

# Swansea Greener Grid Park

## Section 73 Application



Planning Application Reference: 2025/2325/S73

This document contains no new information.

### The story so far:

Our first planning application consented in 2021 included batteries alongside synchronous compensators.

This was amended in 2023 to redesign the synchronous compensators, removing the battery elements, and is now under construction.

In 2025 we were granted consent to extend the Greener Grid Park on land to the south of the original site to add batteries back in.

We have now submitted a Section 73 to reflect necessary design changes to the synchronous compensator project resulting from the detailed design process. Statkraft has carefully designed the updates to keep impacts to a minimum.

### Why do we need Greener Grid Parks:

At times, although renewable technologies can meet the energy demand on the grid, National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) has to turn the renewable supply off and switch on fossil fuel power plants to stabilise the network. This is costing the environment and the consumer.

A Greener Grid Park can provide the same stability services as a fossil fuel plant but in a clean, green way.



You can find out more about our Greener Grid Parks here:

[www.statkraft.co.uk/greenergridparks](http://www.statkraft.co.uk/greenergridparks)

**RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL**

No objections from statutory consultees

## Officers Report

*“The landscaping would, in time, provide effective screening to the development through the provision of native woodland and hedge planting.”*

*“no notable change to the effect on landscape character when compared to the effect of the consented development.”*

*“No objection as long as the dormouse licence is amended accordingly.”*  
Council Ecologist

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## Planning Considerations

### Platform level & mitigation measures

Final detailed design has resulted in a 1.6m platform raise to 87.35m.

Statkraft has included a landscape bund to mitigate the platform raise, ensuring the surplus subsoil was retained on site.

This reduces:

- the spread of invasive species
- the carbon footprint of the site
- the traffic/noise impacts associated with additional HGV movements

**Without this, the platform raise would have been 2.1 m.**

### Noise attenuation fencing

After detailed design and procurement the coolers selected have a **lower noise level** than those proposed at the planning application phase.

Additional noise studies show that noise attenuation fencing around the coolers is no longer necessary.

**The project will meet the same noise limits** included in the planning conditions of the main planning application.

### Landscaping

Whilst planting in the south-west corner of the site has reduced to accommodate the necessary larger SuDS basin, we have made significant efforts to maintain similar levels of tree cover.

There **remains a 22m-deep block of woodland planting** between the SuDS basin and our closest neighbouring properties to the south of the site.

Viewpoint 10

### Lighting

**During normal operation, the site will be operated remotely and not lit.**

The revised External Lighting Plan has been **designed to cause less light spill.**

- Number of lighting columns **reduced from 34 to 26**
- Number of wall mounted lights **reduced from 40 to 18**

Lights controlled by infrared sensors are time limited to **under two minutes.**

**No lighting impacts on nocturnal species (hazel dormouse and bats)**



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