

RYEDALE POWER PROJECT

NOTES OF SITE MEETING HELD ON 3 FEBRUARY 2010 AT OXMOOR AND GIVENDALE DIKES

Present

Mick Beddows (MB)	CNG Services Ltd
Peter Cardwell (PC)	Archaeological Consultant
Keith Emerick (KE)	English Heritage
Lucie Hawkins (LH)	North Yorkshire County Council

1. Purpose of the meeting

- review on site potential options for the pipeline crossing of the Oxmoor and Givendale Dikes (further to the meeting held at County Hall on 27.01.10)
- to agree an 'in principal' option to progress the design work and related studies

2. Issues

- suitable crossing points of Oxmoor and Givendale Dikes (SM35443)
- other scheduled and non-scheduled archaeological remains within the area
- potential evaluation or mitigation in advance of and during construction

3. Oxmoor and Givendale Dikes (SM35443)

- 3.1 MB informed all parties that the previous route discussed was now being altered to a more southerly alignment at the request of the landowner. As a consequence the only feasible crossing point of Oxmoor Dikes was at its south-western extent at an existing trackway at the junction with the Givendale Dikes (SE 3938 8711) where the earthworks had already been reduced and there was a former quarry to the north (see attached pipeline strip maps).
- 3.2 An open cut along the trackway (approximately 11m wide) was considered a feasible option, although the working width would have to be reduced as a consequence. The possibility of directionally drilling beneath the monument at an angle was also still being considered as a possibility. KE had some reservations regarding this unless it could be guaranteed that any potential emergency repairs during the operation of the pipeline would not impact upon the monument. Mitigation of the anticipated construction impacts would involve demarcation of the earthworks and detailed archaeological investigation of the pipeline corridor where it crossed the monument. It was later considered by KE, LH and PC that a detailed topographic and earthwork survey of the immediate area of the proposed crossing point could be of assistance in defining the precise alignment and working width, and serve as mitigation against any potential inadvertent damage.
- 3.3 MB stated that it was then proposed to run the pipeline roughly southwards along a narrow field between the Givendale Dikes to the east and the remnants of a ploughed down earthwork along the edge of Given Dale to the west. This

alignment was considered acceptable so long as the edges of the corridor were a minimum of 10m from the adjacent earthworks. The original extent of the earthworks could hopefully be clarified from historic mapping and aerial photographic evidence, and possibly geophysical survey. The latter could also be useful to establish if there were any associated archaeological features along the proposed route of the pipeline between the two earthworks.

- 3.4 At the southern end of the field the pipeline corridor would turn westwards and cross the remains of the ploughed down scheduled earthwork along the eastern edge of Given Dale (SE 8923 8688). In principal this was considered acceptable to KE, although mitigation considered was a reduction of the stripped easement to about 20m and the use of bog mats to protect subsurface archaeological deposits. KE stated that such matters could form conditions of any Scheduled Monument Consent granted. Detailed archaeological investigation would be necessary of any areas affected within the reduced corridor.

4. Embanked pit alignments (SM3519)

- 4.1 As a result of the proposed revision to the pipeline route the eastern alignment of this monument would no longer be directly affected. The site was however visited by PC, KE and LH where the monument had largely been ploughed out. The revised route would pass to the south of the scheduled area, and although the route would therefore avoid any impact on recorded remains, further survey of this area (such as by geophysical survey) could be of use to confirm whether the monument did originally continue into the area of the corridor or whether any associated remains survive within this area.
- 4.2 The western alignment of the monument was also inspected where the pit alignment survived as a well-preserved earthwork within the forestry plantation. Although this area was avoided by the pipeline itself, the southern end of the scheduled area was currently within the proposed pipeline corridor and it is considered important that this corridor boundary was amended in order to avoid the scheduled area and so that there was no impact upon the earthwork. Further research beyond the southern extent of the monument would also be necessary to clarify that it does indeed terminate at the mapped location.

5. Actions

- 5.1 Continued liaison would be maintained with KE and LH regarding the progression of all aspects of the project, and particularly with respect to any further evaluation of the pipeline route and proposed mitigation measures. It was hoped that the project timetable would allow for a review of the draft cultural heritage chapter by KE and LH before these matters were finalised.
- 5.2 It was noted that where the pipeline corridor crossed the monuments would require Scheduled Monument Consent in addition to planning permission.

PC
04.02.10