

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM

To: David Cross
From: Ecologist
Ask for: Matt Davies
Ext: 5278
Memo number: 1
Date: 27th April 2020

SUBJECT: P/20/0088 – Kepak Group Ltd, Pengarnddu, Industrial Estate, Dowlais Top

(Installation of a 6.2MW containerised ground source heat pump system with associated 40 No. 100m deep boreholes at Kepak Group Ltd, Pengarnddu Industrial Estate Dowlais Top).

The boreholes will be sited within an area of habitat to the north east of the industrial unit. From the aerial image, the area appears to consist of grassland plus a small amount of scrub and/or small trees.

Nearby habitat suitable for protected species includes scrub, heathland, grassland, open drainage channels and nearby ponds.

Within 500m of the site there are the following designated sites:

- 2x SINC sites:
 - Pan March and Traed y Milwyr, Llechryd (46m)
 - Merthyr Common North (76m)

Within 500m of the site there are the following records for priority and protected species:

- Birds (including Schedule 1 species);
- Invertebrates (small heath, dingy skipper, wall, cinnabar – Section 7 species under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016);
- Amphibians.

A daytime Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) – undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist – is required in order to investigate any impacts of the works on priority and protected species and/or habitats plus nearby designated sites and inform whether further surveys are necessary.

No further surveys are anticipated (although this is dependent on the results of the PEA). Measures to avoid offences in terms of nesting birds and reptiles may be required.

Appropriate mitigation and compensation measures will be required along with enhancement of the site (in accordance with the Environment (Wales) Act 2016).

An Aderyn data search from SEWBReC is required (Package C 2km).