

Appendix 3.2: Borrow Pit Assessment

P e l l F r i s c h m a n n

Dunside Wind Farm

Appendix 3.2: Borrow Pit Assessment

June 2023

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

Pell Frischmann (PF) has been commissioned by EDF Energy Renewables Ltd (EDF) to undertake a Borrow Pit Assessment for the Proposed Development at Dunside Wind Farm, located approximately 6 km north of Westruther within the administrative boundary of Scottish Borders Council.

This Borrow Pit Assessment forms an appendix (Appendix 3.2) to the Dunside Wind Farm Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report. The report is intended to identify potential areas of material extraction and summarise the likely measures that will be implemented during the extraction of materials from the Site.

Detailed proposals for such measures will be documented prior to construction and will provide the same or greater provision in terms of protecting the water environment as those described in this document. The measures are proportionate to the risk and, where greater risk is highlighted at specific locations prior to construction, specific measures would be agreed at that time.

It should be noted that no intrusive geotechnical investigation or testing has been carried out at this stage.

2 Site Location and Overview

This report addresses the borrow pit requirement for construction of the Proposed Development located to the north of Westruther in the Scottish Borders Council administrative area. The site is approximately centred on National Grid Co-ordinates NT 611 584 and is located adjacent to the operational Fallago Rig Wind Farm.

A full description of the site components is provided in Chapter 3: Development Description of the EIA Report whilst the site layout is presented in Figure 1 below.

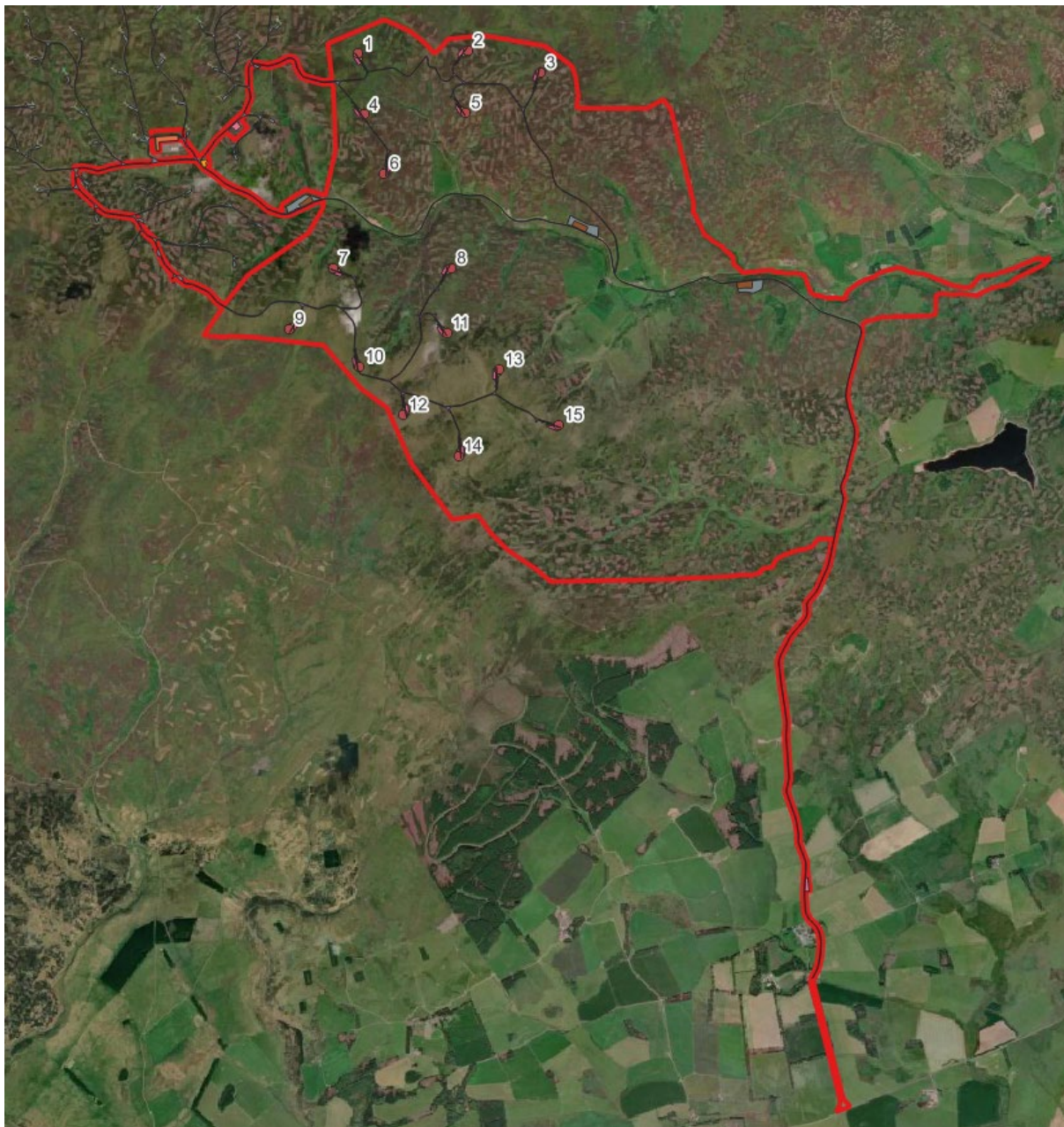


Figure 1 Site Layout

The topography varies over the site, with a central valley from east to west associated with the Dye Water. The Proposed Development is generally split across three main topographically distinct areas (north-west, north-east and south), comprising separate high points or ridges. There are a number of steep slopes within the site, generally located in the vicinity of watercourses.

Ordnance Survey mapping indicates the height of the site varies between 210m above ordnance datum (AOD) at the site entrance and the highest point of the site at 472m AOD along the southern ridge.

The Proposed Development comprises of 15 wind turbines, an expansion to the existing Fallago Rig Wind Farm substation, approximately 14.6 km of proposed site tracks, approximately 1.1 km of proposed light vehicle tracks and other ancillary infrastructure, within a total site area of approximately 2005 ha.

The proposed infrastructure requires a large quantity of graded crushed rock fill material that will be sourced from borrow pits on site rather than being imported on to site, thus reducing HGV movements on the public road network. It is noted, however, that the Transport Assessment has assumed that 50% of the material required will be imported to provide a worst-case assessment.

This borrow pit assessment is based on both Superficial and Bedrock 1:50k mapping available from the British Geological Survey and a walkover site survey undertaken by Pell Frischmann civil engineers.

3 Geology and Hydrogeology

3.1 Superficial

Superficial deposits are shown to be sporadic across the site, consisting of peat on higher ground, with alluvium consisting of clay, silt, and gravel present in the vicinity of watercourses.

A plan showing the superficial geology is included as Figure 8.4 of the EIA Report.

3.2 Bedrock

Review of the 1:50,000 scale British Geological Survey (BGS) maps indicate the underlying bedrock geology across the site to be predominantly Wacke from the Gala Group. This sedimentary bedrock was formed approximately 443.8 and 433.4 million years ago in the Silurian Period.

A plan showing the bedrock geology is included as Figure 8.4 of the EIA Report.

3.3 Suitability of Bedrock as Aggregate

The primary use of the aggregate extracted from borrow pits will be the construction of tracks using unbound aggregate, with further aggregate required for construction of hardstandings, crane pads, the extension to the existing substation and construction compounds. General experience indicates that the bedrock geology present onsite will be suitable for use in these applications. This is further supported by the fact the same formations as present onsite have been successfully used for aggregate extraction at the existing/adjacent Fallago Rig Wind Farm.

Geotechnical testing will be required post-consent to establish that the aggregate within the proposed borrow pits is suitable aggregate material.

3.4 Hydrogeology

Bedrock underlying the site is classified as a low productivity aquifer comprised of highly indurated greywacke with limited groundwater in near surface weathered zone and secondary fractures.

Where well sorted fluvially deposited superficials are present, groundwater flows may be more significant. However, the majority of the site is overlain with relatively lower permeability peat and glacial tills.

4 Borrow Pit Design

4.1 Borrow Pit Siting

A total of three borrow pits are proposed as part of the Proposed Development, with the borrow pits (shown as brown polygons) and the associated search areas (shown as grey polygons) shown in Figure 2 below.

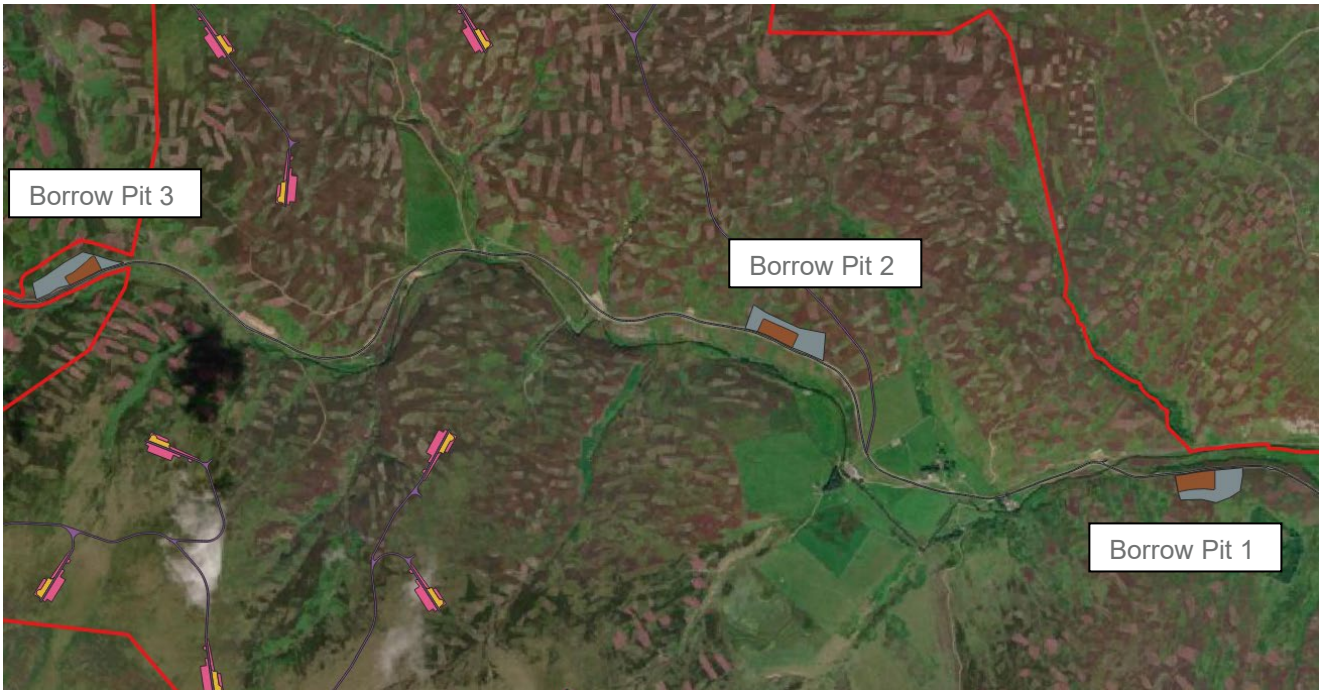


Figure 2 Proposed Borrow Pit Locations

The proposed borrow pit locations have been selected taking due consideration of the known environmental constraints within the site boundary. Where possible, borrow pits have been located outside of environmental constraints and designations. Borrow Pit 3 is located approximately 20m within a 50m buffer of the Dye Water; however, it is adjacent to the existing access track so it is considered that moving it outside the buffer would cause more environmental impact due to the requirement for additional track than its current proposed location.

The borrow pits are located along the existing Fallago Rig access track. This will allow for all stone to be extracted to build out the tracks and hardstandings in a sequential manner.

4.2 Material Requirement Calculations

Due to the length of the proposed access track network (approximately 14.6 km of proposed wind farm tracks and approximately 1.1 km of proposed light vehicle track), combined with the proposed ancillary infrastructure, a large volume of material is required. As indicated in Section 4, the geology of the site indicates that the material extracted should be suitable for use in construction of the infrastructure required.

The estimated calculations, summarised in Table 1 below take into account the proposed access tracks, turbine hardstandings, substation extension and construction compounds.

Table 1 Estimated Material Requirements

Design Element	Proposed Construction Thickness (m)	Total Area (m ²)	Volume (m ³)
Cut track	0.5	116,700	58,350
Floating track	0.8	4,100	3,280
Existing track widening	0.5	11,540	5,770

Design Element	Proposed Construction Thickness (m)	Total Area (m ²)	Volume (m ³)
Turbine hardstanding	0.7	53,550	37,485
Substation extension	0.7	13,500	9,450
Construction compound	0.5	21,150	10,575
Concrete aggregate	N/A	N/A	2,000
TOTAL VOLUME:			126,910

4.3 Borrow Pit Calculations

An estimate of the material generation from each of the borrow pits is presented in Table 2 below.

Table 2 Borrow Pit Material Generation

Parameter	Borrow Pit 1	Borrow Pit 2	Borrow Pit 3
Approximate coordinates	363770, 658000	362240, 658550	359700, 658770
Total footprint (m ²)	8,880	7,350	5,940
Cut volume (from Civil3D) (m ³)	68,230	54,590	50,580
Volume reduction coefficient	0.8	0.8	0.8
Volume (m ³)	54,584	43,672	40,464
TOTAL VOLUME (m³):	138,720		

The calculation material volume extracted from each borrow pit has been reduced by a factor of 0.8 to account for poor recovery, dilution, increased superficial cover and areas of unsuitable/poor strata as well as cut/fill inaccuracies and the conceptual status of design.

Further detailed design will allow track and hardstanding level variations to be designed for and the true cut & fill quantities to be calculated.

The high-level calculations in Table 2 indicate that the proposed borrow pits will provide the volume of material required to construct the on-site infrastructure (as per Table 1). A summary of the calculations is included in Appendix A.

4.4 Borrow Pit Reinstatement

The borrow pit will be partially reinstated with surplus excavated material to provide a more aesthetic appearance and prevent any unstable and steep rock faces. An indicative restoration profile is included in the borrow pit drawing cross-sections (Drawings BP-001, 002 and 003). SEPA guidelines state that complete infilling of borrow pits should not be undertaken as loose or unstable infill can pose a risk to walkers and animal life.

4.5 Borrow Pit Drainage

A Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) scheme will be designed and installed for the borrow pits. The SuDS system should follow the SuDS management train as defined in The SuDS Manual¹.

It is anticipated the arrangements will include a high-level clean water cut-off drain at the crest of the excavation slope to divert existing runoff around the excavation area and maintain hydraulic continuity. The borrow pits will also be graded to allow positive drainage within the excavation area. Runoff from these areas will be conveyed to SuDS features to allow removal of sediment and silt prior to discharge to match pre-development arrangements.

¹ CIRIA C753, *The SuDS Manual, Version 6, 2018*

5 Conclusion

Three locations have been identified as proposed borrow pit locations following an engineering walkover and desktop assessment. All borrow pits are located adjacent to the existing Fallago Rig access track which is being re-used for the Proposed Development.

All borrow pits identified have been sited with due considerations of environmental constraints and designations. Approximate borrow pit dimensions and potential material extraction volumes have been estimated alongside material requirements for construction of infrastructure. It is estimated that a total material volume of approximately 138,000 m³ could be extracted, with an estimated 125,000 m³ required for construction, meaning it is likely that no material import will be required to construct the Proposed Development.

Detailed ground investigations, slope stability assessments and geotechnical testing will be undertaken across the whole wind farm area prior to construction and this will feed into the final borrow pit designs. If the Proposed Development is consented, it is anticipated that a Borrow Pit Scheme of Works will be required as a planning condition. This would include:

- details of the precise location, size, depths, dimensions, and proposed volume of material to be extracted in each borrow pit;
- a detailed working method statement based on site survey information and ground investigations;
- details of the handling of any overburden (including peat, soil and rock);
- drainage, including measures to prevent impacts upon surrounding sensitives; and
- a fully detailed restoration scheme with landscaping, planting and timescale information.

Appendix A – Borrow Pit High-Level Material Calculations

Calculation sheet

Subject / Project : Dunside Wind Farm

Job No. / Project No : 106452 Ref : Material Requirements Date : 09/06/2023

Prepared by : RL Checked : SM

Material Requirements

Dunside Wind Farm

The following calculations have been prepared to determine high-level material requirements to construct Dunside Wind Farm

Revision history

Rev1 For inclusion in Borrow Pit Assessment

Dated 28/03/2023

Rev2 Addition of concrete aggregate

Dated 09/06/2023

Calculation sheet

Subject / Project : Dunside Wind Farm

Job No. / Project No : 106452 Ref : Material Requirements Date : 09/06/2023

Prepared by : RL Checked : SM

Material Requirements (Based on Layout 13 - Design Freeze)

General Parameters

Cut track thickness =	0.5 m
Floating track thickness =	0.8 m
Hardstand thickness =	0.7 m
Substation thickness =	0.7 m
Construction compound thickness =	0.5 m

Infrastructure Areas

Cut track area =	116,700 m ²	
Cut track volume =	58,350 m³	
Floating track area =	4,100 m ²	
Floating track volume =	3,280 m³	
Existing track widening area =	11,540 m ²	
Existing track widening volume =	5,770 m³	
Turbine hardstand nr. =	15 m	
Turbine hardstand area =	3,570 m ²	(per hardstand)
Total turbine hardstand area =	53,550 m ²	
Total turbine hardstand volume =	37,485 m³	
Substation area =	13,500 m ²	
Substation volume =	9,450 m³	
Construction compound area =	21,150 m ²	(new areas only)
Construction compound volume =	10,575 m³	
Concrete aggregate volume =	2,000 m³	
<u>TOTAL VOLUME REQUIREMENT =</u>	<u>126,910 m³</u>	

Borrow Pit - Initial Volume Calculations

Borrow Pit 1 (East)

Total Footprint (exc tie-in) =	7,940 m ²	
Total Footprint (inc tie-in) =	8,880 m ²	
Cut volume (from Civil3D) =	68,230 m ³	
Volume reduction coefficient =	0.8	(to account for overburden and any losses during processing)
Total volume =	54,584 m³	

Borrow Pit 2 (Central)

Total Footprint (exc tie-in) =	6,440 m ²	
Total Footprint (inc tie-in) =	7,350 m ²	
Cut volume (from Civil3D) =	54,590 m ³	
Volume reduction coefficient =	0.8	(to account for overburden and any losses during processing)
Total volume =	43,672 m³	

Borrow Pit 3 (West)

Total Footprint (exc tie-in) =	5,071 m ²	
Total Footprint (inc tie-in) =	5,940 m ²	
Cut volume (from Civil3D) =	50,580 m ³	
Volume reduction coefficient =	0.8	(to account for overburden and any losses during processing)
Total volume =	40,464 m³	

TOTAL = **138,720 m³**

Overall Balance

Material required =	126,910 m ³	
Material generated =	138,720 m ³	
<u>OVERALL BALANCE =</u>	<u>11,810 m³</u>	(-ve is shortfall)

BP-001 – Borrow Pit 1 General Arrangement and Cross-Section



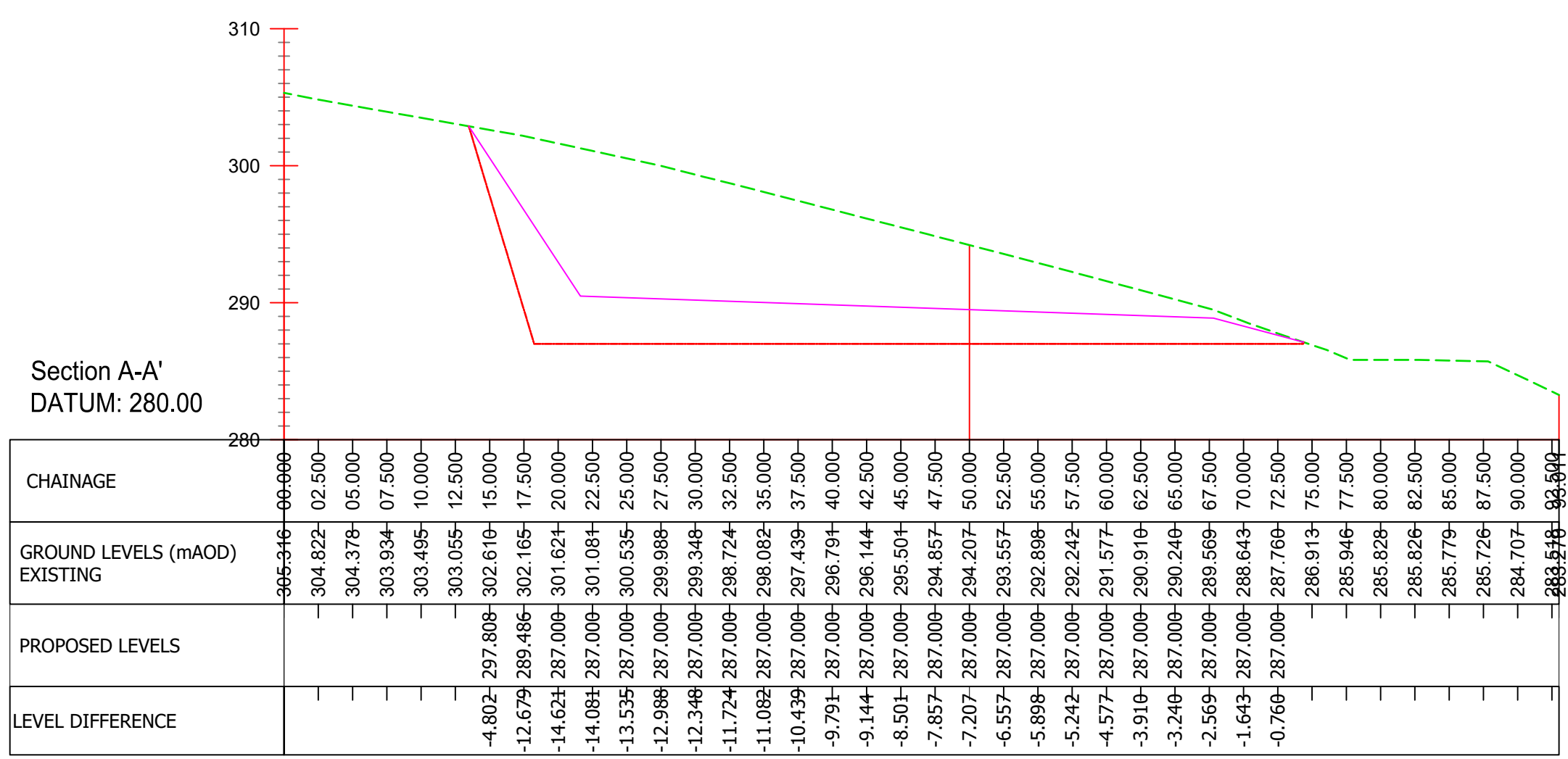
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 - PROPOSED MINOR CONTOUR (1m)
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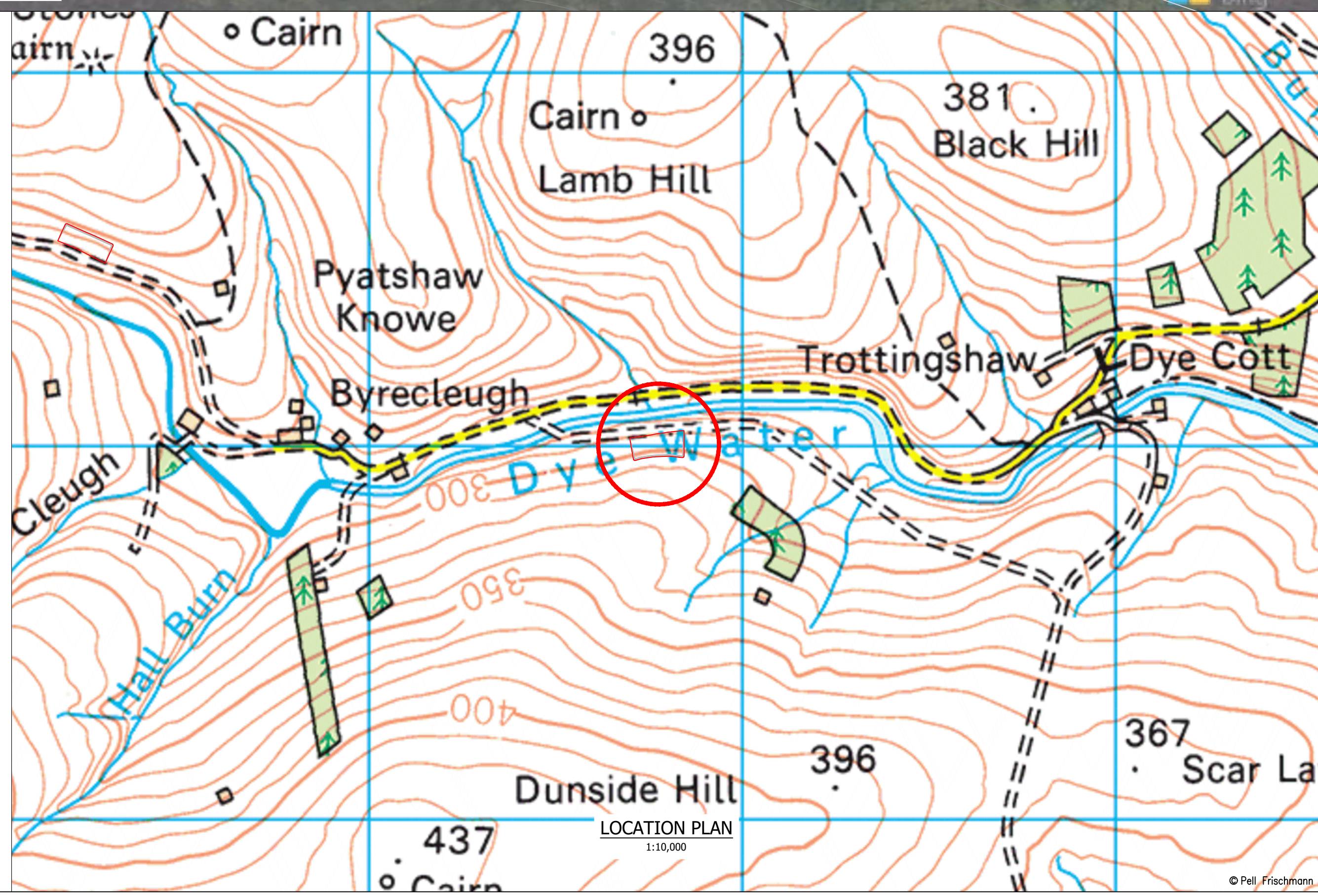
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 - PROPOSED GROUND PROFILE
 - PROPOSED RESTORATION PROFILE

PLAN VIEW
1:400

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SECTION A-A'
1:400



LOCATION PLAN
1:10,000

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Client
EDF RENEWABLES LTD

Project
DUNSIDE WIND FARM

Drawing Title
**BORROW PIT 1
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT AND
CROSS-SECTION**

Name	Date	Scale	AS SHOWN @ A1
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Checked	SM 28.03.2023	Drawing Status	DRAFT
Drawing No.	BP-001		Revision
			P1

BP-002 – Borrow Pit 2 General Arrangement and Cross-Section

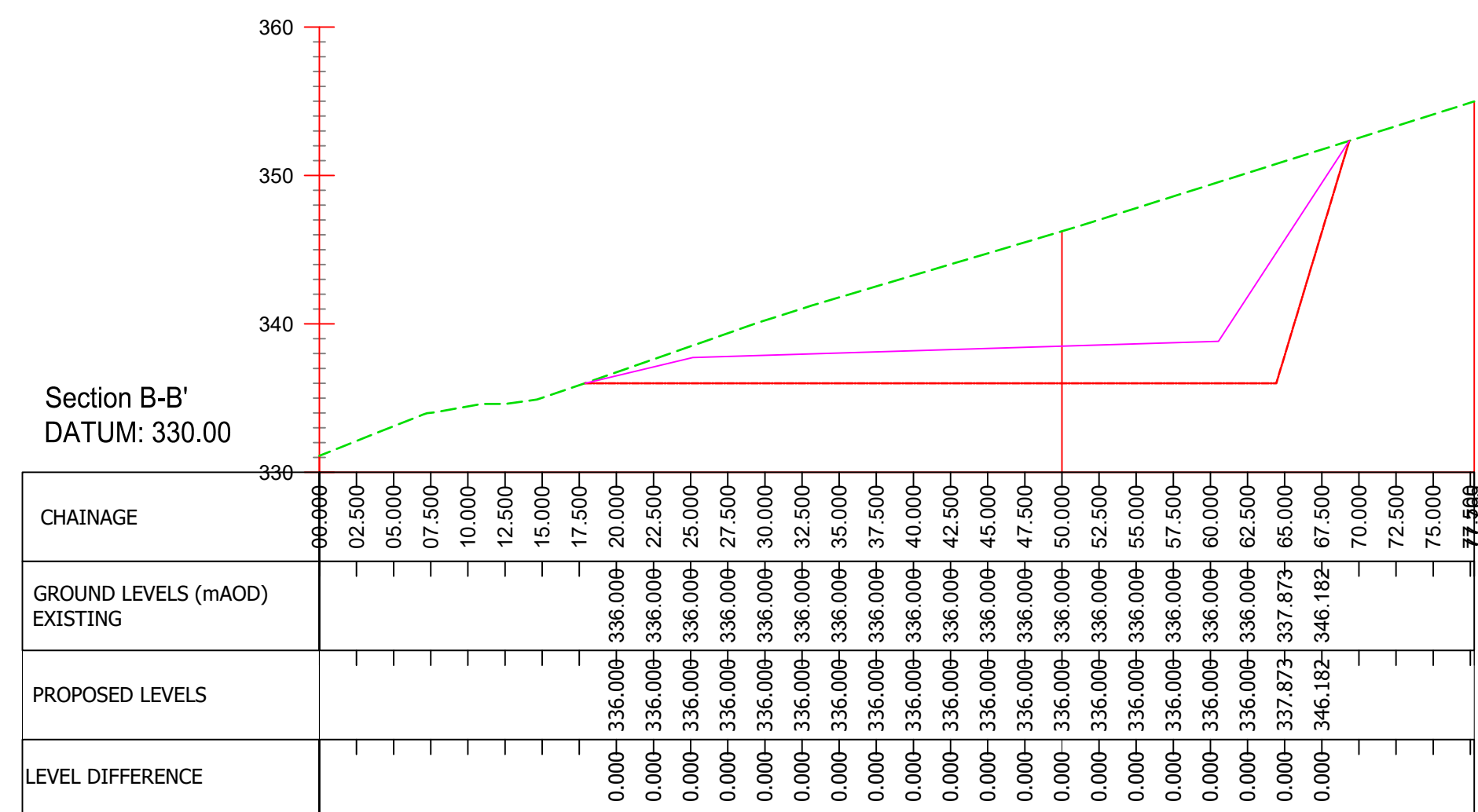


PLAN VIEW
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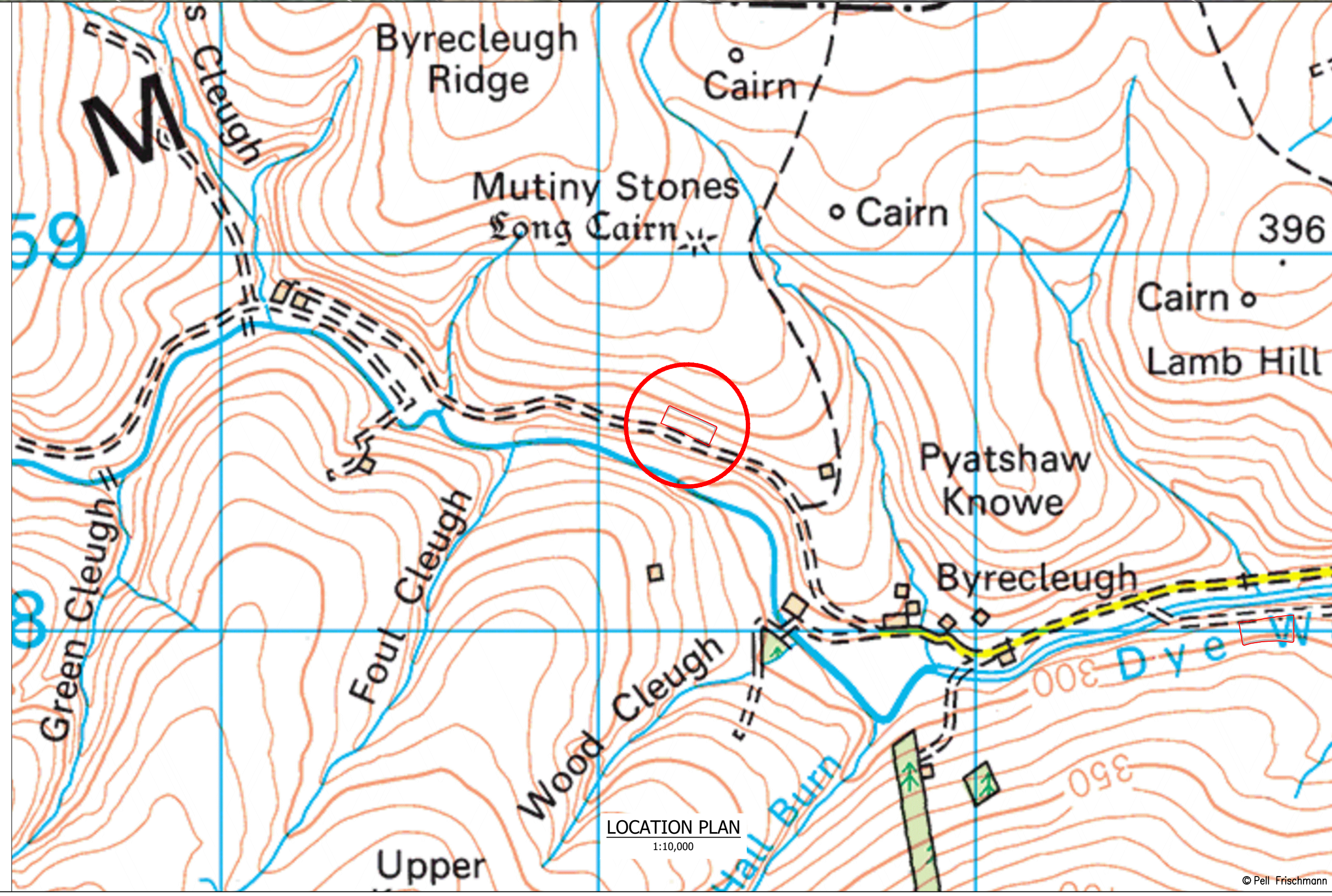
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 - PROPOSED GROUND PROFILE
 - PROPOSED RESTORATION PROFILE



SECTION B-B'
1:400



LOCATION PLAN
1:10,000

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Client
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Project
DUNSIDE WIND FARM

Drawing Title
**BORROW PIT 2
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT AND
CROSS-SECTION**

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			P1

BP-003 – Borrow Pit 3 General Arrangement and Cross-Section



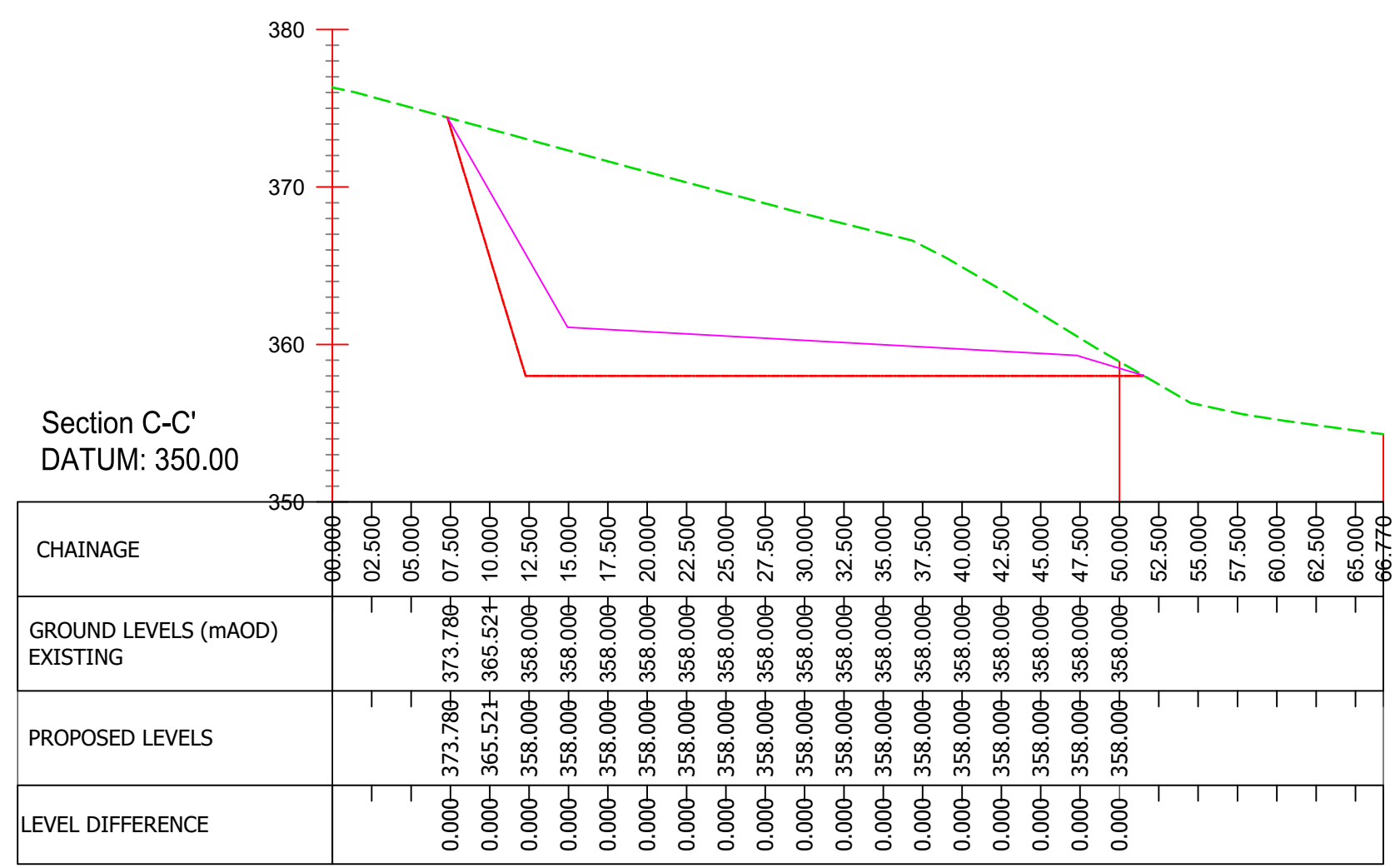
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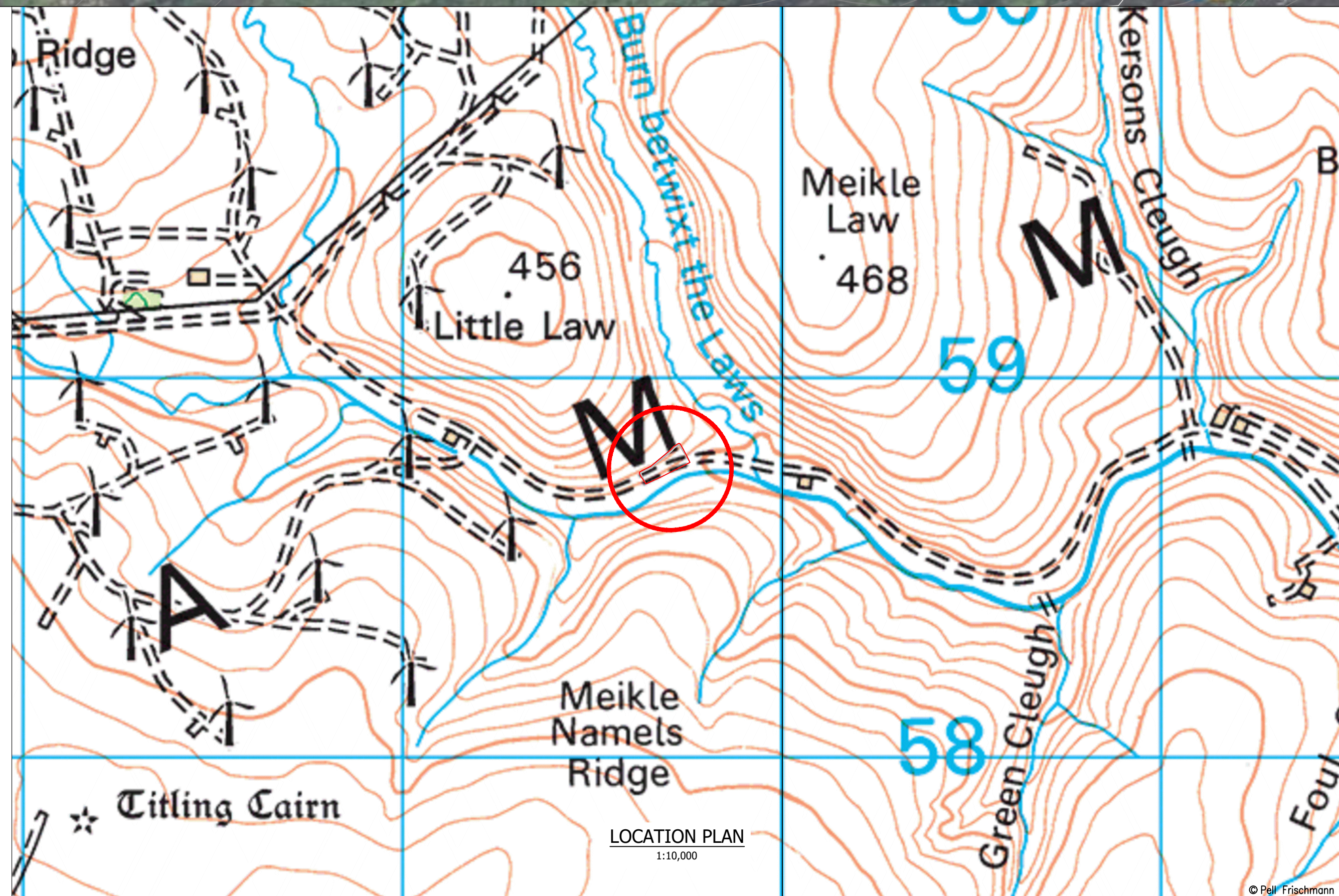
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 - PROPOSED RESTORATION PROFILE



SECTION C-C'
1:400



LOCATION PLAN
1:10,000

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Client
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Project
DUNSIDE WIND FARM

Drawing Title
**BORROW PIT 3
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT AND
CROSS-SECTION**

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Drawing No.	BP-003		Revision P1