Tîm Iechyd Cyhoeddus Amgylcheddol yng Nghymru
Environmental Public Health team in Wales

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Public Health Wales, 2 Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street, Cardiff, CF10 4BZ 0300 0030032

18 March 2026

Our Ref: C1927599

Your ref: P/2026/0054

**SENT BY EMAIL**

*planning@wrexham.gov.uk*

Dear To whom it may concern,

**Description:** Installation of two 132kV circuits and two fibre cables between the existing Scottish Power Energy Networks (SPEN) Legacy to Oswestry 132kV wood pole overhead line and the Kronospan 132kV substation.

**Site address:** Kronospan, Hollyhead Road, Chirk, Wrexham, LL14 5NT.

Public Health Wales is the national public health agency for Wales, working collaboratively with the seven Health Boards to protect and promote population health. The Environmental Public Health (EPH) team at PHW have assessed the consultation resources with reference to key areas of interest including noise, air quality, landscape, ground conditions, electromagnetic fields (EMF), transport, water resources, ecology, socio-economic impacts, climate, community benefits and health.

**Project proposal**

The site manufacturers wood products, including Particleboard (PB), Medium Density Fibreboard (MDF), laminate flooring, and orientated strand board (OSB). The site has planning consent to build a 132kV substation. This application seeks permission to provide the electrical connection to enable the operation of the consented 132kV substation. The proposed grid connection would involve the installation of two 132kV circuits and two fibre cables between the existing Legacy to Oswestry 132kV wood pole overhead line and the consented Kronospan 132kV substation. The proposed cables would be installed via open trench in the highway, unless otherwise stated.

**Overall conclusion**

Based upon the information received and provided construction and operation are undertaken in line with industry practice, we do not foresee any adverse risks to public health.

**Public health risk assessment**

The applicant has stated they will mitigate the impact of the project on air, land, water, noise and vibration, via a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP). **We recommend a planning condition be considered that ensure the CEMP has suitable external accreditation.**

Exposure of the public to electromagnetic fields (EMF) should comply with the ICNIRP 1998 guidelines. ‘Power Lines: Demonstrating compliance with EMF public exposure guidelines –

a voluntary Code of Practice', published in February 2011 specifies the evidence acceptable to show compliance with ICNIRP 1998 guidelines and is also in line with the terms of the 1999 EU Council Recommendation on EMF exposure.

Any additional information obtained by the planning authority regulator in relation to these comments should be sent to us for consideration. Such information could affect the comments made in this response.

As the site lies within ABUHB, we will liaise with the Director of Public Health to ensure any population health concerns are appropriately managed at the local level.

Yours sincerely,

**Tîm Iechyd Cyhoeddus Amgylcheddol**
**Environmental Public Health Team**