Ecological Compliance Audit – Wrexham Solar Projects; Cable Corridors/Routes

Species: Great Crested Newt / Bats

A. Consenting

Wrexham Planning Reference number:	P/2023/0752	**Site name:**	HV Cable Corridor
		Site grid reference:	SJ37784825 to SJ36824858
Name of Applicant:	Corylus	**Name of Developer:**	Atrato Onsite Energy Holdco.
Name of Ecologist and Organization:	Russell Grey Etive Ecology Ltd	**Planning Permission Condition**	Yes Conditions 4 & 5
Name and Organization of Ecological Compliance Auditor	Russell Grey Etive Ecology Ltd	**Type Of Audit**	☒ Internal ☐ External ☐ Combination of Internal and External ========== ☒ Ecological Clerk of Works

Name and Organization of Ecological Compliance Audi Verifier	☒ Not Applicable ☐ Name and Address:	**Type of Verification**	☒ Internal ☐ External
Number of Ecological Compliance Audits (ECA')	An ECoW will visit the sites (Cefn solar park, Maelor solar park, cable corridors) every 2 weeks for the duration of construction works. Full ECA visits will be undertaken every month for the duration of construction works.	**Intervals between Audits**	☐ 3 Months ☐ 4 Months ☐ 6 Months ☒ Other 1 Month.
Start Date (dd/mm/yy):	Duration of Works	Likely End date (dd/mm/yy)	
18/08/25	10 months	31/05/26	

B. Schedule of Ecological Compliance Audit Completion and Dissemination

Audit Number	Date Completed	Date Issued to Developer	Date Issued to Wrexham BC
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			

10			

C. Performance Indicators

The audit to be conducted in accordance with NRW compliance audit guidelines.

No	Performance Indicator	**Evidence required** - this list should be adapted to reflect the agreed method statement	**Pass (Yes/No), comments.** **State if photographic evidence has been used**	**What action is required as a result of findings?**
1	Before starting work the developer will advise Wrexham BC Ecologist of the date the works will start.	Written or electronic documentation of notification of start of works.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
2	A suitably experienced licensed ecologist will be appointed and retained during the life time of this licence to provide on-site advice.	Letter, contract or other document outlining the appointment of an Ecologist for the lifetime of the project. This to be supplied.	☐ Yes ☐ No	

No	Performance Indicator	**Evidence required** - this list should be adapted to reflect the agreed method statement	**Pass (Yes/No), comments.** **State if photographic evidence has been used**	**What action is required as a result of findings?**
3	Prior to the start and throughout the duration of any works on site, all site workers will be inducted by the Project Ecologist. This induction will cover the legal status of the species, the method of working, and action to be taken if protected species are encountered.	Copy of documents from ecological induction, showing content of induction. List of induction attendees will be provided.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
4	Preparation and implementation of a bio-security risk assessment as detailed in the condition discharge documents.	Bio-security risk assessment is available for inspection. Log of implementation of bio security measures is available for inspection and shows that they have been implemented. Field observations shows that physical evidence of biosecurity measures are available, e.g. foot washes	☐ Yes ☐ No	
	GCN RAMs			
5	A pre-commencement hand-search of areas due for breaking of ground will be undertaken by a GCN licensed ecologist.	ECoW Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	

No	Performance Indicator	**Evidence required** - this list should be adapted to reflect the agreed method statement	**Pass (Yes/No), comments.** **State if photographic evidence has been used**	**What action is required as a result of findings?**
6	Clearance of ground vegetation, detritus and any other potentially suitable refugia for GCN (such as any piles of logs, brash, bricks or stones) will be undertaken prior to any construction works.	ECoW Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
7	Topsoil strip of the corridor to be undertaken under the direct supervision of a GCN licensed ecologist.	ECoW Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
8	Phase approach to trenching/installation?	Evidence by site photographs at the time of inspection.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
9	All materials will be stored off-ground on stillages or pallets.	Evidence by site photographs at the time of inspection.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
10	All rubble/spoil/earth arising from works will be skipped or removed from site on a daily basis.	Evidence by site photographs at the time of inspection.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
11	Any excavations left overnight will either be back-filled and compacted or else covered by plastic sheeting and secured by plywood batons (or similar) to prevent GCN from gaining access.	Evidence by site photographs at the time of inspection.	☐ Yes ☐ No	

No	Performance Indicator	**Evidence required** - this list should be adapted to reflect the agreed method statement	**Pass (Yes/No), comments.** **State if photographic evidence has been used**	**What action is required as a result of findings?**
12	Pre-start checks of the working area will be undertaken each morning, looking for any GCN.	To be provided by the Principal Contractor.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
13	All site workers will be made aware of the potential presence of GCN and an identified sheet will be kept on site in case any of these animals are encountered.	Toolbox Talk attendance sheet. Spot check with at least one member of the site team.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
14	No works to take place in suitable habitat whilst overnight temperatures drop below 5°C.	Review of on-site thermometer readings.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
	Bat RAMs			
15	A 30m disturbance zone will be demarcated on site, centred around the oak tree. Within this zone, vehicles will be required to travel on the northern edge of the cable corridor, to minimise potential disturbance to the tree and any bats within it.	ECoW Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	

No	Performance Indicator	**Evidence required** - this list should be adapted to reflect the agreed method statement	**Pass (Yes/No), comments.** **State if photographic evidence has been used**	**What action is required as a result of findings?**
16	Immediately prior to any works commencing within this 30m disturbance zone, the tree will be subject to a "climb & inspect" survey by a bat-licensed tree climber. All potential roosting features associated with the tree will be fully inspected for the presence of any bats or for any evidence of previous usage by bats.	Bat Inspection Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
17	Bats found? Confirm the approach to be taken for installation. Under licence or under RAMS.	ECoW Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
18	Evidence of bat usage found? Repeat climb/inspect for works <10m of the tree.	ECoW Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
19	No bats or evidence of bats found? Proceed unconstrainted.	ECoW Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	
	Reinstatement			
20	All land reinstated to its baseline condition or better.	ECoW Diary including photographs.	☐ Yes ☐ No	

No	Performance Indicator	Evidence required - this list should be adapted to reflect the agreed method statement	Pass (Yes/No), comments. State if photographic evidence has been used	What action is required as a result of findings?
Any other points to note/comments from auditor:				
Photographic Evidence ☐ Yes ☐ No			**If Yes, please attach to completed report**	

Auditor Name		**Date Completed**	
Auditor Signature			
Date ECA Submitted to Developer		**Date ECA Submitted to Wrexham Ecologist**	

July 2025