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Geophysical Survey

Tranent Reinforcement Gas Pipe, Tranent, East Lothian

Archaeological Watching Brief

Report No. 1665

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

Tranent Reinforcement Gas Pipe, Tranent, East Lothian

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CONTENTS

| | | |
|----|------------------------|---|
| 1. | Introduction | 3 |
| 2. | Working Methods | 4 |
| 3. | Archaeological Results | 4 |
| 4. | Conclusions | 5 |
| 5. | References | 5 |

Appendices

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| 1. | Context Register | 6 |
| 2. | Drawings Register | 6 |
| 3. | Photographic Register | 7 |
| 4. | Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry | 8 |

Illustrations (bound at rear)

| | |
|--------|--|
| Fig. 1 | Location map |
| Fig. 2 | General view of site from SE |
| Fig. 3 | W facing section of furrow [006] |
| Fig. 4 | General shot of Field 2 following soil stripping from SE |
| Fig. 5 | WSW facing section of linear feature [014], Slot 1 |

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between August and September 2009 during topsoil stripping operations for a gas pipeline near Tranent, East Lothian (NT 342240 671310 to NT 343410 670110) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Capita Symonds on behalf of Scotia Gas Networks.
- 1.1.2 A Project Design (PD) for the watching brief was produced by CFA on behalf of Capita Symonds. The PD was based upon information supplied by Capita Symonds, and was produced following consultation with the East Lothian Council Archaeology Officer.

1.2 Background

- 1.2.1 A gas pipeline is being installed within farmland to the west of the B6355 between Tranent and Pencaitland. The pipeline ran for a distance of 2km across areas of improved farmland and had a working width of 20m.
- 1.2.2 An archaeological condition requested by the East Lothian Council Archaeology Officer required a watching brief to be undertaken on all topsoiling operations associated with the construction of the pipeline. In addition to the pipeline, the watching brief area included all associated structures, roads, pipe dumps and temporary compounds required.
- 1.2.3 A desk-based Environmental Assessment (EA) for the pipeline was carried out by CFA in May 2009 (Mudie 2009). Numbers in the following text prefixed with CFA refer to sites identified in the EA.
- 1.2.4 The EA identified six potential sites along the route of the pipeline. These included a trackway running from a small farmstead at Winton Lee (CFA Site 3), the route of the former Macmerry Mineral Railway line (CFA Site 4), one soilmark site (CFA Site 9) and three cropmark sites (CFA Sites 10, 11 and 13)
- 1.2.5 No previous invasive archaeological fieldwork is known to have taken place within the development area prior to this programme of archaeological works.

1.3 Objectives

- 1.3.1 The aims of the project were to establish the presence or absence of archaeological deposits within the watching brief area and propose mitigation measures where necessary.

2. WORKING METHODS

- 2.1 CFA Archaeology Ltd follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs.
- 2.2 The removal of soil deposits was carried out using 360° tracked excavators equipped with smooth-bladed ditching buckets under constant archaeological supervision. All further works required to fulfil the terms of the brief were carried out by hand.
- 2.3 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.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 The area monitored was 2km in length and had a working width of 20m (Fig. 1).
- 3.1.2 Numbers in bold and parentheses refer to contexts, a list of which is contained in Appendix 1.
- 3.1.3 The topsoil (**001**) along the route of the pipeline predominantly consisted of 0.3m – 0.5m depth of mid grey-brown sandy silt overlying mid orange and mottled grey sandy clay subsoil (**002**). An area of made ground (**003**) was identified within the temporary compound at the south-eastern end of the pipeline, and areas of slopewash (**012** and **018**) were identified within Field 3 and Field 6 respectively.
- 3.1.4 The sites identified by the Environmental Assessment were not identified. The railway line (CFA Site 4) and the trackway (CFA Site 3) are thought to have been removed by plough truncation, and the cropmarks (CFA Sites 10, 11 and 13) and soilmark (CFA Site 9) are thought to represent natural changes in the geology of the area.

3.2 Archaeological Features

- 3.2.1 Vestigial traces of rig-and-furrow cultivation, aligned east to west, were identified within the temporary compound, along the access track and along the route of the pipeline within Field 1 and Field 2. Two other linear features (**014** and **016**) are thought to be truncated drainage ditches. Details of the features identified are given below.

Rig and Furrow Cultivation

- 3.2.2 Slots excavated across selected furrows (**004, 006, 008 and 010**) showed that they had depths varying between 0.1m and 0.2m, and widths varying between 1.25m and 2.6m (Fig. 3). The furrows were located between 8m and 9m apart.

Linear 014

- 3.2.3 Linear feature **014** was aligned WSW to ENE. It measured c. 0.6m – 0.7m in width by 0.08m in depth and had sloping sides and a flat base (Fig. 5). The fill of this feature consisted of mid grey-brown sandy silt (**015**).

Linear 016

- 3.2.4 Linear feature **016** was aligned east to west. It measured c. 1.2m in width by 0.2m in depth and had sloping sides and a flat base. The fill of this feature consisted of mid grey-brown sandy silt (**017**).

4. CONCLUSIONS

- 4.1 An archaeological watching brief carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd during soil stripping for a gas pipeline identified vestigial traces of rig-and-furrow cultivation and two linear features thought to be drainage ditches. All of the identified features are thought to be post-medieval in date.
- 4.2 CFA recommends that no further work is required in relation to the features identified.
- 4.3 Three cropmarks and one soilmark identified during a previous Environmental Assessment (EA) carried out for the pipeline proved to be geological in nature. A trackway and railway line identified by the same EA were not identified during the watching brief, and appear to have been ploughed out.
- 4.4 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 East Lothian Council Sites and Monuments Record.
- 4.5 A summary statement of the results of this watching brief will be submitted for publication in *Discovery and Excavation in Scotland* (Appendix 4).

5. REFERENCES

Mudie, G 2009 *Tranent Reinforcement Pipeline, Tranent, East Lothian* CFA Data Report No. 1668.

APPENDIX 1: Context Register

| Context no. | Site | Description |
|-------------|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 001 | All | Topsoil |
| 002 | All | Subsoil |
| 003 | Temp. Compound | Made Ground |
| 004 | Temp. Compound | Cut of furrow |
| 005 | Temp. Compound | Fill of 004 |
| 006 | Access Track | Cut of furrow |
| 007 | Access Track | Fill of furrow 006 |
| 008 | Field 1 | Cut of furrow |
| 009 | Field 1 | Fill of furrow 008 |
| 010 | Field 2 | Cut of furrow |
| 011 | Field 2 | Fill of furrow 010 |
| 012 | Field 3 | Slopewash underlying plough soil |
| 013 | Field 1 | Subsoil underlying OH cables |
| 014 | Field 6 | Cut of linear feature |
| 015 | Field 6 | Fill of linear feature 014 |
| 016 | Field 6 | Cut of linear feature |
| 017 | Field 6 | Fill of linear feature 016 |
| 018 | Field 6 | Slopewash underlying plough soil |

APPENDIX 2: Drawings Register

| Location | Drawing No | Scale | Section/Plan | Contexts |
|----------|------------|-------|--------------|---|
| Day book | 1 | 1:10 | Section | Furrow 004 , east-facing section |
| Day book | 2 | 1:10 | Section | Furrow 006 , west-facing section |
| Day book | 3 | 1:10 | Section | Furrow 008 , west-facing section |
| Day book | 4 | 1:10 | Section | Furrow 010 , west-facing section |
| Day book | 5 | 1:10 | Section | Linear 014 , Slot 1 WSW-facing section |
| Day book | 6 | 1:10 | Section | Linear 014 , Slot 2 WSW-facing section |
| Day book | 7 | 1:10 | Section | Linear 016 , east-facing section |

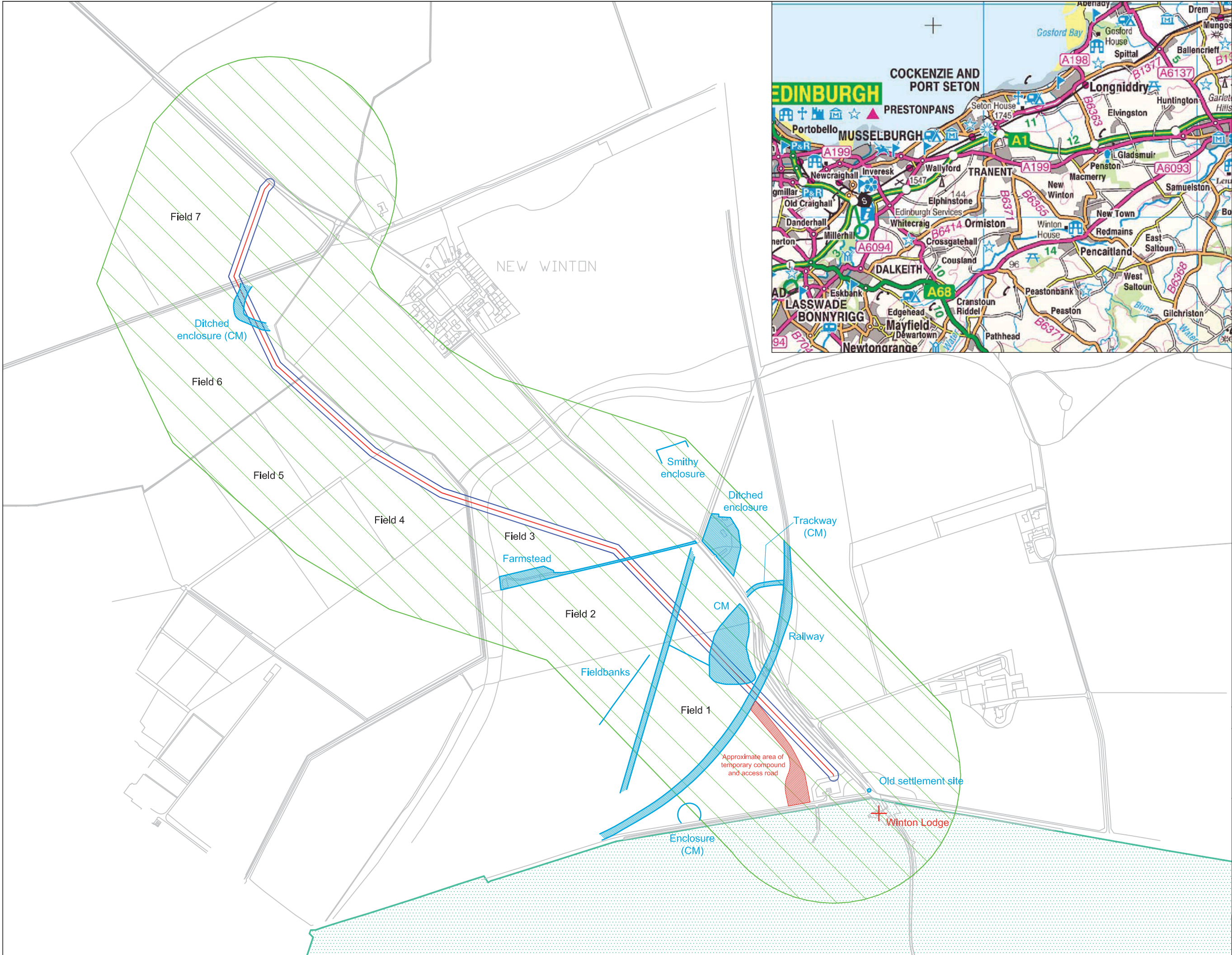
APPENDIX 3: Photographic Register

Digital

| Shot | Description | From | Conditions |
|-------|--|-----------|------------|
| 1-3 | General pre-ex shots of temporary compound area | SE | Bright |
| 4-5 | General working shots during excavation of temporary compound | E and ESE | Cloudy |
| 6 | Furrow 004 , east-facing section | East | Sun |
| 7 | General shot of furrows | East | Sun |
| 8-10 | General shots of temporary compound area | E/ESE/SSE | Bright |
| 11 | Furrow 006 , west-facing section | West | Bright |
| 12 | General shot of furrow 006 | West | Bright |
| 13-15 | General shot of access road strip | NNW/SSE | Bright |
| 16-18 | Furrow 008 , west-facing section | West | Bright |
| 19-21 | General shot of area | E/NE | Bright |
| 22 | General shot of Field 1 following soil stripping | SE | Bright |
| 23 | Furrow 010 , west-facing section | West | Overcast |
| 24 | Pre-ex shots of southern end of wayleave | NW | Overcast |
| 25 | General shot of Field 2 following soil stripping | SE | Overcast |
| 26 | General shot of soil dumping area in Field 1 | NW | Overcast |
| 27 | Field 1, NE facing section under overhead cables | NE | Rain |
| 28 | Field 1, general shot of soil stripping underneath overhead cables | SE | Rain |
| 29 | Field 1, general shot of topsoil strip | NW | Overcast |
| 30 | General shot of Field 3 following topsoil striping | SE | Overcast |
| 31 | General pre-ex shot of Field 4 | NW | Overcast |
| 32 | General shot of Field 5 prior to soil stripping | SE | Overcast |
| 33 | Linear 014 , Slot 1, WSW-facing section | WSW | Cloudy |
| 34 | Linear 014 , general shot | WSW | Cloudy |
| 35 | Linear 014 , Slot 2, WSW-facing section | WSW | Cloudy |
| 36 | Field 6, general shot of compound area | NE | Bright |
| 37-42 | General shots of soil stripping within field 6 | Various | Bright/wet |
| 43-44 | General shot of linear feature 016 | East | Wet |
| 45-46 | Linear 016, east facing section of slot | East | Wet |
| 47-48 | General shot of slopewash 018 | East | Wet |

APPENDIX 4: Discovery and Excavation in Scotland Entry

| | |
|---|---|
| LOCAL AUTHORITY: | East Lothian Council |
| PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME: | Tranent Reinforcement Gas Pipe, Tranent, East Lothian |
| PROJECT CODE: | SGNE |
| PARISH: | Pencaitland |
| NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR: | Magnus Kirby |
| NAME OF ORGANISATION: | CFA Archaeology Ltd |
| TYPE(S) OF PROJECT: | Watching Brief |
| NMRS NO(S): | N/A |
| SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S): | N/A |
| SIGNIFICANT FINDS: | None |
| NGR (2 letters, 6 figures) | NT 342 240 671310 to NT 343410 670110 |
| START DATE (this season) | August 2009 |
| END DATE (this season) | September 2009 |
| PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.) | N/A |
| MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (May include information from other fields) | An archaeological watching brief carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd during soil stripping for a gas pipeline identified vestigial traces of rig-and-furrow cultivation and two linear features thought to be drainage ditches. All of the identified features are thought to be post-medieval in date |
| PROPOSED FUTURE WORK: | None |
| CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS: | N/A |
| SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY: | Capita Symonds on behalf of Scotia Gas Networks |
| ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR: | The Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh, East Lothian, EH21 7PQ |
| EMAIL ADDRESS: | cfa@cfa-archaeology.co.uk |
| ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited) | National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS) East Lothian Council Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) |



- Key:
- Listed Building
 - Cultural Heritage Features
 - (8) Historic Garden & Designed Landscape
 - Proposed Pipeline
 - 20m Wayleave
 - 500m Study Corridor

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|----------|---|-----------|---|
| Fig. No: | 1 | Revision: | A |
|----------|---|-----------|---|

Title:
Site Location Map

Project:
Scottish Gas Network:
Tranent

Client:
Capita Symonds Ltd

Scale:
1:7000 @ A3

Drawn by: LW
Report No: 1665



Fig. 2 - General view of site from SE




Fig. 3 - W facing section of furrow [006]



Fig. 4 - General shot of Field 2 following soil stripping



Fig. 5 - WSW facing section of linear feature [014], Slot 1

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------------------------------|-----|-----------|---|---------|---|--|--|----|----------|------------|------|
| Key: | Fig. No: | 2-5 | Revision: | A | Client: | Capita Symonds on behalf of Scotia Gas Networks | |  <div>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</div> | | | | |
| | Title: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Project: | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scale: | Tranent Reinforcement Gas Pipe | | | | | | | Drawn by: | LW | Page No: | Report No: | 1665 |