

TAFLEN BENDERFYNIAD AELOD CABINET CABINET MEMBER'S DECISION NOTICE

PWNC/SUBJECT: Cynllun Cysylltu Gogledd Cymru Grid Cenedlaethol/
National Grid North Wales Connections Project

AELOD CABINET/CABINET MEMBER Cyngorydd/ Councillor Dafydd
Meurig

PENDERFYNIAD/DECISION

Cyflwyno ymateb swyddogol y Cyngor i ymgynghoriad anstatudol y Grid Cenedlaethol ar yr opsiwn mae'n ffafrio. Mae copi o lythyr yr Aelod Cabinet sy'n cofnodi'r materion sydd angen rhoi sylw iddynt wedi cael ei gynnwys fel atodiad.

To present the Council's formal response to National Grid's non-statutory consultation about its preferred option. A copy of the Cabinet Member's letter, which records the matters that need to be considered is attached.

RHESYMAU DROS Y PENDERFYNIAD/REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Ymateb i'r opsiwn sy'n cael ei ffafrio gan y Grid Cenedlaethol a'i syniadau am lwybrau posib i beilonau a gwifrau rhwng Y Fenai a Pentir a lleoliadau posib ar gyfer compowndiau selio pen, er mwyn sicrhau y rhoddir ystyriaeth i flaenoriaethau a materion lleol.

Rhodddwyd sylw i farn swyddogion arbenigol yn y maes cynllunio defnydd tir, bioamrywiaeth, cefn gwlad a datblygu'r economi wrth lunio'r ymateb.

Respond to National Grid's preferred option and its ideas about possible routes for pylons and wires between Menai Straits and Pentir and possible sites for sealing end compounds, in order to ensure consideration is given to local priorities and issues.

Attention was given to the opinion of specialist officers in land use planning, biodiversity, countryside and economic development when preparing the response.

YSTYRIAETHAU PERTHNASOL/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

1. Ym mis Ionawr 2015 fe ddaru cwmni Grid Cenedlaethol gyhoeddi ei fod yn ffafrio'r coridor oren i gysylltu safle Wylfa Newydd gyda safle Is-orsaf Trydan ym Mhentir. 'Roedd y coridor oren a ddangoswyd yn cynnwys ardal chwilio fras. Fe ddaru'r cwmni gyhoeddi hefyd ei fod bellach yn ffafrio rhoi'r ceblau trydan o dan Y Fenai, yn hytrach na gosod rhes arall o beilonau a gwifrau ar draws Y Fenai.
 2. Ers hynny, maent wedi bod yn gweithio i ddatblygu opsiynau ar gyfer y llwybr ei hun, h.y. adnabod lleoliad mwy pendant ar gyfer y lein newydd ar draws yr Ynys ac wedyn o'r Fenai i fyny at Bentir. Oherwydd bod angen mynd a'r ceblau o dan Y Fenai maent hefyd wedi bod yn chwilio am safleoedd posib ar gyfer adeiladu compownd pen selio. Bydd angen compownd pen selio ochr Ynys Môn i fynd a'r gwifrau i lawr oddi ar y peilon olaf ar yr Ynys a than ddaear o dan Y Fenai. Wedyn, bydd angen compownd pen selio arall i ddod a'r gwifrau o'r ddaear i fyny at y peilon cyntaf ar dir yng Ngwynedd.
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3. Mae'r cwmni yn gofyn am farn rŵan fel rhan o ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus statudol am rai o'r syniadau sydd ganddynt. Mae'r map yn Atodiad 2 yn dangos y syniadau.
 4. Wrth baratoi ymateb Cyngor Gwynedd i'r ymgynghoriad anstatudol rydym wedi ystyried ffactorau lleol penodol i ardal Gwynedd o'r prosiect. Fe fydd Cyngor Sir Ynys Mon yn paratoi ymateb a fydd yn cofnodi ei safbwynt.


1. *In January 2015 National Grid announced that it favours the Orange route to connect Wylfa Newydd with the Electricity Sub-station in Pentir. The Orange corridor provides a broad area of search. It also announced that it now prefers to an undersea option at the Menai Straits, rather erect another row of pylons and cables accross the Menai Straits.*
2. *Since then they have been working to develop options for the route itself, i.e. identify a more definitive route for the lone itself across the Island and then from the Menai Straits to Pentir. As a result of the need to take the cables under the Menai Straits they have also been looking for possible sites to build sealing end compounds. A sealing end compound would be required on the Island to take the lines down from the last pylon on the Island and then undersea. Then, another sealing end compound would be required on the mainland to bring the lines up from the ground to the first pylon on the mainland in Gwynedd.*
3. *The company is now asking for views during a non-statutory public consultation period about some of its ideas. The map included in Appendix 2 shows these ideas.*
4. *Whilst we prepared Gwynedd Council's response to this non-statutory consultation we have considered local factors that are specific to Gwynedd. The Isle of Anglesey County Council will also be preparing a response that will record its position.*

BARN Y SWYDDOGION STATUDOL/VIEWS OF STATUTORY OFFICERS

1. **Y Prif Weithredwr/Chief Executive:-**
Dim i'w ychwanegu/ *Nothing to add.*
2. **Swyddog Monitro/ Monitoring Officer:-**
Dim sylwadau i'w hychwanegu o safbwynt priodoldeb/No additional comments from a monitoring perspective.
3. **Prif Swyddog Cyllid/Chief Finance Officer:-**
Dim i'w ychwanegu o safbwynt priodoldeb ariannol / *Nothing to add from a financial propriety perspective.*

BARN YR AELOD LLEOL/VIEW OF LOCAL MEMBER

LLOFNOD /SIGNED



DYDDIAD/DATE

08.12.15

Y Cyngorydd / Councillor

Dafydd Meurig

Ward Arllechwedd

Ein Cyf / Our Ref: **DM/gmo**
Eich Cyf / Your Ref:

Matt Durham
Uwch Rheolwr Prosiect
National Grid

8 Rhagfyr, 2015

Annwyl Mr Durham

Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu'r cyfle i wneud sylwadau am y prosiect yma ac ymrwymiad y cwmni i barhau i roi cyfle i'r Cyngor a'r cyhoedd i fynegi barn. Ar ôl darllen y deunydd a gafodd ei gyhoeddi, hoffwn dynnu sylw'r Grid Cenedlaethol i nifer o faterion:

Strategaeth

- (i) Croesewir y bwriad i beidio rhoi rhagor o beilonau a gwifrau ar draws Y Fenai;
- (ii) Dylid rhoi ystyriaeth ofalus i danddaearu'r gwifrau o'r Fenai i Bentir. Dyma mae Cyngor Gwynedd yn ei ffafrio. Wrth gymryd y byddai'r gost o wneud hyn yn uwch na rhoi corlan selio pen a pheilonau newydd ar draws y tir i Bentir, credir y dylid: (a) ystyried y gost ychwanegol yn erbyn cost y prosiect cyfan, - mae'n debyg o fod yn fychan iawn mewn cymhariaeth; (b) gosod y gost ychwanegol yn erbyn llai o ardrawiad cynaliadwyedd o osod peilonau a gwifrau ar draws y tir. Heb wneud hyn fe allai'r cwmni fethu gweld cyfyngiadau a budd economaidd a cymdeithasol;
- (iii) Ymddengys bod yr asesiad o effaith ar yr economi leol yn cael ei gyfyngu i ystyriaethau yn ymwneud â'r sector dwristiaeth. Tra nad oes amheuaeth bod angen sicrhau na fydd y prosiect adeg y cyfnod adeiladu ac yn nes ymlaen yn cael ardrawiad andwyol ar fwynhad ymwelwyr i'r ardal, credir y dylid edrych ar y mater yn fwy holistaidd, e.e.
 - a. effaith y gwaith o adeiladu'r isadeiledd ar symudiadau cerbydau yn yr ardal - tagfeydd, sŵn, ayb, a allai yn ei dro fod yn andwyol i fusnesau lleol o ran derbyn a dosbarthu nwyddau;
 - b. diffyg argaeledd gweithwyr adeiladu gyda sgiliau cywir yn lleol i weithio ar brosiectau eraill oherwydd bod y brosiectau mawr a fydd yn digwydd yn llyncu'r adnodd yma. Dylid edrych ar fesurau ymyrraeth gynnar fel cydweithio i ddatblygu cynlluniau sgiliau adeiladwaith lleol;
 - c. rhoi sylw gofalus i fesurau i sicrhau bod cwmnïau lleol sy'n gweithio mewn sawl sector mewn sefyllfa dda i allu cymryd mantais o gytundebau gwaith yn ystod y cyfnod adeiladu. Gellir gwneud hyn trwy roi cefnogaeth i ddatblygu sgiliau perthnasol yn lleol a datblygu'r gadwyn gyflenwi a fydd ei angen i gefnogi'r gwaith i osod y gwifrau o dan y dŵr yn Afon Menai a bob ochr i'r Fenai.

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- (iv) Noder bod cyfeiriad at opsiwn hybrid, a fyddai'n golygu llwybr newydd o Wylfa Newydd ar draws gorllewin Ynys Môn, twnelu o dan y môr, ac yna peilonau a gwifrau newydd o arfordir Gwynedd i is-orsaf newydd yng nghyffiniau Bryncir. Croesewir y datganiad gan Grid Cenedlaethol i beidio ffafrio'r opsiwn hybrid yma;
- (v) Yn siomedig bod yr ymgynghori yn dameidiog. Nid ydi'r gwaith o asesu'r dulliau i osod y ceblau o dan Y Fenai ddigon aeddfed i fod yn rhan o'r ymgynghoriad yma. Noder bod bwriad i gynnal ymgynghoriad ychwanegol yn ystod 2016 pan fydd y wybodaeth ar gael. Deallir y gallai'r math o dechnoleg benderfynu ar leoliad y corlannau selio pen ac felly leoliad unrhyw beilonau. Ni wyddys os fyddai casgliadau'r gwaith yma'n golygu gorfod adnabod lleoliadau amgen na welir yn y deunydd ymgynghori tro yma. Wrth gwrs gallai'r gwaith asesu technoleg twnelu o dan Y Fenai arwain at gasgliad nad ydi twnelu o dan Y Fenai yn opsiwn ymarferol a gorfodi Grid Cenedlaethol i fynd yn ôl i edrych ar opsiynau strategol eraill. Gall y ffordd yma o ryddhau gwybodaeth greu dryswch i bawb sydd â diddordeb yn y prosiect ac o bosib arwain at ddefnydd aneffeithiol o amser ac adnoddau'r Cyngor;
- (vi) Yn siomedig nad oes ystyriaeth i weld yn cael ei roi i gynnwys capasiti ychwanegol er mwyn ymdopi o'r cychwyn gyda gwireddu Rhaglen Ynys Ynni yn llawn ac Ardal Fenter Eryri;
- (vii) Awgrymir bod Grid Cenedlaethol yn ystyried cyhoeddiad diweddar Llywodraeth Cymru i ymchwilio i'r posibilrwydd o godi pont arall dros Y Fenai;

Cyd-destun polisi

- (viii) Bydd rhaid i'r sawl sy'n gwneud penderfyniad roi ystyriaeth ofalus i bolisi cenedlaethol a lleol. Mae Grid Cenedlaethol yn adolygu'r cyd-destun yma yn y ddwy ddogfen sydd ar gael i'w gweld ar hyn o bryd. Mae'r adolygiad yn cyfeirio at Ddatganiadau Polisi Cenedlaethol am Ynni (EN-1) ac Isadeiledd Rhwydwaith Trydan (EN-5), yn ogystal â Pholisi Cynllunio Cymru, Cynllun Datblygu Unedol Gwynedd a'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol ar y Cyd sydd ar y gweill. Er hynny, byddai'n well pe fyddai cyhoeddiadau gan y cwmni yn y dyfodol yn rhoi sylw i'r canlynol :
 - a. Eglurhad bod polisiau cynllunio a lleol yn ystyriaeth adeg y cais am Rybudd Caniatâd Datblygu, yn ogystal ag ar gyfer ceisiadau cynllunio a fydd y Cyngor yn penderfynu;
 - b. Y fersiwn diweddaraf o'r Cynllun Datblygu Lleol ar y Cyd;
 - c. Dangos sut fydd y cwmni yn bwriadu hyrwyddo defnydd o'r iaith Gymraeg ym mysg y gweithlu yn ystod y cyfnod adeiladu;
 - ch. Rhoi disgrifiad mwy cytbwys o bolisiau a chanllawiau cynllunio lleol, h.y. dylid cyfeirio at bolisiau am y tirwedd, cadwraeth natur a mwynderau gweledol gan eu bod nhw i gyd yn bwysig i allu ystyried ardrawiadau cymdeithasol-economaidd y prosiect;
 - d. Rhoi sylw i Reolau 'Holford' yn gysylltiedig â dynodiadau tirwedd leol;

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Materion sy'n fwy safle penodol:

- (viii) Pe bai opsiwn twnelu'n mynd yn ei flaen bydd angen rhoi ystyriaeth i sut fydd y deunydd yn cael ei waredu, e.e. yn nhermau oblygiadau amgylcheddol;
- (ix) Yn ddarostyngedig i sylwadau islaw (x) croesewir yr ardaloedd chwilio am y corlannau selio pen am eu bod yn osgoi ardaloedd cadwriaethol dynodedig statudol;
- (x) Mae ardal chwilio am leoliad i gorlannau selio pen de Gwynedd yn fwy sensitif nag ardal chwilio gogledd Gwynedd, - gweler y map yn Atodiad 1. Byddai lleoli ceblau tanddaear o'r Fenai i ardal de Gwynedd yn golygu croesi o dan dir Y Faenol. Mae hwn yn Barc a Gardd Gofrestredig sydd o fewn Tirwedd Hanesyddol Gofrestredig. Yn ychwanegol i hynny mae'r Faenol yn cynnwys nifer o adeiladau rhestredig (gradd I, II* a II); mae'n Ardal Gadwraeth; a byddai twnelu oddi tano yn gallu golygu aflonyddwch archeolegol. Ar wahân i'r posibilrwydd o aflonyddu olion archeolegol, byddai twnelu o dan y tir yma yn golygu colli nodweddion sydd yn allweddol i gymeriad hanesyddol yr ardal ac na fyddai'n bosib ei adfer. Felly, fe ddylid osgoi ardaloedd chwilio de Môn a chanol Môn, oni bai y gellir osgoi'r ardal sensitif yma;
- (xi) Wrth barhau gyda'r gwaith o adnabod lleoliad terfynol unrhyw gorlan selio pen a thrywydd y gwifrau, bydd angen rhoi sylw i fodolaeth Safleoedd Bywyd Gwyllt, sy'n cynnwys Coedlannau Hynafol Lled-Naturiol;
- (xii) Byddai lleoli corlan selio pen yn ardal de Gwynedd yn gyffredinol yn golygu cael peilonau a gwifrau newydd mewn lleoliad sydd ddim gan berthynas weledol gyda'r peilonau a gwifrau presennol. Gallai hynny gael effaith andwyol ar fwynderau gweledol a gosodiad y Parc a'r gerddi Cofrestredig a'r asedau hanesyddol;
- (xiii) Er bod ardal gogledd Gwynedd yn gymharol lai sensitif, credir y bydd angen rhoi ystyriaeth ofalus i'w leoliad yntau du mewn i Dirwedd Hanesyddol Gofrestredig ac agosrwydd rhannau ohono i'r Parc a Gerddi Cofrestredig yn Y Faenol;
- (xiv) Ni ddylai'r gwaith arwain at golli tir cyflogaeth;
- (xv) Mae'n bwysig bod Grid Cenedlaethol yn ymwybodol o fwriad i'r Llwybr Arfordir fynd drwy'r Faenol ac ymlaen i Dreborth (gweler y map yn **Atodiad 1**) Rhagwelir y bydd y Llwybr yn agored tua mis Mai/ Mehefin 2016.

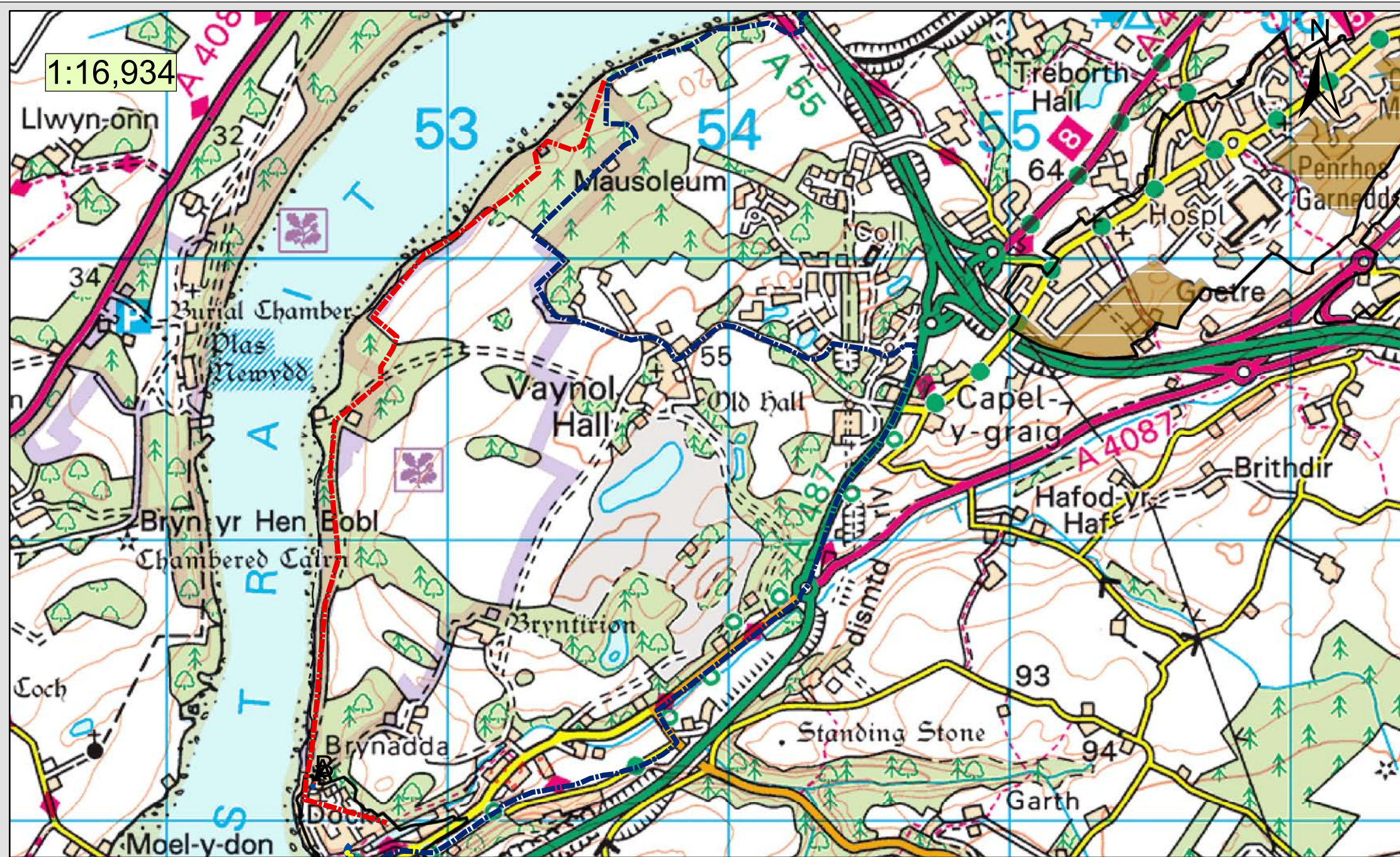
Yn gywir



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Aelod Cabinet Rheoleiddio

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1:16,934



Llinell llwybr arfordir Cymru presennol
Wales coast path present line.

Llinell arfaethedig Llwybr arfordir Cymru
Proposed Route of Wales coast path

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Llwybrau cyhoeddus eraill yn yr ardal.
Other Footpaths in the area



Algybrychir y map hwn o Ddauydd y Ordnance Survey
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Ein Cyf / Our Ref: **DM/gmo**
Eich Cyf / Your Ref:

Matt Durham
Senior Project Manager
National Grid

8th December 2015

Dear Mr Durham

The Council welcomes the opportunity to provide observations on this project and the company's commitment to continuing to give the Council and the public opportunities to express an opinion. After reading the published materials, I wish to draw the National Grid's attention to several issues:

Strategy

- (i) We welcome the intention not to place further pylons and cables across the Menai;
- (ii) Careful consideration should be given to undergrounding cables from the Menai to Pentir. This is what Gwynedd Council favours. Assuming that the cost of doing this would be higher than placing a sealing end compound and new pylons over land to Pentir, it is believed that: (a) consideration should be given to the additional cost against the cost of the entire project – it is likely to be very small in comparison; (b) setting the additional cost against a lower sustainability impact of placing the pylons and cables over land. Failure to do this could mean that the company would not see the economic and social restrictions and benefits;
- (iii) It appears that the impact assessment on the local economy is restricted to considerations in relation to the tourist sector. While there is no doubt that there is a need to ensure that the project will not have a detrimental impact on visitors' enjoyment of the area during the construction phase and at a later stage, it is believed that the matter should be considered in a more holistic way e.g.
 - a. the impact of the work of constructing the infrastructure on vehicle movements in the area – congestion, noise etc. which could in turn be detrimental to local businesses in terms of delivery and receipt of goods;
 - b. the lack of availability of construction workers with the right skills locally to work on other projects because the major projects underway would drain this resource. Early intervention measures should be looked at such as collaborating to develop local construction skills schemes;

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c. giving careful consideration to measures to ensure that local companies who work in several sectors are in a good position to be able to take advantage of work contracts during the construction phase. This could be done by giving support to developing relevant skills locally and developing the supply chain required to support the work of placing the cables under the sea in the Menai Straits and either side of the Menai.

- (iv) It is noted that there is reference to a hybrid option, which would entail a new route from Wylfa Newydd across western Anglesey, tunnelling under the sea, and then new pylons and cables from the Gwynedd coast to a new sub-station in the Bryncir area. The statement by National Grid of not favouring this hybrid option is welcomed;
- (v) It is disappointing that the consultation has been fragmented. Work of assessing the methods of placing the cables under the Menai is not sufficiently mature to be part of this consultation. It is noted that it is intended to hold further consultation during 2016 when the information will be available. It is understood that the type of technology could determine the location of the sealing end compounds and therefore the location of any pylons. It is not known whether the findings of this work would mean having to identify alternative locations not seen in the current consultation material. Naturally, work to assess the tunnelling technology under the Menai could result in the outcome that tunnelling under the Menai is not a practical option which would force the National Grid to go back to look at other strategic options. This method of releasing information could cause confusion to all interested parties and possibly lead to ineffective use of Council time and resources;
- (vi) It is disappointing that it seems that no consideration is given to including additional capacity in order to cope from the beginning with realising the Energy Island Programme in full and the Snowdonia Enterprise Zone;
- (vii) It is suggested that the National Grid considers the recent Welsh Government announcement to investigate the possibility of building another bridge over the Menai;

Policy Context

- (viii) The decision-makers will have to give careful consideration to local and national policies. National Grid reviews this context in the two documents that are currently available. The review refers to National Policy Statements about Energy (EN-1) and Electricity Network Infrastructure (EN-5), as well as Planning Policy Wales, Gwynedd Unitary Development Plan and the emerging Joint Local Development Plan. Nevertheless, it would be preferable if future announcements by the company give consideration to the following:
 - a. Explain that local and national planning policies are a consideration during the application for Notice of Development Consent, as well as for planning applications determined by the Council;
 - b. The latest version of the Joint Local Development Plan;

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c. Show how the company intends to promote the use of the Welsh language amongst the workforce during the construction period;

d. Provide a more balanced description of local planning policies and guidance i.e. reference should be made to policies about the landscape, nature conservation and visual amenities as they are all important to be able to consider the socio-economic impacts of the project;

e. Address 'Holford' Rules in relation to local landscape designations;

Site-specific Issues:

- (ix) Should the tunnelling option go ahead consideration will need to be given to how the material will be disposed of e.g. in terms of environmental implications;
- (x) Subject to comments in (xi) below, the search areas for the sealing end compounds are welcomed as they avoid statutory designated conservation areas;
- (xi) The south Gwynedd search area for a location for sealing end compounds is more sensitive than the north Gwynedd search area – see map in Appendix 1. Locating underground cables from the Menai to the south Gwynedd area would mean crossing under Faenol land. This is a Listed Park and Garden which is within a Listed Historical Landscape. In addition, the Faenol estate has several listed building (grade I, II* and II); it is a Conservation Area and tunnelling underneath it could lead to archaeological disturbance. Apart from the possibility of disturbing archaeological remains, tunnelling under this land would lead to the loss of characteristics that are crucial to the historical character of the area which would not be possible to restore. Therefore, the south Anglesey and central Anglesey search areas should be avoided, unless this sensitive area can be avoided;
- (xii) While continuing with the work of identifying the final location of any sealing end compounds and the cable routes, attention will need to be given to the existence of Wildlife Sites, which include Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland;
- (xiii) Locating sealing end compounds in the south Gwynedd area would generally mean having new pylons and cables in a location which does not have a visual relationship with the existing pylons and cables. This could have a detrimental effect on the visual amenities and setting of the Park and the Listed gardens and historical assets;
- (xiv) Though the north Gwynedd area is comparatively less sensitive, it is believed that careful consideration will need to be given to their location within the Listed Historical Landscape and the proximity of parts of it to the Listed Park and Gardens of Y Faenol;
- (xv) The work should not result in the loss of employment land;

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(xvi) It is important that National Grid is aware of the intention for the Coastal Path to go through Y Faenol and onwards to Treborth (see map in **Appendix 1**). It is anticipated that the Path will be open around May/June 2016.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Dafydd Meurig

Cabinet Member for Regulatory Matters

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