Heritage Statement

Installation of one Windcrop - Quiet Revolution HY-5 Turbine

Site Location
Globe Farm
High Hoyland
Barnsley
South Yorkshire
S75 4BE

The turbine location is shown below.



Description of development

The proposed development comprises one micro scale wind turbine with a hub height of 14.97m; a full system specification has been submitted with this application. It is envisaged that the installation will have a 20 year life from the date of commissioning and that thereafter the turbine would be removed. Further details are provided in the Design and Access Statement.

Assessment

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides guidance on matters to be considered when assessing the impact of a proposed development on the historic environment under Section 12:

Conserving and enhancing the historic environment. Paragraph 132 of the NPPF sets out the importance placed on avoiding substantial harm to designated heritage assets.

The approach taken to assessing the whether the application would result in harm to a designated heritage asset has been informed by Government guidance:

- PPS5 Planning for the Historic Environment: Historic Environment Good Practice Guide (March 2010)

Where appropriate, it has been further informed by English Heritage guidance:

- Wind Energy and the Historic Environment (Oct 2005)
- The Setting of Heritage Assets (Oct 2011)
- Seeing the History in the View: A method for Assessing Heritage Significance within Views (2011)

Siting Criteria

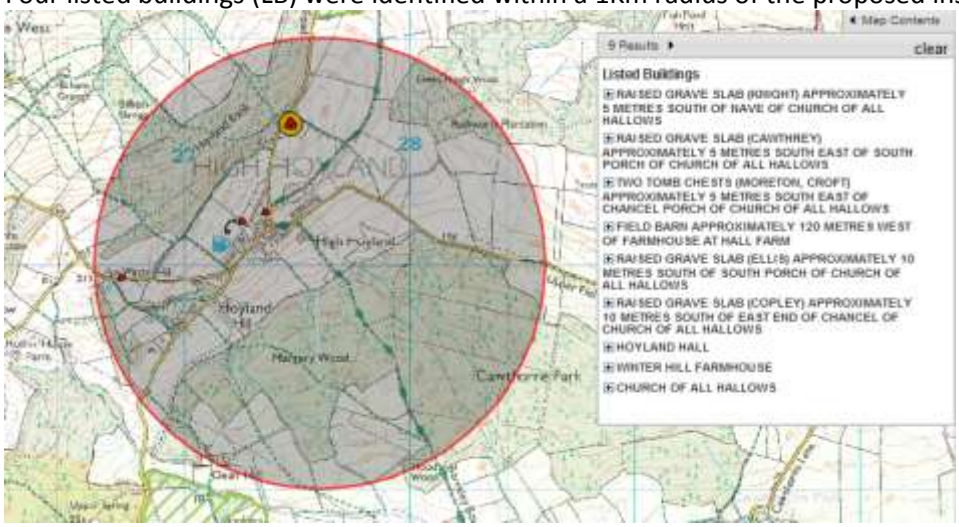
The site has been selected with a view to avoiding substantial harm to any designated heritage asset, and consistent with a pre-cautionary approach, searches have been conducted as follows:

- A site check has been made using the Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside Interactive Map (MAGIC), managed by Natural England on behalf of DEFRA to determine the presence any of World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments or Registered Historic Parks and Gardens within the search area;
- A Listed Building search has been conducted using the online search engine maintained by English Heritage;

In assessing site options and determining the optimum location, sensitive views are identified and options for moving a turbine, screening it, or using the natural contours of the land to hide it are fully considered. Every effort is made to ensure that the setting of a heritage asset is not compromised.

Listed Buildings

Four listed buildings (LB) were identified within a 1Km radius of the proposed installation.



Of these, the closest is Hoyland Hall, located 321m from the proposed turbine:



The distance between the proposed turbine and the closest Listed Building, and the presence of intervening hedges, trees and buildings, negate any potential impact on the setting of Hoyland Hall.

Further information on the location of all Listed Buildings within the search area is provided in the Distance Calculations submitted with this application.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

No Scheduled Ancient Monuments were identified within 2 km of the site.

Government guidance requires a proportionate approach to heritage impact assessment, taking account of the scale of the proposed development, the relative importance of the asset potentially affected, and the characteristics of the site.

Windcrop has sought independent archaeological advice and in respect of any potential harm to buried archaeology which might result from the erection of a turbine and the burial of cables, the following moderating factors should be borne in mind.

Windcrop's unique approach to installation avoids the need for substantial ground-disturbance. It involves mounting the shallow base plate of the turbine on three screw-in helical piles and because these are localised point-loadings has a minimal potential impact on buried archaeology:

- The base-plate, set 250mm down, lies within all but the thinnest of recent agricultural tilth and modern soil horizons. It therefore has no potential impact on any but the most shallowly-buried archaeology. As no concrete is used there is no damaging fixing of the superstructure to archaeological horizons.
- The screw-piles themselves eject almost no spoil when inserted, nor do they compact the ground around them or create a zone of solifluction at the edges. Thus there is no potential for lateral damage to any archaeology. Upon withdrawal, the reversal of the screw-process

leaves the equivalent of three distinctive post-holes which will be related to 21st-century horizons.

- The cable-laying, carried out by a chain-trencher, involves trench-cutting, cable-laying and trench-backfilling in one single operation which leaves no trench open. The operation, employing a 600mm deep trench of 175mm width, leaves no soil up-cast, insufficient trench width to see in section and very little time for inspection.

Further information relating to construction is provided in a separate Construction Management Statement submitted with this application.

Where earthworks or notable upstanding remains are identified, the setting of the heritage-asset as seen from surrounding viewpoints may be affected. However, this is unlikely to result in substantial harm beyond distances of 100m as variations of topography, undulations in the land, ground cover trees and buildings usually negate any longer distance impact.

Based on the information presented above we conclude that buried features will not be affected by the proposed development due to the location of the turbine and cable run, and the very limited requirement for trenching.