

Scotia Archaeology

**REPORT
TO
GREEN HIGHLAND RENEWABLES LTD**

**GLEN SHERVIE
HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME**

**Desk study
and
walk-over survey
September 2011**

*5 Bank Street
ABERFELDY
Perthshire
PH15 2BB
Tel & Fax No: 01887-820880
email: scotarc@o2.co.uk*

INTRODUCTION

This report describes the results of a desk study of archaeological sites and monuments and a walk-over survey along the route of a proposed new hydro-electric scheme at Glen Shervie in Glen Almond, Perthshire. The work was carried out by Scotia Archaeology at the request of Jayson Drummond of Green Highland Renewables Ltd.

THE SITE

The proposed hydro scheme will take water from the Glenshervie Burn which runs from the south side of Meall nan Eanchainn, joining the River Almond 1km south-east of the farmstead of Auchnafree and 7km west of Newton Bridge on the A822 Aberfeldy to Crieff road. On the evidence of a map supplied by Green Highland Renewables Ltd, the intake point will be at or near an existing weir, at approximately NN 81900 34620. From there the pipeline will run southwards, along the west side of Glen Shervie, as far as a turbine house at approximately NN 82070 33930, 300m north of Auchnafree. Its overall length will be 700m.

THE DESK STUDY

A desk study of readily available source material undertaken prior to the commencement of field work revealed no known sites of archaeological or historical significance along or close to the route of the proposed pipeline.

THE WALK-OVER SURVEY

The walk-over survey was undertaken by John Lewis on 22 September 2011. From the intake point the pipe route runs along the fairly steep west side of the glen which is covered with short grass, heather and bracken. The valley widens as it approaches the site of the turbine house and is littered with spreads of boulders, most of which are the results of glacial activity or erosion of the hillside although some of the stones appear to be field clearance cairns.

One stony feature encountered in this area does not fit easily into either of the categories listed above. At NN 82190 34094, on level ground between the burn and the estate road that runs up the glen, is a roughly oval mound measuring roughly 6m north/south by 3m wide and 0.5m high. This feature may be natural in origin although it does differ in appearance from the other stone dumps in the vicinity and it might be the remains of a burial cairn. This putative cairn is located some 30m from the estate road and within a short distance of the pipe route as indicated on Green Highland's map.

CONCLUSIONS

The only feature of possible archaeological significance noted during the walk-over survey was the possible cairn found a short distance north of the proposed site of the turbine house. The precise route of the pipeline is not known but it is likely to pass relatively close to this feature and, as a consequence, it is recommended that secure fencing is used to protect it during excavations as well as the movement of machinery and the storage of materials.

PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1-2 Possible cairn at NN 82190 34094, viewed from the west
- 3 Possible cairn at NN 82190 34094, viewed from the south
- 4 Possible cairn at NN 82190 34094, viewed from the east