

**M74 Heat and Power Park,  
Dalquhandy,  
Historic Environment Supporting Statement**

**February 2017**

# Document control sheet

Client: 3R Energy  
Project: Dalquhandy  
Document Title: Historic Environment Supporting Statement

Job No: 208.1

	Originator	Illustration by	Reviewed by	Approved by
<b>ORIGINAL</b>	NAME	NAME	NAME	NAME
DATE				
15/03/17				
Document Status: <b>FINAL</b>				

## ARCHAS Cultural Heritage Ltd

This document has been prepared by ARCHAS Cultural Heritage Ltd in its professional capacity as consultants in accordance with the terms and conditions of ARCHAS Ltd contract with the commissioning party (the "Client"). Regard should be had to those terms and conditions when considering and/or placing any reliance on this document. No part of this document may be copied or reproduced by any means without prior written permission from ARCHAS Ltd. If you have received this document in error, please destroy all copies in your possession or control and notify ARCHAS Ltd.

Any advice, opinions, or recommendations within this document (a) should be read and relied upon only in the context of the document as a whole; (b) do not, in any way, purport to include any manner of legal advice or opinion; (c) are based upon the information made available to ARCHAS Ltd at the date of this document and on current UK standards, codes, technology and construction practices as at the date of this document. It should be noted and it is expressly stated that no independent verification of any of the documents or information supplied to ARCHAS Ltd has been made. No liability is accepted by ARCHAS Ltd for any use of this document, other than for the purposes for which it was originally prepared and provided. Following final delivery of this document to the Client, ARCHAS Ltd will have no further obligations or duty to advise the Client on any matters, including development affecting the information or advice provided in this document.

This document has been prepared for the exclusive use of the Client and unless otherwise agreed in writing by ARCHAS Ltd, no other party may use, make use of or rely on the contents of this document. Should the Client wish to release this document to a third party, ARCHAS Ltd may, at its discretion, agree to such release provided that (a) ARCHAS Ltd written agreement is obtained prior to such release; and (b) by release of the document to the third party, that third party does not acquire any rights, contractual or otherwise, whatsoever against ARCHAS Ltd and ARCHAS Ltd, accordingly, assume no duties, liabilities or obligations to that third party; and (c) ARCHAS Ltd accepts no responsibility for any loss or damage incurred by the Client or for any conflict of ARCHAS Ltd interests arising out of the Client's release of this document to the third party.

# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 General

- 1.1.1 The Douglas West and Dalquhandy DP Renewable Energy Project was granted planning permission in 2016 following the submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment. Proposals to construct an Industrial Complex associated with, and overlapping the consented windfarm are now being developed. This Industrial Complex is provisionally known as the M74 Heat and Power Park.
- 1.1.2 As Historic Environment Consultants for the wider Douglas West and Dalquhandy DP Renewable Energy Project, ARCHAS Cultural Heritage were commissioned to investigate any potential implications on the Historic Environment created by the new development.

# 2 Development Area

## 2.1 General

- 2.1.1 The proposed M74 Heat and Power Park is located on the eastern side of the consented Douglas West and Dalquhandy DP Renewable Energy Project. It is centred on the recently constructed Wood Fuel Drying Facility.
- 2.1.2 The proposed Industrial Complex covers an area of approximately 48ha (including the existing road to the M74), of which 28ha lies within the limits of the consented Douglas West and Dalquhandy DP Renewable Energy Project. The site boundary for the proposed Industrial Complex extends the limits of the development area to the north towards the Poniel Water, and to the south east where the site borders the route of the old railway (see Figure 1 in the accompanying Landscape & Visual Appraisal).

## 2.2 Opencast Mining

- 2.2.1 By the late 20th century, the Dalquhandy Opencast Mine operated across much of the area to the north of Douglas and included the northern part of the Douglas West and Dalquhandy DP Renewable Energy Project site. At one point Dalquhandy was the largest opencast coal mine in Europe, the mine had a significant impact upon the landscape of the area, including the re-routing of the Poniel Water. The area occupied by the mine is now archaeologically sterile. Any features identified in this area through the earlier Desk Based Assessment (DBA) will have been removed or compromised by coal extraction.
- 2.2.2 Aerial images of the opencast mine from September indicate that a significant proportion of the proposed M74 Heat and Power Park sits within the mining landscape. The only areas which may not have been disturbed by mining are the south eastern limits of the site along the edge of the old railway line, and a possible area in the north eastern limits of the site.

## 3 Archaeological Background

### 3.1 Desk Based Assessment 2012

- 3.1.1 An Archaeological DBA was completed in 2012 during the preliminary stages of the proposed windfarm development.<sup>1</sup>
- 3.1.2 The scope of the DBA was set by a previous developer, whose proposals involved different turbine locations, site limits and general layout to those subsequently consented in 2016. These earlier proposals involved a larger site boundary which wholly encompasses the area covered by the proposed M74 Heat and Power Park. As such, this earlier DBA entirely assessed the proposed development site for upstanding archaeological features or potential Historic Environment issues

### 3.2 Environmental Impact Assessment 2015

- 3.2.1 The Environmental Impact Assessment (hereafter EIA) submitted in July 2015 for the Douglas West and Dalquhandy DP Renewable Energy Project contained a detailed Historic Environment Chapter prepared by ARCHAS Cultural Heritage Ltd.<sup>2</sup> This assessment was compiled according to the new site boundaries and as such did not entirely encompass the new M74 Heat and Power Park.
- 3.2.2 However, in accordance with standard EIA Historic Environment practice, the assessment looked at three distinct study areas, with the Middle Study Area analysing those sites located within 5km of the Douglas West and Dalquhandy DP Renewable Energy Project Boundary.

### 3.3 Sources and Standards

- 3.3.1 Both the DBA and EIA were completed according to accepted Standards and Guidance as outlined by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.<sup>3</sup> In researching the proposed development site, sources consulted included the following records:
- National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS);
  - The South Lanarkshire Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) as held by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS);
  - Historic and current maps as held by the Map Library of the National Library of Scotland (NLS);
  - Historic and current aerial imagery as held by the National Collection of Aerial Photography (NCAP) and online platforms;
  - The Statistical Accounts of Scotland;
  - Published and unpublished archaeological reports, articles, journals and books.
- 3.3.2 In addition to the Desk Based research, the 2012 DBA was supplemented by an extensive archaeological walkover survey which comprehensively assessed the wider development area for previously unrecorded upstanding archaeological remains.

---

<sup>1</sup> Cameron, R. 2012 *Douglas West Community Windfarm, Archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Walkover Survey*, Addyman Archaeology unpublished Grey Literature Report

<sup>2</sup> Cameron, R 2015 Douglas and Dalquhandy Renewable Energy Project Environmental impact Assessment, Chapter 10: Historic Environment

<sup>3</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014, *Code of Conduct*, and Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment*

## **4 Archaeological Sensitivity**

### **4.1 Results**

- 4.1.1 In the 2012 DBA and 2015 EIA only one site of potential archaeological interest was identified within the limits of the proposed M74 Heat and Power Park.
- 4.1.2 A farmstead called 'Alderburn' is noted at NS 82780 32850 on the northern edge of the consented windfarm site and within the area covered by the newly proposed Industrial Complex (EIA Site 20). This was recorded in the WoSAS SMR, with information which originated in Ordnance Survey (OS) maps.
- 4.1.3 Detailed assessment of the early maps first shows the 'Alderburn' farmstead on record in William Roy's Military Survey of c.1750. However, the site was not located during the walkover survey and lies within the area affected by 20<sup>th</sup> century opencast mining, which would almost certainly have removed all trace of the structures.

## **5 Conclusions**

### **5.1 General**

- 5.1.1 The proposed M74 Heat and Power Park Industrial Complex is located within an area which has been extensively archaeologically investigated as part of the earlier proposals for the neighbouring consented Douglas West and Dalquhandy DP Renewable Energy Project. The results of these surveys demonstrated that while one pre-improvement farmstead had been recorded within the area, no evidence for this now survives and it has almost certainly been removed by opencast mining.
- 5.1.2 The opencast mine which operated on the site was once the largest in Europe and covered the majority of the proposed development site. This mining operation will have removed any traces of earlier occupation had these been present.
- 5.1.3 ARCHAS Cultural Heritage Ltd believe the site to be archaeologically sterile and can confirm that there are no Historic Environment issues associated with the proposed development.