

# CFA Archaeology Ltd

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*Advice on Archaeology & Planning*

*Environmental Impact Assessment*

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*Geophysical Survey*

**Toddleburn Windfarm  
Stow  
Scottish Borders  
Archaeological Works  
Report No. 1572**

## **CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD**

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

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## **CONTENTS**

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

## **Appendices**

1.	Context Register	7
2.	Field Drawings Register	7
3.	Photographic Register	7
4.	Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry	8

## **Illustrations (bound at rear)**

Fig. 1	Site location map
Fig. 2	Section across Site 17

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

## **1.1 General**

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of a programme of archaeological works undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) from May 2008 to May 2009 on the site of Toddleburn Wind Farm, near Stow, Scottish Borders (NGR: NT 450 530 centred). The work was commissioned by Airtricity Developments (UK) Ltd (Airtricity).
- 1.1.2 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) dated 09 January 2008 for this programme of works was produced by CFA on behalf of Airtricity and agreed in advance by Scottish Borders Council archaeologist. The WSI was based on information contained in the Cultural Heritage chapter of an Environmental Statement (ES) that was produced to accompany the application for this development.
- 1.1.3 Numbers in the following text refer to gazetteer entries in the Cultural Heritage chapter of the ES. This report should be read in conjunction with that document.

## **1.2 Background**

- 1.2.1 The wind farm occupies the application area shown on Figure 1, which comprises gently undulating and steeply sloping partially improved farmland and conifer plantations. Altitude across the development area varies between 300m AOD at Hartside Farm and 379m AOD at the Resting House, north-east of Middle Hill. The land-use over the application area is for the most part pasture grassland used for sheep and cattle grazing. The land has been enclosed and is divided by fences and drystone walls into a number of large fields.
- 1.2.2 The development comprises 12 wind turbines and three anemometer masts together with associated infrastructure features. The access to the wind farm is from a junction with the A7, utilising and upgrading an existing farm track up Hoppringle Hill (Fig. 1).
- 1.2.3 A cultural heritage study for the ES carried out by CFA in 2004 identified 30 sites within the proposed wind farm area and should be reads in connunction with this report. Those relevant to this programme of works consisted of the Resting House Plantation stock enclosure (Site **3**), Clints track (Site **8**), the Girthgate medieval road (Site **17**) (NMRS No. NT45NE 24 and NT45SE 62), a possible clearance cairn (Site **18**), a turf mound (Site **19**), a possible modern quarry (Site **20**), Cortleferry scooped settlement (Site **21**) (NMRS No. NT45SW 8) and a possible castle at Hoppringle (Site **24**) (NMRS No. NT45SW 14). Cortleferry scooped settlement (Site **21**) is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM No. 1167).
- 1.2.4 The WSI dated 09 January 2008 also covered the archaeological dismantlement and recording of a section of the Long Dyke (Site **23**). This

work was undertaken in February 2008 and the results are contained in CFA Data Structure Report No. 1462 (McKinney 2008).

## **1.2 Objectives**

1.3.1 The primary objective of the programme of works was to mark off Sites **3, 18-19** and **21** prior to construction and to carry out watching briefs during ground works within the following locations:

- Where the wind farm access roads cross sites **8** and **17**.
- In the vicinity of sites **20, 21** and **24**.
- During ground breaking works for the two borrow pits within the wind farm area.

## **2. WORKING METHODS**

2.1 Sites **3, 18-19** and **21** were marked off using wooden pegs, incorporating a buffer zone of not less than 10m.

2.2 The removal of topsoil within the aforementioned areas was carried out using a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a smooth bladed ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Any further work required to fulfil the terms of the brief was carried out by hand.

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

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

2.5 Excavated features were backfilled upon completion of fieldwork.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS**

3.1 Numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts, a full list of which is contained in Appendix 1.

3.2 The fencing off of sites **3, 18-19** and **21** meant that these features were unaffected by the programme of works.

3.3 The watching brief carried out within the vicinity of sites **20, 21** and **24**, and at the location of the borrow-pits (Fig. 1), did not lead to the identification of any new features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance. Site **20** proved to be a modern quarry and was removed during the excavation of the easternmost borrow-pit

- 3.4 The line of a trackway leading to Clints (Site **8**) was cut by the main wind farm access road beside turbine 2 and by a spur road leading to turbine 3 (Fig. 1), but due to the intermittent survival of this feature, there were no recordable remains identified within these locations.
- 3.5 A section across the Girthgate (Site **17**) was excavated and recorded where the line of the medieval road was cut by the wind farm access road leading to turbine 10 (Fig. 1). The section (Fig. 2) showed a hollow-way (**002**) measuring 7m wide and 0.4m deep, with a shallow profile and flattish base. The profile was steeper on the downhill side; most likely the result of gradual slumping through continued use. No actual cut could be discerned; the trackway appears to have been created by erosion through repeated use of the same route. The hollow was filled with firm dark brown soil (**003**) which contained frequent small pebbles in its centre. It underlay and merged with the topsoil (**001**) which was up to 0.1m thick. No recordable remains were identified where it was crossed by the main wind farm access track near turbine 5.

#### **4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 A programme of archaeological works was carried out at Toddleburn Wind Farm. The programme of works involved marking off archaeological sites, the excavation of a section across a trackway and a series of watching briefs carried out within the vicinity of archaeological sites. The archaeological sites had previously been identified during a cultural heritage study carried out by CFA as part of the Environmental Statement (ES) for the wind farm development.
- 4.2 The only sites identified in the ES affected by the wind farm development were a length of trackway recorded on the First Edition Ordnance Survey map leading to Clints (Site **8**), a length of trackway thought to be part of a medieval road known as the Girthgate (Site **17**), a section of a length of wall known as the Long Dyke (Site **23**) and a modern quarry scoop (Site **20**), which was removed during the excavation of the easternmost borrow pit. A section excavated across the Girthgate has demonstrated that the track is a hollow-way most likely formed by repeated use rather than designed construction. No datable material was retrieved from the excavations of this feature. The Clints track did not reveal any recordable remains at the points where it was crossed by the wind farm track. The excavation of the Long Dyke is dealt with in a separate report (McKinney 2008).
- 4.3 The series of watching briefs undertaken did not identify any additional features, deposits or artefacts of archaeological significance.
- 4.4 CFA does not recommend any further archaeological work in relation to the Toddleburn Wind Farm. However the final decision on any further mitigation measures lies with the Scottish Borders Council Archaeology Service.
- 4.5 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 Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record.

- 4.6 A summary statement to be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 4) will be sufficient to disseminate the results of this programme of works.

## **5. REFERENCES**

McKinney, L 2008 *Toddleburn Wind Farm, Scottish Borders: Archaeological Excavation of Long Dyke*: CFA Data Structure Report No. 1462.

## APPENDIX 1: Context Register (Site 17)

No.	Description
000	Natural subsoil
001	Topsoil and grass
002	Hollow-way
003	Soil contained within hollow-way

## APPENDIX 2: Photographic Register

### *Colour Slide Film*

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1	Registration		
2-3	L/H side of section detail	NE	Low sun
4-5	R/H side of section detail	NE	Low sun
6-7	Section of Site 17	NE	Low sun
8-9	Section with continuation of Site 17 visible in background	NE	Low sun
10-11	Site 17 to the NE of windfarm road	SW	Low sun

### *Digital Images*

Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1-6	Wind farm access road adjacent to Site 21	Various	Overcast
7-8	Line of Clints Track (Site 8)	NW	Overcast
9-10	Line of Girthgate (Site 17) where it was cut by main wind farm access road	S	Overcast
11-12	Line of Girthgate (Site 17) where it was cut by spur road to turbine 10	N	Overcast
13-14	Line of Girthgate (Site 17) where it was cut by spur road to turbine 10	S	Overcast
15	Wind farm road adjacent to Site 21	S	Low sun
16	Wind farm road adjacent to Site 21	N	Low sun
17-19	Section of Site 17	NE	Low sun
20-22	Elevated view of section with continuation of Site 17 visible in background	E	Low sun
23-24	Site 17 to the NE of wind farm road	SW	Low sun

## APPENDIX 3: Field Drawings Register

Drawing No.	Description	Plan/Section	Scale
1	Section of Site 17	S	1:20

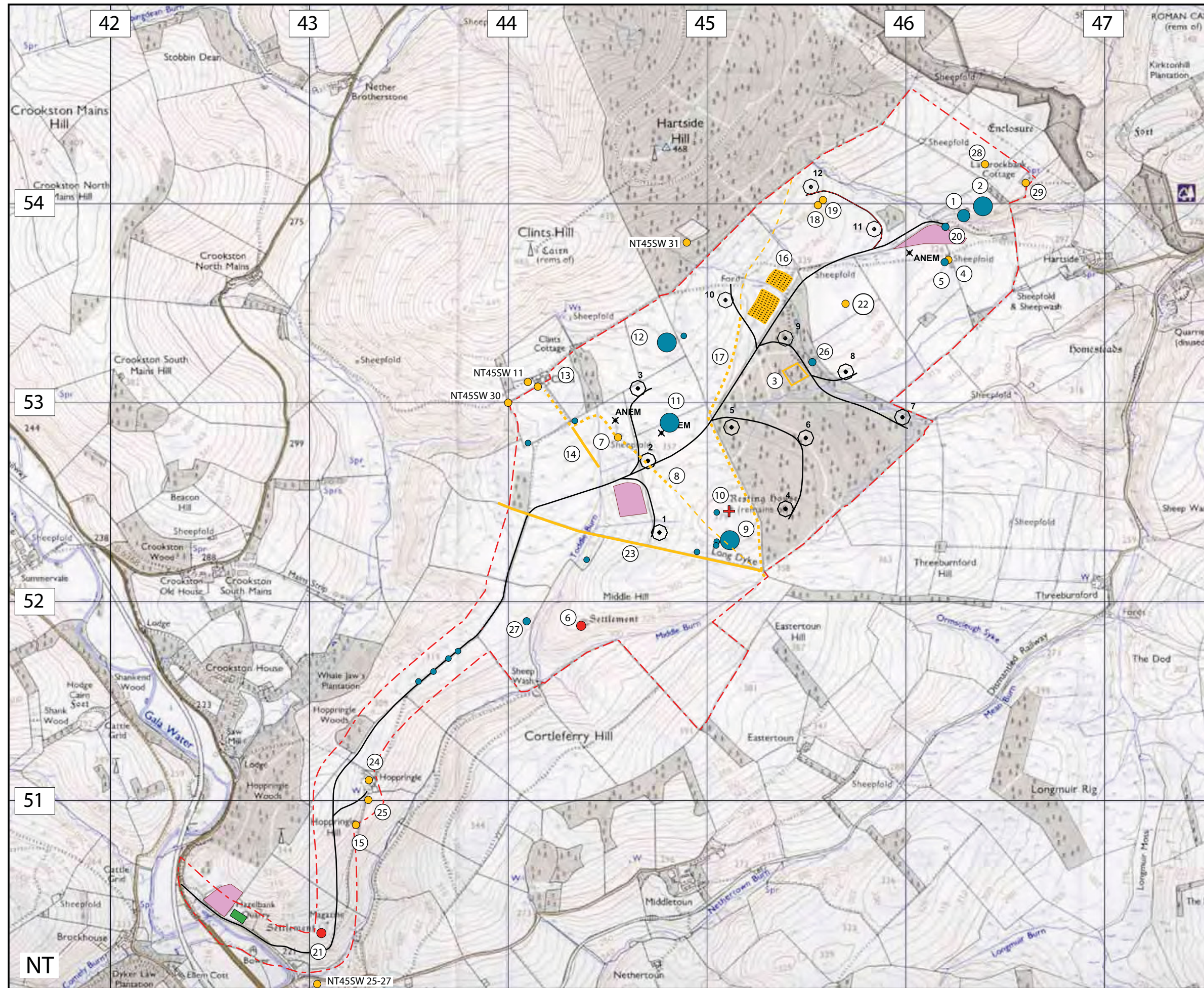


## APPENDIX 4: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland Entry

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Scottish Borders
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Toddleburn Windfarm, near Stow, Scottish Borders
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	TODD2
<b>PARISH:</b>	Stow/Channelkirk
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Stuart Mitchell and Magnus Kirby
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	CFA Archaeology Ltd
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Excavation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	N/A
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR</b>	NT 450 530 (centred)
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	May 2008
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	May 2009
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	N/A
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (May include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of archaeological works was carried out at Toddleburn Wind Farm. The programme of works involved marking off archaeological sites, excavating sections through a wall and a trackway, and a series of watching briefs carried out within the vicinity of archaeological sites. The archaeological sites had previously been identified during a cultural heritage study carried out by CFA as part of the Environmental Statement (ES) for the wind farm development.</p> <p>The only sites identified in the ES affected by the wind farm development were a length of trackway thought to be part of a medieval road known as the Girthgate, a trackway leading to Clints, a section of a wall known as the Long Dyke and a modern quarry scoop, which was removed during the excavation of a borrow pit.</p> <p>A section excavated across the Girthgate has demonstrated that the track is a hollow-way most likely formed by repeated use rather than designed construction. No datable material was retrieved from the excavations of this feature.</p> <p>Two sections of the Long Dyke, present on either side of a gateway, were excavated and recorded. The eastern section of the wall was well preserved and found to be constructed of two outer skins with a rubble core and rough stone capping. Beneath this section of wall a small circular pit was found and excavated; this pit may be a posthole for a former fence or gate post. The western section of the wall was very poorly preserved, being little more than a stone spread on the surface. However, upon excavation it was possible to discern a 0.8m wide area of stone that represented</p>

	<p>the remnants of the wall structure. No datable material was retrieved from the excavations of the above features.</p> <p>No further features of archaeological interest were recorded during the watching brief.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	N/A
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Airtricity Holdings Ltd
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, EH21 7PQ
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	<p>National Monuments Record of Scotland</p> <p>Scottish Borders Council Sites and Monuments Record</p>





- Key:
- Study area boundary
  - Access track
  - Turbine position
  - Anemometer mast
  - Borrow pit
  - Construction compound
  - Scheduled Ancient Monument
  - Listed building
  - Other archaeological site
  - Enclosure
  - Rig and Furrow
  - Trackway (visible)
  - Trackway (not visible)
  - Field bank / wall
  - Quarry pit (variable sizes)
  - Site no



Fig. No: 1 Revision:

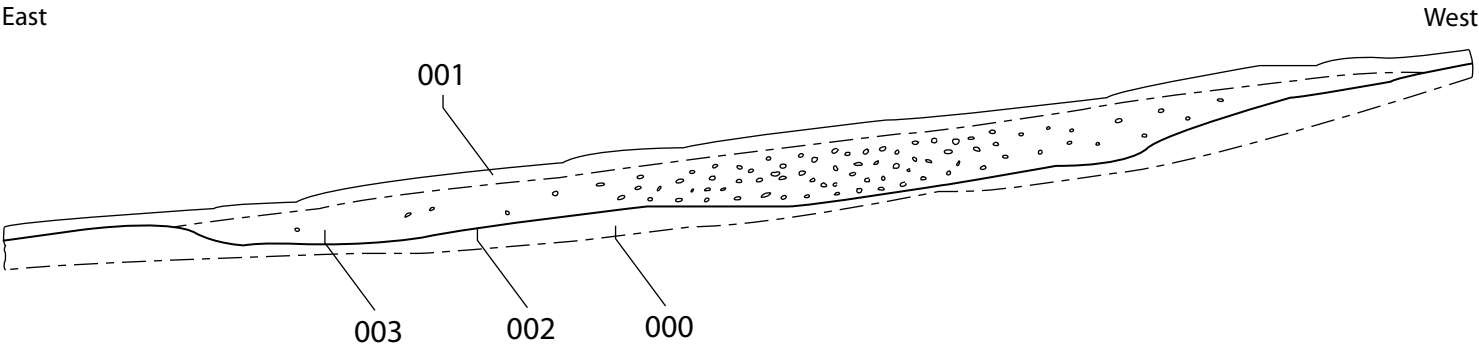
Title: Site Location Map

Project: Toddleburn Wind Farm

Scale: 1:20,000 @ A3

Client: Airtricity





Key:



Scale: 50 cm 0 1 m

Fig. No: 2  
Revision:  
Client: Airtricity  
Title: North-facing section across site 17  
Project: Toddleburn Wind Farm



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