

# Form

## Record of a Habitats Regulations Assessment of a project

### OGN 200 Form 1

Document owner: Protected Sites Team, EPP

#### Version History:

Document Version	Date Published	Summary of Changes
1.0	March 2016	Document created
1.1	30 November 2017	References to the 2010 Habitats Regulations updated to reflect new consolidated version of the regulations which entered into force on 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2017; References to KSP and National Services Directorates updated to EPP
1.2	28 June 2018	With marked up changes in light of ruling in CJEU case c-323/17 'People over Wind'.
1.3	27 June 2019	With marked up changes in light of ruling in CJEU case c-323/17 'People over Wind'. See Guidance <a href="#">here</a>

Next review date: April 2019

## Record of a Habitats Regulations Assessment of a project


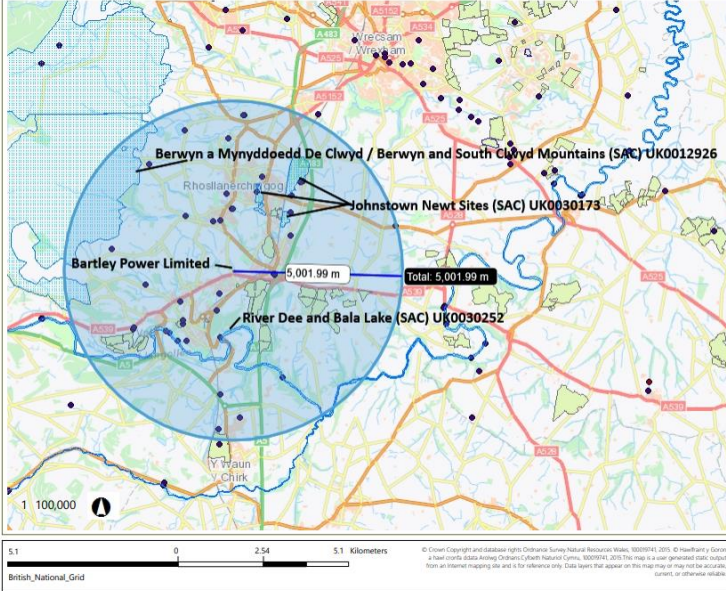
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## 1. Project Details

<b>1(a): Project details where an external party has applied to NRW for any form of authorisation</b>	
<b>Application reference number (if applicable)</b>	PAN-023536
<b>Date application received</b>	<i>Duly Made 12/12/2023</i>
<b>Applicant details</b>	<i>Bartley Power Limited</i>
<b>Activity proposed</b>	<p>Bartley Power limited have applied for a permit under the environmental permitting regulations (EPR) for their power generator site at Ruabon which is made up of 10 x containerised Caterpillar gas engines which have a thermal input of 4.7 MWth giving a site total of 47 MWth. Each combustion unit has its own associated emission stack (10 meters in height). The site also has a backup diesel generator which is below 1 MWth and is therefore not subject to MCPD. The facility is classified as a specified generator that is made up of 1-5 MWth medium combustion plants under the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016, Medium Combustion Plant directive (MCPD) and Specified Generator regulations</p> <p>The combustion units at the site were brought online on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November 2018. As the units were commissioned before the 20<sup>th</sup> December 2018, they are classified as existing.</p> <p>As the site is a specified generator which is made up from existing units with a combined thermal input of more than 5 MWth the operator is required to have a permit and comply with the relevant emission limits of 190 mg/m<sup>3</sup> by the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025.</p> <p>This permit application is to bring the site into regulation by and for the site to meet the requirements of MCPD, EPR and the emission limits.</p>
<b>Relevant legislation</b>	<i>Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016</i> <i>Medium Combustion Plant directive</i> <i>Specified Generator regulations</i>
<b>Location</b>	

	  <p><b>Figure 1a (left) location of proposed facility and figure 1b (right) location of designated habitat sites within 5 km screening distance.</b></p> <p><b>NGR: SJ 29112 43751</b></p>
Application documents	<i>Internal DMS folder <a href="#">here</a>. External – Public register <a href="#">here</a></i>
Environmental Statement	<i>N/A</i>
Pre-application correspondence	<i>N/A</i>
NRW team responsible for drafting this HRA report, and name of lead officer	<i><b>William Wallace</b> Senior Officer, Installation and RSR permitting</i>

## 2. Determining the need for a Habitats Regulations Assessment

<b>2.1 Is the whole of the project directly connected with or necessary to the management of one or more Natura 2000 sites, for the purposes of conserving the habitats or species for which the Natura 2000 site(s) is/are designated?</b>	No
<b>2.2 Is there a possibility that the project could affect a different Natura 2000 site to the one(s) the project is intended to conserve?</b>	No
<b>2.3 Is it necessary to carry out an HRA?</b>	Yes

### 3. Considering the likelihood of a significant effect (LSE)

#### 3.1 Renewal of a permission on the same or more restrictive terms as the extant permission

Is this project a renewal of a current permission which complies with NRW approved criteria for ruling out significant effects of renewals (see section 6.2A of OGN 200) without conducting a project-specific LSE test?	No
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### 3.2 Likelihood of significant effects (LSE) test

3.2.1 Which Natura 2000 sites might be affected by the proposal?	Based on the project specification or information provided in the application, it is considered that the following Natura 2000 sites have features which could be affected by the project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Johnstown Newt Sites (UK0030173)</b></li><li>• <b>River Dee and Bala Lake/Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid SAC</b></li><li>• <b>Berwyn a Mynyddoedd De Clwyd / Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains (UK0012926)</b></li></ul> <p>The potential for the project to affect the following Natura 2000 sites was also initially considered, but can be ruled out without further consideration:</p> <p><b>N/A</b></p>	
3.2.2 Screening assessment		
	Assessment of likelihood of significant effect	
	I Relevant conservation objectives	II Potential impact pathway
Johnstown Newt Sites (UK0030173)		
Great crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i>	CORE MANAGEMENT PLAN INCLUDING CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES FOR Johnstown Newt Sites Special Area of Conservation (SAC) EU SAC Code UK0030173 Approved by Tim Jones 03/03/2008	<b>Toxic contamination</b> The only emissions to air from the proposal are carbon monoxide and oxides of nitrogen (NOx, expressed as NO2). The MCPs are fuelled by natural gas which has negligible sulphur content. Carbon monoxide has no environmental standard for ecological sites and therefore has not been assessed further.  The applicant has supplied an air quality impact assessment for the emissions of NOx. The assessment has assumed worst case scenario which assume all 10 combustion units running for the entire year with NOx at the permit levels. In reality the emissions are most likely lower than what is reflected in the assessment.

	<a href="#">Microsoft Word - Johnstown Newt Site Management Plan April 2008 English .doc</a> <a href="#">(naturalresources.wales)</a>	<p>The long term (annual) process contribution of atmospheric NOx from the proposal is 1.6 µg/m³ which is 5.3% of the critical level of 30 µg/m³ and the highest predicted environmental concentration (PEC) (the process contribution and background NOx) was 11.2 µg/m³ which is 37.3% of the critical level. As the PEC is less than 70% of the critical level the concentration of NOx emission screens out as insignificant when considered alone.</p> <p><b>Smothering</b>  NOx can cause smothering and nutrient enrichment through deposition of NOx which can cause damage to vegetation. However the site is only designated for great crested newts with no designation for vegetation or habitats. As such no further assessment is required.</p> <p><b>Nutrient enrichment</b>  Air pollutants associated with nutrient enrichment are assessed for designated habitats within a protected site, rather than the protected species living within the site. This is because it is the vegetation that is sensitive to change as a result of the presence of these pollutants. The Johnstown Newt Sites SAC does not contain any designated habitat. The only designated feature is the Great Crested Newt, for which no Critical Loads are set on APIS because the species is not sensitive to aerial pollution. No further assessment is required.</p> <p><b>Acidification</b>  Air pollutants associated with acidification are assessed for designated habitats within a protected site, rather than the protected species living within the site. This is because it is the vegetation that is sensitive to change as a result of the presence of these pollutants. The Johnstown Newt Sites SAC does not contain any designated habitat. The only designated feature is the Great Crested Newt, for which no Critical Loads are set on APIS because the species is not sensitive to aerial pollution. No further assessment is required.</p> <p><b>Turbidity</b>  No Impact Pathway- no discharge to water.</p> <p><b>Siltation</b>  No Impact Pathway- no discharge to water.</p> <p><b>Disturbance (noise)</b>  No impact pathway.</p>
<b>River Dee and Bala Lake/Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid SAC</b>		
1. Watercourses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculus fluitans and	CORE MANAGEMENT PLAN INCLUDING CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES FOR River Dee and Bala Lake/Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid SAC	<p><b>Toxic contamination</b>  There are no discharge to surface water. Given that the features of this habitat (Ranunculus fluitans and Callitriche-Batrachion) are water based, they are unlikely to be significantly impacted through atmospheric concentration of NOx. Therefore there is no likelihood of impact through this pathway.</p>



<p>Callitricho-Batrachion Vegetation</p>	<p>Approved by Davel Powelle 2022</p> <p><u><a href="#">CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES FOR N2K SITES</a></u>  <u><a href="#">(naturalresources.wales)</a></u></p>	<p><b>Nutrient enrichment</b>  APIS does not have a site critical load value for this designated features. Given that the features are water based, they are likely to have a low sensitivity to nitrogen deposition from atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub>. As such the feature is unlikely to be impacted from the emissions from the proposal.</p> <p><b>Acidification</b>  Air pollution information system (APIS) does not have an acid critical load values (from airborne pollutants) for the River Dee. The applicant's modelling had shown that the acidic deposition is &lt;0.001 Kgeq/ha/year. Given the low acidic deposition rate and features being water based (and therefore less sensitive to atmospheric acidic deposition), there is no likely impact pathway to Ranunculus fluitans and Callitricho-Batrachion Vegetation through acid deposition from atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub>.</p> <p><b>Smothering</b>  See Nutrient enrichment.</p> <p><b>Changes in salinity regime</b>  No impact pathway- no discharge to water.</p> <p><b>Changes in thermal regime</b>  No impact pathway- no discharge to water.</p> <p><b>Habitat loss</b>  No impact pathway.</p> <p><b>Physical damage</b>  No impact pathway.</p> <p><b>Smothering</b>  No impact pathway- no discharge to water.</p> <p><b>Turbidity</b>  No impact pathway- no discharge to water.</p> <p><b>Siltation</b>  No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p>
<p>2. Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i></p>		<p><b>Toxic contamination</b>  No impact pathway – there are no discharge to water. Aquatic features are not sensitive to airborne concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub>.</p> <p><b>Nutrient enrichment</b>  No impact pathway – The proposal will not involve any discharge to water  Aquatic features have a low sensitivity to nutrient deposition from atmospheric nitrogen.  Feature does not have any critical load values for nitrogen deposition.</p>

		<p><b>Acidification</b> No impact pathway – aquatic features are not sensitive to acidification from atmospheric deposition of NOx.</p> <p>APIS does not have an acid critical load value (from airborne pollutants) for the river Dee.</p> <p><b>Changes in salinity regime</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Changes in thermal regime</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Habitat loss</b> No impact pathway</p> <p><b>Physical damage</b> No impact pathway</p> <p><b>Smothering</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Turbidity</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Siltation</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Entrapment</b> No impact pathway</p>
3. Floating water-plantain <i>Luronium natans</i>		<p><b>Toxic contamination</b> <b>Nutrient enrichment</b> <b>Acidification</b> <b>Smothering</b> <b>Changes in salinity regime</b> <b>Changes in thermal regime</b> <b>Habitat loss</b> <b>Physical damage</b> <b>Smothering</b> <b>Turbidity</b> <b>Siltation</b></p> <p>No impact pathway- extent of designate feature and habitat management unit is located at Llyn Tegid, approximately 37 km from the proposal and therefore this feature, located outside the risk screening distance of 5 km. As such there is no impact pathway to damage this species or its extend/distribution within the lake.</p>
4. Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>		See Atlantic salmon

5. Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planer</i>		See Atlantic salmon
6. River Lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>		See Atlantic salmon
7. Bullhead <i>Cottus gobi</i>		See Atlantic salmon
8. European otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>		<p><b>Toxic contamination</b> The only emissions to air from the proposal are carbon monoxide and oxides of nitrogen (expressed as NO<sub>2</sub>). The combustion plants are fuelled by natural gas which has very low sulphur content which is considered negatable. Carbon monoxide has no environmental standard for ecological sites and therefore has not been assessed further. European otter can be impact through emissions of atmospheric NO<sub>2</sub>. The applicant has supplied an air quality assessment that shows that for worst case scenario the long term process contribution (PC) was 0.8 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, more than 1% of the long term critical level (30 µg/m<sup>3</sup>). The short term (24 hour mean) was 9.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, more than 10% of the short term critical level (of 75 µg/m<sup>3</sup>). However the predicted environment concentration both short term and long term was less than 70% of the critical levels (long term 8.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup> or 29% of the long term critical level and short term 25.2 µg/m<sup>3</sup> or 33% of the critical level). As the PECs are less than 70% the emissions screen out as insignificant when considered alone.</p> <p><b>Nutrient enrichment</b> No impact pathway- Otter are not sensitive to deposition of NO<sub>x</sub></p> <p><b>Acidification</b> No impact pathway – Otter are not sensitive to acidification through deposition of atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub></p> <p><b>Smothering</b> No impact pathway-There are no emissions that could cause smothering to European otter.</p> <p><b>Changes in salinity regime</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Changes in thermal regime</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Habitat loss</b> No impact pathway</p> <p><b>Physical damage</b> No impact pathway</p> <p><b>Turbidity</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Siltation</b> No impact pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Entrapment</b> No impact pathway</p>

		<p><b>Disturbance (noise)</b></p> <p>No impact pathway</p>
<p><b><i>Berwyn a Mynyddoedd De Clwyd / Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains (UK0012926)</i></b></p>		
<p><b>Designated feature 1</b></p> <p>Blanket bogs</p>	<p><b><u>CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES FOR N2K SITES</u></b></p> <p><a href="http://naturalresources.wales">naturalresources.wales</a></p> <p>Objectives cover both <i>Berwyn a Mynyddoedd De Clwyd / Berwyn and South Clwyd SAC and BERWYN SPA</i>. Only the feature of the SAC have been considered as the SPA is outside the 5 km risk screening distance.</p>	<p><b>Toxic contamination</b></p> <p>The only emissions to air from the proposal are carbon monoxide and oxides of nitrogen (expressed as NO<sub>2</sub>). The plants are fuelled by natural gas which has very low sulphur content (almost negatable). Carbon monoxide has no environmental standard for ecological sites and therefore has not been assessed further.</p> <p>The applicant has supplied an air quality impact assessment for the emissions of NO<sub>x</sub>. The assessment has assumed worst case scenario which assume all 10 combustion units running for the entire year with NO<sub>x</sub> at the permit levels. In reality the emissions are most likely lower than what is reflected in the assessment.</p> <p>The short term (24 hour mean) process contribution of NO<sub>x</sub> was 6.3 µg/m<sup>3</sup> which is 8.4% of the (lower) critical level of 75 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. As the short term process contribution is less than 10% of the critical level the emissions screens out as insignificant.</p> <p>The long term (annual) process contribution of atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub> from the proposal is 0.4 µg/m<sup>3</sup> which is 1.6% of the critical level of 30 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and the highest predicted environmental concentration (PEC) (the process contribution and background NO<sub>x</sub>) was 6.9 µg/m<sup>3</sup> which is 23.0% of the critical level. As the PEC is less than 70% of the critical level the concentration of NO<sub>x</sub> emission screens out as insignificant when considered alone.</p> <p><b>Smothering and Nutrient enrichment</b></p> <p>The deposition of atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub> onto the habitats can cause damage through increasing nutrient nitrogen and cause smothering to vegetation.</p> <p>The applicant has assessed the long term nitrogen deposition of 10 kgN/ha/year however the conservation objectives have quoted a critical load range of 5-10 kgN/ha/year for blanket bogs and as such we have used this as the critical load for this feature.</p> <p>The highest process contribution from the proposal was 0.12 kgN/ha/year, which is 2.4% of the site's lower critical load for nitrogen of 5 kgN/ha/year for this feature. The predicted environmental concentration was 631% of the critical load. As the PEC is above 70% of the critical load (due to high background) we have taken these impact pathways to appropriate assessment.</p> <p><b>Acidification</b></p>

		<p>Emissions and deposition of atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub> generated from the combustion could potentially cause acidification through deposition of NO<sub>x</sub>. The applicant's air quality modelling shows that the highest process contribution is 0.2% of the lower critical load for total acidity. As this is less than 1% of the lower critical load for acidity the proposal screens out as insignificant for this impact pathway when considered alone.</p> <p><b>Turbidity</b> No Impact Pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Siltation</b> No Impact Pathway- no discharge to water</p> <p><b>Habitat loss</b> No impact pathway</p> <p><b>Physical damage</b> No impact pathway</p>
<p><b>Designate feature 2</b> European dry heaths (EU Habitat Code: 4030)</p>		<p><b>Toxic contamination</b> As above.</p> <p><b>Smothering and Nutrient enrichment</b> The deposition of atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub> onto the habitats can cause damage through increasing nutrient nitrogen and cause smothering to vegetation.</p> <p>The critical load for this designated habitat is 10 kgN/ha/year.</p> <p>The highest process contribution from the proposal was 0.12 kgN/ha/year, which is 1.2% of the site's lower critical load for nitrogen of 10 kgN/ha/year for this feature. The predicted environmental concentration was 315% of the critical load. As the PEC is above 70% of the critical load (due to high background) the emissions do not screen out as insignificant when taken alone and therefore we have taken these impact pathways to appropriate assessment.</p> <p><b>Acidification</b> Emissions and deposition of atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub> generated from the combustion could potentially cause acidification through deposition of NO<sub>x</sub>. The applicant's air quality modelling shows that the highest process contribution is 0.2% of the lower critical load for total acidity. As this is less than 1% of the lower critical load for acidity the proposal screens out as insignificant for this impact pathway when considered alone.</p> <p><b>Turbidity</b> No Impact Pathway- no discharge to water.</p>

		<p><b>Siltation</b> No Impact Pathway- no discharge to water.</p>
<p><b>Designate feature 3</b> Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (EU Habitat Code: 6210)</p>		<p><b>Toxic contamination</b> As above <b>Smothering and Nutrient enrichment</b> Same as designated feature 1 <b>Acidification</b> As above <b>Turbidity</b> <b>Siltation</b> <b>Habitat loss</b> <b>Physical damage</b> As above</p>
<p><b>Designate feature 4</b> Transition mires and quaking bogs (EU Habitat Code: 7140)</p>		<p><b>Toxic contamination</b> As above <b>Smothering and Nutrient enrichment</b> Same as designated feature 1 <b>Acidification</b> As above <b>Turbidity</b> <b>Siltation</b> <b>Habitat loss</b> <b>Physical damage</b> As above</p>
<p><b>Designate feature 5</b> Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii) (EU Habitat Code: 8120)</p>		<p><b>Toxic contamination</b> As above <b>Smothering and Nutrient enrichment</b> Same as designated feature 1 <b>Acidification</b> As above <b>Turbidity</b> <b>Siltation</b> <b>Habitat loss</b> <b>Physical damage</b> As above</p>
<p><b>Designate feature 6</b> Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic</p>		<p><b>Toxic contamination</b> As above <b>Smothering and Nutrient enrichment</b> Same as designated feature 1 <b>Acidification</b></p>

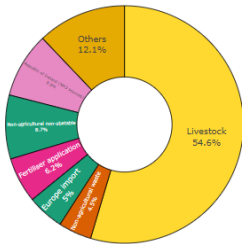
vegetation (EU Habitat Code: 8210)		As above Turbidity Siltation Habitat loss Physical damage As above
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### 3.2.3 Screening decision of the project 'alone'

<b>(a) If ALL rows in column II of Table 3.2.2 are GREEN</b>	The project is not likely to have a significant effect on any Natura 2000 site, because there is no impact pathway from the project to any Natura 2000 features, and no further consideration under the Habitats Directive/Regulations is required in order to determine the application.
<b>(b) If there are NO rows coloured RED in column II of Table 3.2.2, and there are ANY rows which are BLUE</b>	The project is not likely to have a significant effect on any Natura 2000 sites when considered alone, but the possibility of significant effects in combination with other plans and projects needs to be considered.
<b>(c) If ANY rows in Column II of Table 3.2.2 are RED</b>	The project is likely have a significant effect on one or more Natura 2000 sites and therefore an appropriate assessment is required.

## 4. Appropriate assessment of the project when considered alone

### 4.1 Assessment of project as currently defined

Natura 2000 site feature (from Table 3.2.2 – <b>RED</b> rows only)	Impact pathway(s) (from Table 3.2.2)	Description of impacts	Assessment in view of conservation objectives	Can adverse effect on site integrity be ruled out?
<b><i>Berwyn a Mynyddoedd De Clwyd / Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains (UK0012926)</i></b>				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blanket bogs</li> <li>European dry heaths</li> <li>Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates</li> <li>Transition mires and quaking bogs</li> <li>Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (<i>Thlaspietea rotundifolii</i>)</li> <li>Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Smothering and Nutrient enrichment</b></p> <p>The deposition of atmospheric NO<sub>x</sub> onto the habitats can cause damage through increasing nutrient nitrogen and cause smothering to vegetation.</p> <p>The applicant has assessed the long term impacts from nitrogen deposition from the site under worst case scenario (operating at emission limits all year).</p> <p>As the PEC is above 70% of the critical load (due to high background) we</p>	<p><b>Smothering and Nutrient enrichment</b></p> <p>Although the process contribution (PC) did not screen out as insignificant, this does not mean that it will have an adverse impact. The highest PC is just above the 1% screening threshold (2.4% of the lower critical load).</p> <p>The predicted environmental concentration PEC is above 100% of the critical load. The high PEC is due to the high background in the area. The air pollution inventory system shows that the local contributions to the high background is from livestock farming (54%) while the non abatable non agricultural contribution is 8.7%.</p> <p>Local contributions to Nitrogen deposition (KgN/ha/yr) from sources (UK)</p> 	<p>The relevant conservation objectives for each feature which could be impacted by the emissions and deposition of NO<sub>x</sub> are as follows</p> <p>Blanket bogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No measurable decline</li> <li>The quality of blanket bog (including in terms of ecological structure and function) must be maintained.</li> <li>There should be no decline in the range or abundance of characteristic plant species and vegetation communities.</li> </ul> <p>European dry heaths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No measurable decline.</li> <li>quality (including in terms of ecological structure and function) must be being maintained.</li> <li>The areas of heath vegetation should be retained and where possible permitted to re-establish on areas modified or degraded as</li> </ul>	Yes



	<p>have taken these impact pathways to appropriate assessment.</p>	<p><i>Figure 2: The local contribution to nitrogen deposition at Berwyn a Mynyddoedd De Clwyd / Berwyn and South Clwyd SAC from various sources</i></p> <p>As outlined in the briefing note for existing MCPs, for existing combustion units (1-50 MWth), where the process contribution is below 4% of the critical level, this indicates that the emission alone will not cause a likelihood of adverse impacts on site integrity. As the highest PC is 2.4% of the critical load it can be concluded that while the emission is not insignificant, the site alone will not cause an adverse impact.</p> <p>The permit application is to bring an existing site into regulation. The permit will impose emission limits on the combustion units that previously were not required to have them until the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025.</p> <p>Therefore this process would when taken alone not lead to any real likelihood of damage to the features of the site.</p>	<p>a result of agricultural improvement, or through inappropriate management.</p> <p>Transition mires and quaking bogs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No measurable decline</li> <li>• Typically characterised by a range of low-growing sedges over an extensive carpet of Sphagnum bog mosses, accompanied by other mosses, rushes and some scattered herb.</li> <li>• the vegetation normally has intimate mixtures of species considered to be acid-lovers and others thought of as lime-lovers.</li> </ul> <p>Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (<i>Thlaspietea rotundifolii</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No measurable decline.</li> <li>• The scree community is important for the rich fern flora and acts as refugia for a number of rare species.</li> <li>• the existing diversity of species in each of the communities should be maintained.</li> </ul> <p>Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No measurable decline.</li> <li>• Bryophytes and crustose lichens should form a dominant component in crevices.</li> <li>• Grass benches should be floristically diverse supporting species characteristic of the feature such as <i>Campanula rotundifolia</i>,</li> </ul>	
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			<p>Centaurea nigra and Dryopteris spp.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The existing diversity of species in each of the communities should be maintained.</li> </ul> <p>The performance indicators for <i>Blanket bogs</i>, <i>European dry heaths</i> and <i>Transition mires and quaking bogs</i> all reference potential impacts from acid and nitrogen deposition from atmosphere nitrogen. As already assessed in section 3.2.2, acidification from the proposal screened out as insignificant as the predicted environmental concentration was less than 70% of the critical load.</p> <p>Exceedances in nitrogen deposition cause impact through decomposition, increased nitrogen uptake which can cause to damage to bogs and dry heath.</p> <p>As such there is a potential direct impact from the proposal which could damage a key part of the conservation objective.</p> <p>As outlined in the assessment under “description of impacts” Where the process contribution is below 4% of the critical level, this indicates that the emission alone will not cause a likelihood of adverse impacts when considered alone.</p> <p>For the designated site the highest process contribution was 0.12 KgN/ha/year which is 2.4% of the minimum critical load of 5 kgN/Ha/Year for <i>Blanket bogs</i> and <i>Transition mires and quaking bogs</i> and 1.2% of the minimum critical load for <i>European dry heaths</i> (which has a critical load of 10 kgN/Ha/year).</p>	
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			As the worst-case scenario had a process contribution is below 4% (highest being 2.4%), it can be assessed that the emissions when considered alone are unlikely to cause adverse impact to the features of the site. As such the proposal is hinder the conservation objectives for the features of this site.	
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### 4.3 Concluding the appropriate assessment of the project alone

<b>(a) If the right hand column of Table 4.1 and Table 4.2 (if applicable) is 'YES' for all features</b>	It has been ascertained that the proposal, when considered alone, will not adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites.
<del><b>(b) If there are any 'NO's in the right hand column of Table 4.1 that have not been resolved to 'YES' through mitigation measures identified in Table 4.2</b></del>	<del>It has not been ascertained that the proposal, when considered alone, will not adversely affect the integrity of one or more Natura 2000 sites.</del>
<b>(c) Are there any residual effects of the project (net of any mitigation measures identified) which, though insignificant on their own, could be significant if considered in combination with the effects of other plans or projects?</b>	Yes

## 5 In combination assessment

### 5.1 Identifying possible in combination effects

<b>BLUE</b> impact pathway from Table 3.2  and/or  Residual effect (from appropriate assessment in section 4)	Natura 2000 site feature(s) concerned	Other plans/projects with effects that might interact with the effects of the project to render its effects significant (if any)	Nature of the in-combination effect (if any)	Is there likely to be any significant in-combination effect, in view of the site's conservation objectives?
<b>Toxic contamination</b> <b>Nutrient enrichment</b> <b>Smothering</b> <b>Acidification</b>	Berwyn a Mynyddoedd De Clwyd / Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains (UK0012926)	Kronospan PAN-024285	None - Given that Bartley Power has been in operation prior to 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2018 (as an existing MCP/specified generator) any atmospheric concentrations of NOx as well as nitrogen deposition and acid deposition from emissions of NOx from this site would have already been captured under the background data. Any other proposals, plan or project would have used the most recent background data that includes emissions from this site.  Therefore there is no additional in-combination affects as any other plan or project since 2019 would have used recent background data that would have included emissions and depositions from Bartley Power Limited.	No
<b>Toxic contamination</b>	<b>Johnstown Newt Sites (UK0030173)</b>	As above	As above	No

Toxic contamination Acidification	<i>River Dee and Bala Lake/Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid SAC</i>	As above	As above	No
(a) If the right hand column is 'NO' for all rows		The project, when considered in combination with other plans and projects, is either not likely to have a significant effect on, or will not adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site.		
<del>(b) If any rows in the right hand column are 'YES' or 'DON'T KNOW'</del>		<del>The project is likely to have a significant effect in combination with other plans or projects.</del>		

## 6. Conclusion

<p>HRA is not required because the whole of the project is directly connected with or necessary to the management of one or more Natura 2000/Ramsar sites, for the purposes of conserving the habitats or species for which the site(s) is/are designated, <u>and</u> the project is not likely to have a significant effect on any other Natura 2000/Ramsar sites. (As documented in section 2.1 and 2.2 of this form)</p>	
<p>HRA is not required because there is no conceivable impact pathway to any Natura 2000/Ramsar site (As documented in section 2.3 of this form)</p>	
<p>This project is a renewal of a current permission which complies with NRW agreed criteria for ruling out significant effects of a renewal without conducting a project-specific LSE test. Therefore it is considered not likely to have a significant effect on any Natura 2000/Ramsar sites, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects. (As documented in section 3.1 of this form)</p>	

<p>The project has been screened for likelihood of significant effects and, taking account of the advice received from protected sites advisors, is considered not likely to have a significant effect on any Natura 2000/Ramsar site (As documented in section 3.2 of this form, or section 5 if applicable)</p>	
<p>In light of the conclusions of an appropriate assessment, and taking account of the advice received from protected sites advisors, it has been established that the project will not adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000/Ramsar site, taking into account any conditions or restrictions as applicable, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects. (As documented in section 4 of this form, and section 5 if applicable)</p>	<b>X</b>
<p>In light of the conclusions of the appropriate assessment, it has <u>not</u> been ascertained that the project will not adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000/Ramsar site, as documented in section 4 of this form, and section 5 is applicable.</p> <p>Approval for the project <u>cannot</u> be given unless either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the project specification, and/or the terms under which it might be approved, are modified so as to remove the risk of adverse effects, and a revised HRA report is prepared, or</li> <li>the project satisfies the requirements of Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, an Article 6(4) Statement of Case is prepared (OGN 200 Form 3) and submitted for consideration by the appropriate authority, normally Welsh Ministers</li> </ul>	
<p>Signed: William Wallace</p> <p>Name: William Wallace</p> <p>Position: Senior Permitting Officer Installations and RSR</p> <p>Date: 13/03/2024</p>	

**7. Consultation with protected sites advisor(s) and how sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this HRA report (as applicable) take into account that advice.**

<b>Relevant section of the HRA report</b>	<b>Date(s) of correspondence* and any meeting(s) with protected sites advisor(s)</b>	<b>Description of how the comments from protected sites advisors have been taken into account</b>
2		
3		
4		
5		

## 8. Conservation Technical Specialist's comments

I have reviewed the HRA documented in this form and confirm that I agree/do not agree\* with its findings.  
(\*strike out as applicable)

**Additional comments (if any):**

**Signed:**

**Name:**

**Position:**

**Date:**