

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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*Advice on Archaeology & Planning*

*Environmental Impact Assessment*

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*Field Evaluation & Excavation*

*Historic Building Recording*

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*Geophysical Survey*

## **Windy Standard Wind Farm Extension, Carsphairn Forest, Dumfries & Galloway**

**Archaeological Survey: Stage 1 Works**

**Report No. 3161**

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This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd standard operating procedures.

**Windy Standard Wind Farm Extension,  
Carsphairn Forest,  
Dumfries & Galloway**

**Archaeological Survey: Stage 1 Works**

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## **CONTENTS**

1.	Introduction	3
2.	Working Methods	4
3.	Archaeological Results	4
4.	Conclusion	5
5.	References	6

## **Appendices**

1.	Gazetteer of sites	7
2.	Photographic Register	7

## **Figures**

Fig. 1 Site Location map

Fig. 2 Application boundary, areas of Phase 1a Part 1 Survey Work and additional survey sites

Fig. 3 Borrow pit H area, from SE

Fig. 4 Northern part of section 1 link road, from west

Fig. 5 Western part of section 1 link road, from west

Fig. 6 Northern part of Section 2 link road, from NE

Fig. 7 Southern part of section 2 link road, from SSW

Fig. 8 Borrow pit K area, from NW

Fig. 9 Site **a** field wall, from W

Fig. 10 Site **b** field wall, from W

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

## **1.1 General**

This report presents the results of an archaeological walkover survey undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) in May 2014 within the application boundary for an extension to Windy Standard Wind Farm, which lies on the edge of the Carsphairn Forest with parts of the development lying within commercial plantation (NGR: NS 597 029 centred, Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Natural Power Consultants Ltd.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 28 May 2013 was produced by CFA and was designed to meet the requirements of the Dumfries & Galloway Council Archaeology Service (DGCAS).

## **1.2 Background**

The Windy Standard Wind Farm Extension is proposed as an extension to the existing Windy Standard Wind Farm. The extension has received the consent of Scottish Ministers under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 (Planning document reference no. IEC 3/37).

An Environmental Statement (ES) has already been produced, and this report refers to site reference numbers contained in the gazetteer of the Archaeological Assessment chapter of the ES, and should be read in conjunction with that ES chapter, together with the WSI.

DGCAS required several elements of archaeological work to be undertaken, which are described in the WSI as Phases 1a and 1b, and are outlined for reference below:

Phase 1a: Archaeological work to be conducted prior to construction:

1. Walkover Survey
2. Fencing-off Sites
3. Tool box talk

Phase 1b Archaeological monitoring during construction:

4. Archaeological Watching Brief

The walkover survey has been separated into two parts, relating to the construction programme:

Stage 1: Walkover survey of the main existing access route, which requires upgrading, two new sections (1 and 2) of link road, a car park, three borrow pit areas (F, H and K), and the substation and control building footprint (highlighted on Fig. 2).

Stage 2: Walkover survey of the new turbine access tracks, turbine bases/crane hardstandings, the anemometry mast, construction compounds, and remaining borrow pits.

This report presents the results of the Stage 1 walkover survey. Stage 2 walkover

survey and other elements of work outlined in the WSI will be undertaken at a future date.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The aim of the Stage 1 walkover survey was to identify any additional sites in the Stage 1 area, that may require further mitigation such as fencing off or additional watching briefs.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

### **2.1 General**

CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct (IfA 2013), Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (IfA 2013b).

### **2.2 Walkover Survey**

Where accessible, the main access route and the link road sections 1 and 2, together with the extents of the car park and borrow pits H and K, and the footprints of the substation and control building, were surveyed (Fig. 2).

Any sites identified were surveyed using a DGPS with sub-metre accuracy, and were recorded according to standard CFA methods, principally by photography and by completing standard CFA monument recording forms.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

### **3.1 General**

Additional sites identified during the survey are referred to in the following text using letters and are shown in bold. A full list of the additional sites identified is contained in Appendix 1, and are shown for reference on Figure 2.

Some of the land within the areas to be surveyed was under dense commercial forestry at the time of survey and could not be accessed. These areas include:

- The car park near Knockengorroch
- The footprint of the substation and control building.

Other areas had been felled and were surveyed where access and safety permitted. These areas included:

- Borrow pit H (Fig. 3)
- The section 1 link road (Figs. 4 and 5)
- The section 2 link road (Figs. 6 and 7)

Figures 3-7 demonstrate that the ground in the afforested/felled areas has been heavily ploughed and disturbed by tree planting, which has likely removed any surviving archaeological sites and sub-surface remains.

The area for borrow pit K lies within upland heather moorland and was fully accessible during the survey (Fig. 8). The main access route is an existing forestry track to be upgraded, and visibility for survey was good along each side.

### **3.2 Results**

Only two additional sites were identified during the walkover survey (**a** and **b**, Figs. 2, 9 and 10). Both of these are drystone-walled former field boundaries, which lie partly within clearings in forested areas along the main access route. The former boundaries survive in poor condition; they are ruinous, but are upstanding to c.1m in height, and extend beyond the edge of the application site boundary.

Both are shown on early Ordnance Survey mapping (Kirkcudbrightshire, 1853), and their original extents appear to have been truncated by the existing forestry track which is to be upgraded as part of the wind farm extension works.

## **4. CONCLUSION**

An archaeological walkover survey was undertaken of elements of infrastructure associated with the Windy Standard Wind Farm Extension. The survey covered areas forming Stage 1 of the construction programme.

The areas of commercial forestry plantation and felling have been heavily disturbed and it is unlikely that any archaeological remains survive in these areas. No further work is recommended prior to construction.

Only two additional sites (**a** and **b**), both former 19<sup>th</sup> century field boundaries, were identified during the survey. Neither is considered to be of archaeological significance, and no further work is recommended in relation to them, with the survey data forming a sufficient record.

An online OASIS entry and Discovery & Excavation in Scotland entry will be prepared on completion of the project. The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with RCAHMS on completion of the project.

## 5. REFERENCES

CFA Archaeology (CFA) (2013) *Windy Standard Wind Farm Extension, Dumfries & Galloway, Written Scheme of Investigation*, CFA, unpublished WSI

Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) (2013a) *By-Laws: Code of Conduct*, Institute for Archaeologists, London

Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) (2013b) *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, Institute for Archaeologists, London

Natural Power (2001) 'Section 8: Archaeological Assessment' in *Planning Application for the proposed wind farm extension at Windy Standard, Dumfries & Galloway. Environmental Statement, Volume 1 of 2*, p. 181-185, Natural Power

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (1853) *Kirkcudbrightshire sheet 2*, six inches to one mile

Ordnance Survey 1st Edition map (1853) *Kirkcudbrightshire sheet 5*, six inches to one mile

## APPENDIX 1

### Gazetteer of additional sites

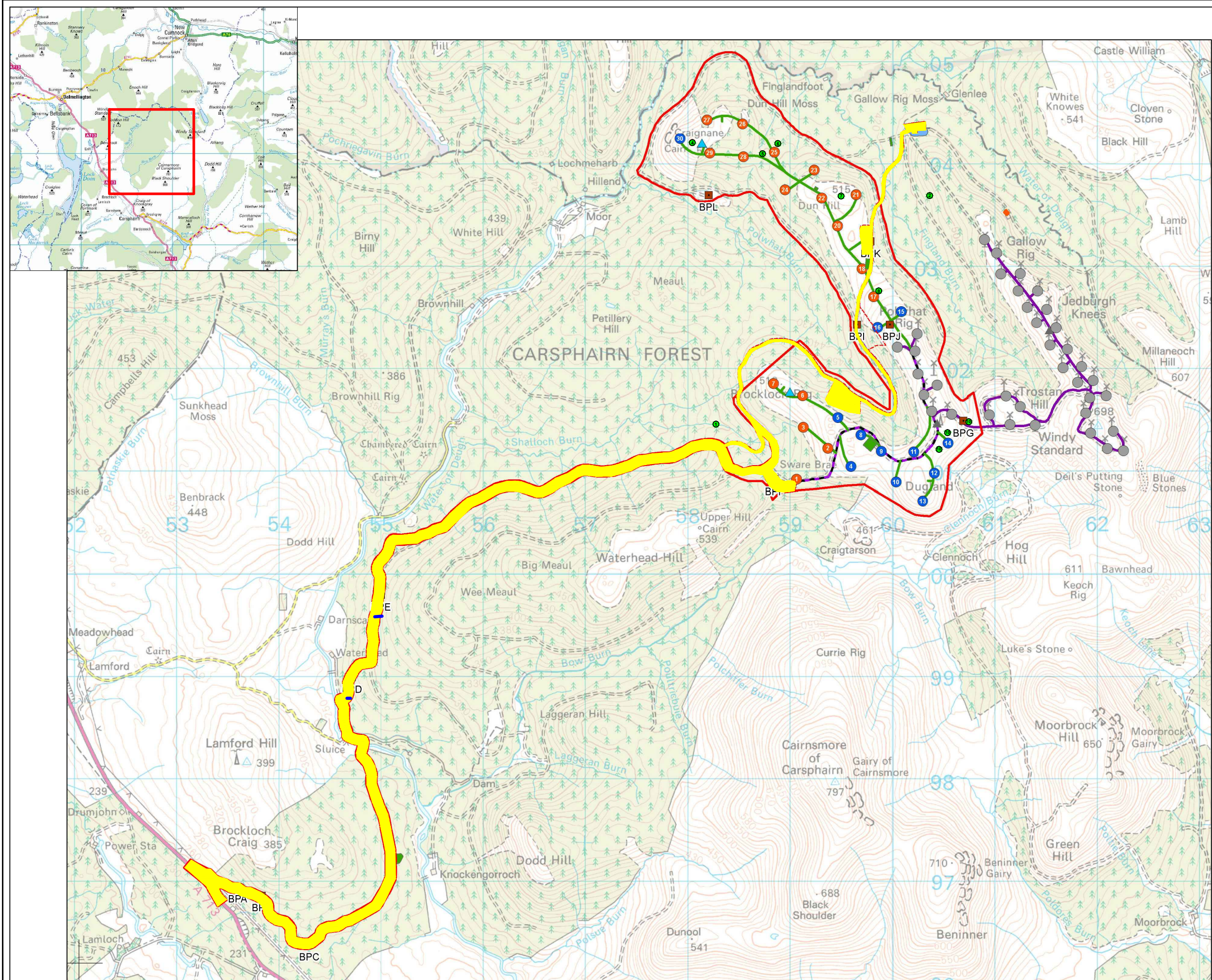
Site ID	Easting	Northing	Description
<b>a</b>	254980	599586	A section of tumbled field boundary wall, measuring 1m-1.5m wide by 0.4m-1m high and aligned E-W. The field boundary runs upslope and continues beyond the edge of the application boundary. It appears to have been truncated by the existing forestry access track and road ditch at its southern end. Approximately 45m upslope, a section of wall is visible, running N-S, and is visible for 10m before it runs into forestry.
<b>b</b>	254693	598787	A section of tumbled field boundary wall, measuring 0.8m-1m wide by 0.4m-1m high and aligned E-W. The field boundary runs upslope and continues beyond the edge of the application boundary.

## APPENDIX 2

### Digital Photo Register

Photo No.	Description	Taken from	Conditions
1	General shot of substation/control building area	S	O/C
2	General shot of substation/control building area	SW	O/C
3	General shot of substation/control building area	W	O/C
4	General shot of substation/control building area	N	O/C
5	Link road section 2, N end	N	O/C
6	Link road section 2, N end	NNE	O/C
7	Link road section 2, N end	NE	O/C
8	Link road section 2, S end	SSW	O/C
9	General shot, Borrow Pit K	W	O/C
10	General shot, Borrow Pit K	NW	O/C
11	Shot of existing track to be upgraded	S	O/C
12	General shot of area of existing track to north of Borrow Pit H	S	O/C
13	General shot of area of existing track to north of Borrow Pit H	S	O/C
14	General shot, Borrow Pit H	SE	O/C
15	General shot, Borrow Pit H	SE	O/C
16	General shot of area for Link road section 1, E end	NE	O/C
17	General shot of area for Link road section 1, E end	ENE	O/C
18	General shot of area for Link road section 1, E end	NE	O/C
19	Link road section 1, W end	W	Sun
20	Link road section 1, W end	W	Sun
21	Field wall site a	W	Sun
22	Field wall site a	W	Sun
23	Field wall site b	W	Sun





**Key:**

- Consented planning application boundary
- Planning application boundary for control building compound & access track
- Proposed turbine location (max. 100m tip height)
- Proposed turbine location (max. 120m tip height)
- Existing turbine location
- ▲ Proposed anemometry mast
- ▲ Existing anemometry mast
- Indicative borrow pit location
- Proposed construction compound/laydown area
- Proposed BRW control building
- Proposed SPEN Dunhill substation
- Existing substation
- Proposed area for operation centre and maintenance shed
- Proposed new site track
- Existing site track
- Existing site track to be upgraded
- Existing site track to be upgraded (transformer route)
- Archaeological Site
- Phase 1a, Part 1 Survey Areas
- ES Site Reference (Number relates to the gazetteer of sites in Section 8.4)



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Fig. No: **1** Report No: **3161**

Title:  
**Site Location**

Project:  
**Windy Standard II Wind Farm Extension, Dumfries & Galloway**

Client:  
**Natural Power**

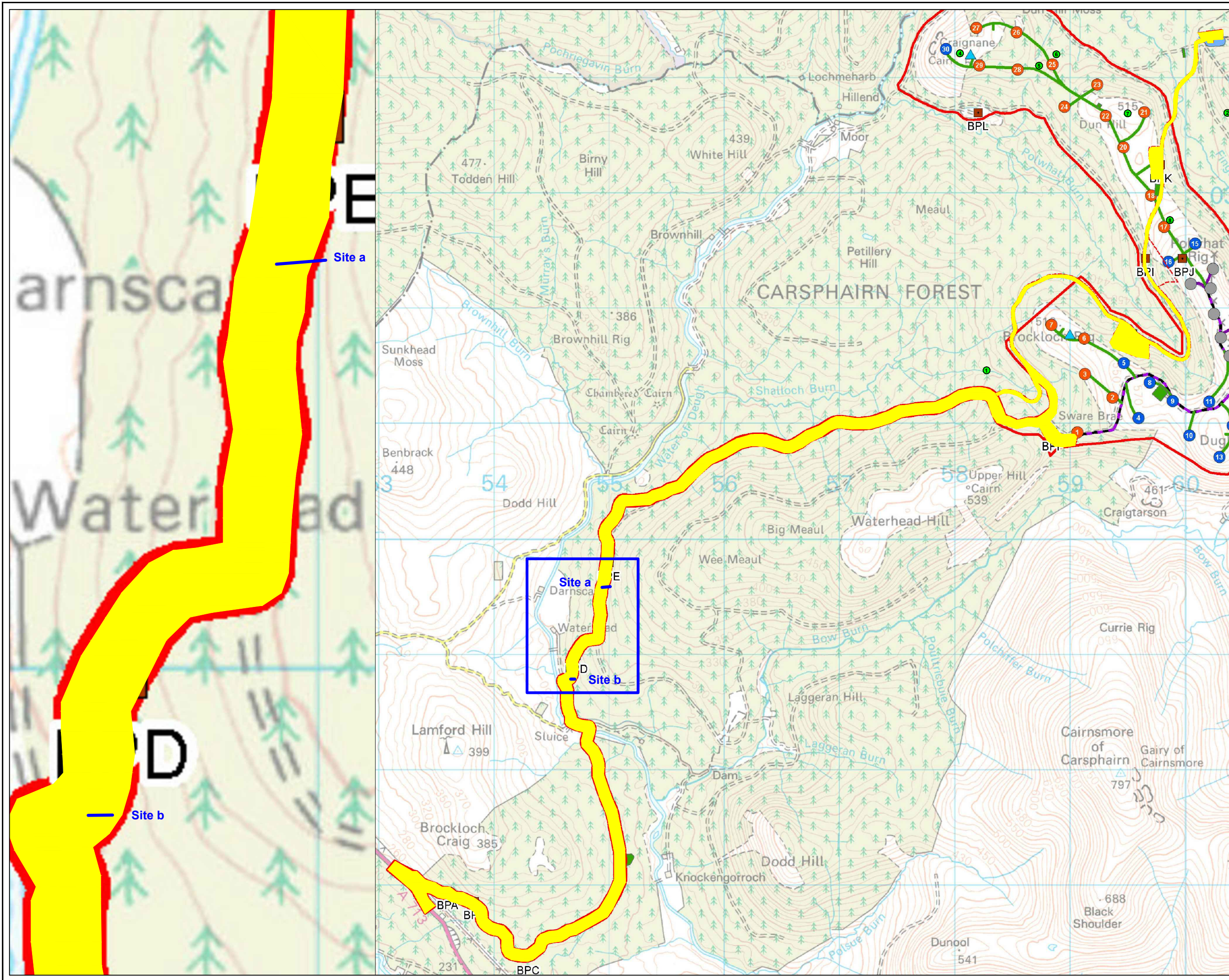
Scale at A3:  
**1:35,000**

Drawn by: **LW** Checked: **HG** Date: **23/05/14**

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- Key:**
- Consented planning application boundary
  - Planning application boundary for control building compound & access track
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  - Proposed SPEN Dunhill substation
  - Existing substation
  - Proposed area for operation centre and maintenance shed
  - Proposed new site track
  - Existing site track
  - Existing site track to be upgraded
  - Existing site track to be upgraded (transformer route)
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Fig. No: 2 Report No: 3161

Title:  
 Application boundary, areas of Phase 1a Part 1 Survey Work and additional survey sites

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Client:  
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 Inset: 1:5000

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Fig. 3 - Borrow pit H area, from SE



Fig. 4 - Northern part of section 1 link road,



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Fig. 5 - Western part of section 1 link road, from west



Fig. 6 - Northern part of Section 2 link road, from NE



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Fig. No: <b>5-6</b>	Report: <b>3161</b>	Drawn: <b>LW</b>	CKD: <b>HG</b>	Date: <b>23/05/14</b>
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Fig. 7 - Southern part of section 2 link road, from SSW



Fig. 8 - Borrow pit K area, from NW



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Fig. No: <b>7-8</b>	Report: <b>3161</b>	Drawn: <b>LW</b>	CKD: <b>HG</b>	Date: <b>23/05/14</b>
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Scale:				





Fig. 9 - Site a field wall, from W



Fig. 10 - Site b field wall, from W



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Fig. No: **9-10** Report: **3161** Drawn: **LW** CKD: **HG** Date: **23/05/14**  
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**Natural Power**

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