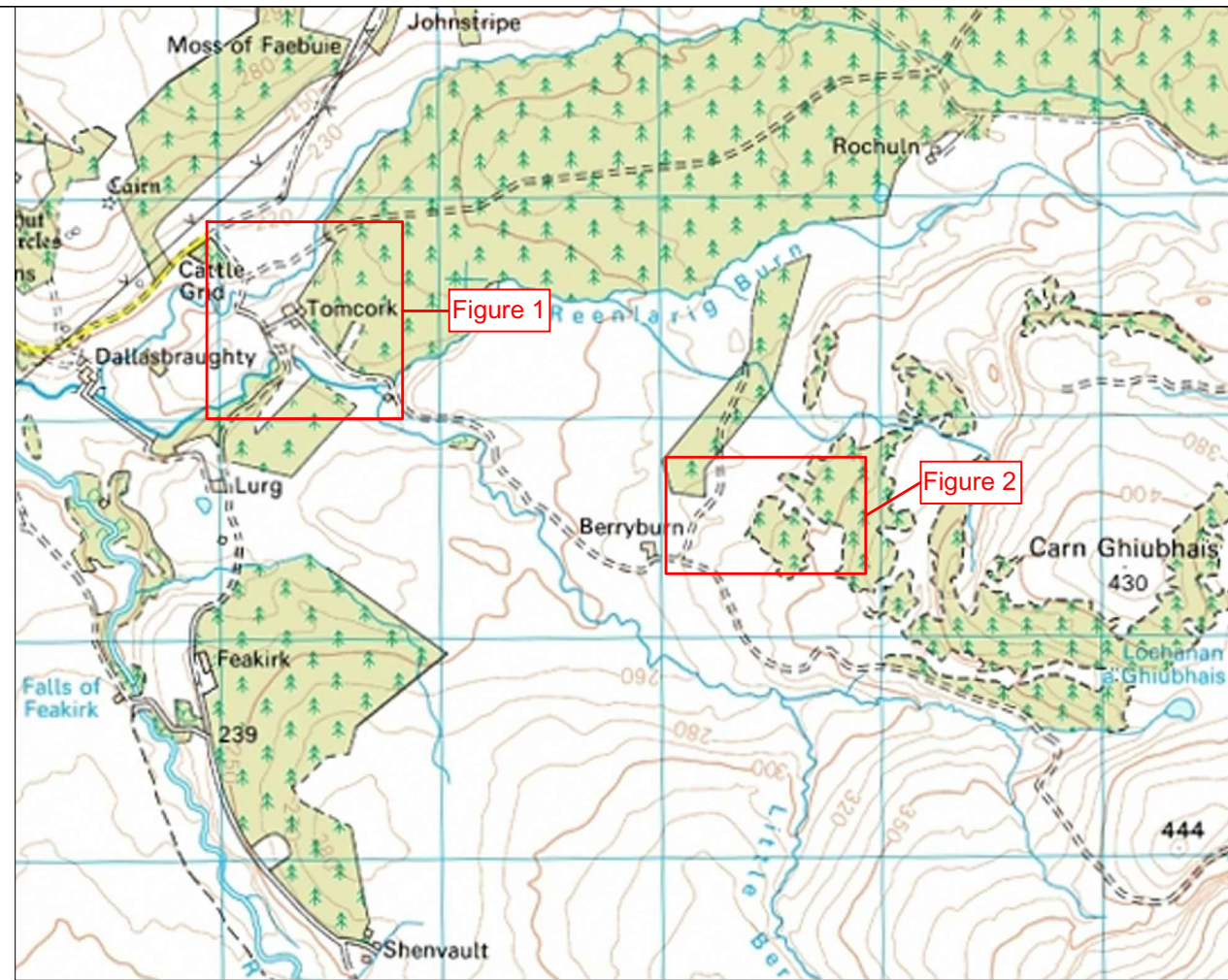
APPENDIX 3: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Moray
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Berry Burn Windfarm, near Logie
PROJECT CODE:	BEBU
PARISH:	Edinkillie
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Graeme Carruthers
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	CFA Archaeology Ltd
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Archaeological Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	NJ04NW 0017, NJ04NW 001753a-c, NJ04NE 0013a-f
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Cairnfield
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	
NGR (2 letters, 10 figures)	NJ 03985 46814 - NJ 07377 46102
START DATE (this season)	January 2013
END DATE (this season)	May 2013
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	N/A
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields)	A watching brief was carried out during ground works for access roads, turbine bases and a compound at Berry Burn Wind Farm. A previous desk-based study identified that numerous features would have been impacted by the work so a strategy to avoid these features by moving road lines and fencing off features was implemented.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	N/A
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Wind Prospect 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)	RCAHMS Moray Council Sites and Monuments Record



Key:

-  area of watching brief
-  proposed new road line
-  new road line
-  archaeological features



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Fig. No:	1	Revision:	A
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Title:
 Site location and western end of works showing Watching Brief Areas and change to roadline

Project:
 Berry Burn Wind Farm, near Logie, Moray





Client:
 Wind Prospect Ltd

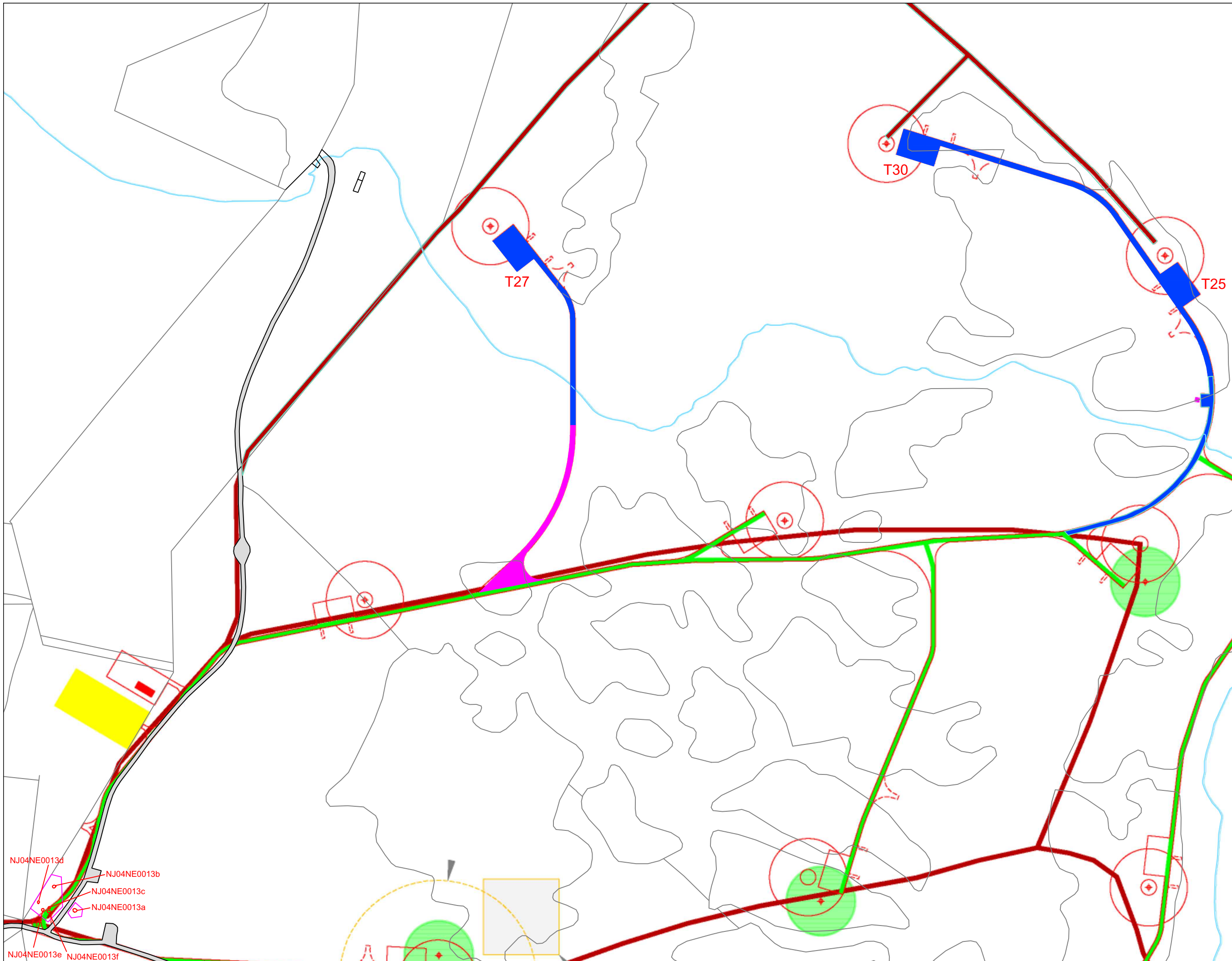
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 1:3000

Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:
GC	LW	2199



Key:

-  area of watching brief
-  floated road line
-  fenced off area
-  archaeological features
-  original planned roadline



NJ04NE0013d
 NJ04NE0013b
 NJ04NE0013c
 NJ04NE0013a
 NJ04NE0013e
 NJ04NE0013f

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Fig. No:	2	Revision:	A
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Title:
Eastern end of works showing area of fenced off cairns and Watching Brief Areas

Project:
Berry Burn Wind Farm, near Logie, Moray

Client:
Wind Prospect Ltd

Scale at A3:
1:4000

Drawn by:	Checked:	Report No:
GC	LW	2199







Fig. 3 Cairn Field NJ04NW0017 fenced off



Fig. 4 Construction of Bell Mouth next to Cairn Field NJ04NW0017

Fig. No: 3-4		Revision: A	Project: Berry Burn Wind Farm, near Logie, Moray			CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, Eh21 7PQ
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Fig. 5 Fenced off Cairn NJ04NW0018 to the south of new compound





Fig. 6 New line of road marked by posts now passing to the south and away from sites NJ04NW0053a, 53b and 53c

Fig. No: 6-6		Revision: A	Project: Berry Burn Wind Farm, near Logie, Moray			CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD The Old Engine House Eskmills Park, Musselburgh East Lothian, Eh21 7PQ T: 0131 273 4380 F: 0131 273 4381 e: info@cfa-archaeology.co.uk w: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk
Drawn by: GC	Checked: LW	Report No: 2199	Client: Wind Prospect Ltd			

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Fig. 7 Excavation of TP. 27 showing natural and depth of overlying peat

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