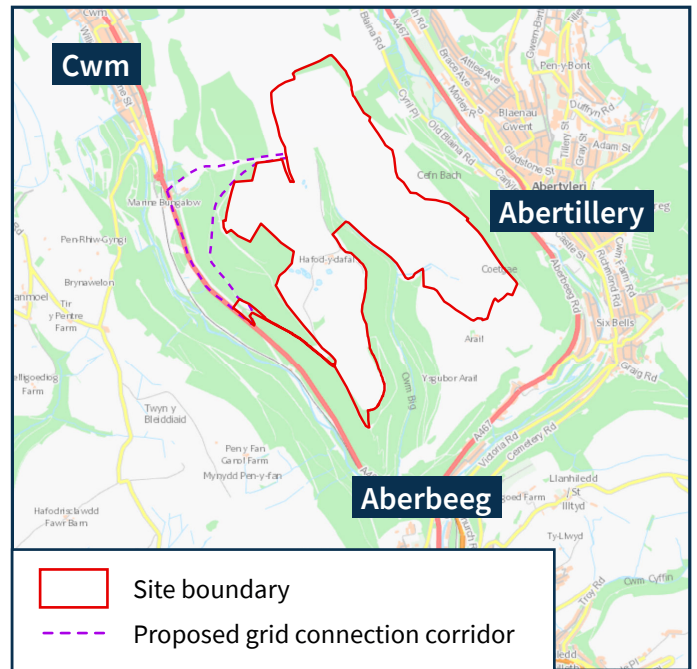


**Statutory consultation:**  
24 May to 8 July 2022

**Following the results of extensive environmental studies and a review of the feedback from the early engagement in Summer 2021, Pennant Walters has produced detailed proposals for Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn Wind Farm, located to the west of Abertillery in Blaenau Gwent (see location map).**

These detailed proposals form the basis of the statutory consultation, taking place from the 24 May to 8 July 2022. The consultation will give you the opportunity to examine the plans and provide your comments / responses to be considered before the Development of National Significance (DNS) application is finalised.

The application will then be submitted to Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) for consideration before being determined by Welsh Ministers.



Above: Site location map

This newsletter provides an overview of the proposals. The full draft planning application and photomontages showing what the wind farm would look like from various viewpoints are available to view on the project website: [www.carn-y-cefn.co.uk](http://www.carn-y-cefn.co.uk)

**Have your say**

**To find out more, discuss the proposals with members of the project team and view the photomontages, come along to one of our public exhibitions:**

Public exhibitions	
<b>3pm - 7pm Wednesday 15 June</b>	<b>Ebenezer Baptist Chapel</b> Park Place, Abertillery NP13 1ED
<b>10am - 2pm Saturday 18 June</b>	<b>Cwm Community Education Centre</b> Canning St, Cwm, Ebbw Vale NP23 7RD
<b>3pm - 7pm Tuesday 21 June</b>	<b>Aberbeeg Community Centre</b> Pant ddu Rd, Abertillery NP13 2BP

Although Covid restrictions have been lifted, we will ensure the public exhibitions are well ventilated and provide time slots to enable social distancing.

**Please register to attend** with your preferred time/date by calling or emailing us and we will confirm your time slot in advance. See exhibition times/dates/locations (left) and contact details on the back page of this newsletter. If you are unable to attend, a virtual exhibition is available to view on the project website.

Although the wind farm application will ultimately be determined by Welsh Ministers, Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council and the local communities are key consultees, and we are keen to hear your views on the current proposals.

**Please submit your comments by 8 July 2022.**





## The site

**The proposed wind farm would be located on an upland ridge between the Ebbw Fawr and Ebbw Fach valleys, in the areas of Hafod y Dafal and Cefn-yr-Arail.**

As currently defined, the site extends to approximately 208 hectares, which is predominantly grassland used for grazing. It is split by the forestry haul road, woodland and the operational Hafod-y-Dafal Solar Farm (28.6 hectares). Access is from a forestry haul road, and this connects to the A4046 Aberbeeg Road.

The grid connection corridor to the west of site totals 27.4 hectares.

## The proposals

- up to eight wind turbines with a blade height of up to 180m
- substation and transformer housing
- temporary construction compound and site offices
- crane pads, storage areas and cabling
- access track construction

A secondary consent will be required for the diversion of three public rights of way during construction and operation of the wind farm. It is anticipated that a separate application will be needed from the Local Authority for the temporary removal of highway furniture to allow for the transportation of turbines to site.

The design iteration work has been influenced by an extensive suite of assessment and survey work together with modelling of potential views from local

sensitive receptors to minimise potential effects. The project team is confident the site can accommodate eight wind turbines, which could generate up to 34MW of electricity. The Wind Farm has been designed with an operational life of 30 years, exporting renewable energy to the National Grid.

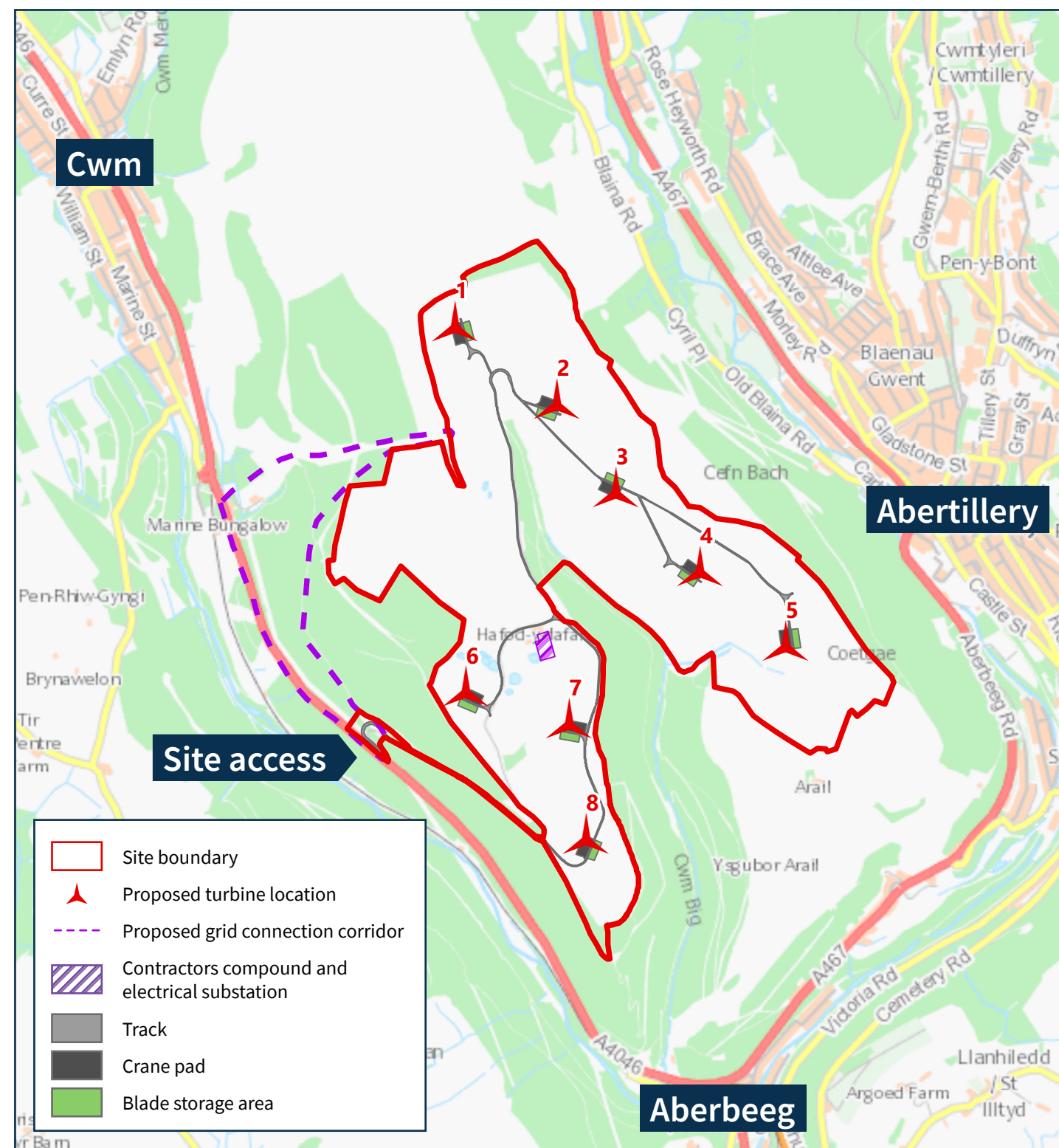
An offer of a grid connection from Western Power Distribution (WPD) has been received. A 33kV line between the on-site substation and the electricity grid at Crumlin will also be the subject of a separate application.

## Key considerations

**Site constraints:** There are several constraints that we have considered whilst developing the layout for Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn Wind Farm. These include forestry, landscape features, biodiversity sensitivities, ground conditions, visual considerations, Public Rights of Way, haul roads and Hafod-y-Dafal Farm (including the site of the solar farm and Steelhouse Festival).

**Environmental impact assessment:** To help inform the number and location of the wind turbines, access tracks and substation, we have carried out studies on a range of environmental and technical issues including landscape and visual impact, biodiversity, ground conditions, noise and socioeconomics. A draft of these reports can be found on the project website.

**Community benefits:** For Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn Wind Farm, we are considering several ways to administer the Community Fund to allocate funds annually to local, qualifying projects. We continue to welcome views on this as we develop plans for the fund, which will be available when the Wind Farm is operational.



Above: Proposed wind farm layout





## About Pennant Walters

The proposals are being developed by Pennant Walters, a subsidiary of Walters Group; a local company based at Hirwaun and operating nationally. Pennant Walters has developed, built and now operates six wind farms and solar development in South Wales (on land very typical of the south Wales coalfield with both surface and underground mine features), generating a total of 127MW, making it Wales' largest home-grown renewable energy developer.

Indicative Timeline	
<b>Summer 2022</b>	Statutory consultation on detailed layout of proposed wind farm
<b>Autumn 2022</b>	Review feedback from the consultation and finalise the proposals/DNS application
<b>Autumn/ Winter 2022</b>	DNS application submitted to PEDW
<b>Spring/ Summer 2023</b>	Examination of application by PEDW and recommendation submitted to Welsh Government
<b>Autumn/ Winter 2023</b>	Welsh Ministers determine application

Subject to planning consent being granted, the construction of Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn Wind Farm would take around two years, so it would be operational and generating electricity by Winter 2025.

## Contact us

Please let us have your comments on the proposals for Mynydd Carn-y-Cefn Wind Farm by **8 July 2022**:

- Complete the feedback form at the public exhibition or online: **[www.carn-y-cefn.co.uk](http://www.carn-y-cefn.co.uk)**
- Call: **01495 832476**
- Email: **[consultation@carn-y-cefn.co.uk](mailto:consultation@carn-y-cefn.co.uk)**
- Write to: **Freepost GRASSHOPPER CONSULT** (no stamp or further address required)

These contact details will put you in touch with Grasshopper Communications, who are managing the consultation.

A response to issues raised during the statutory consultation will be included in the Pre-Application Consultation Report which will be submitted as part of the DNS application.



Above: Early engagement exhibition in Aberbeeg