

Addendum to: Kimberly Clark, Flint, Green Hydrogen Facility, Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Net Benefit for Biodiversity

This statement is intended as an addendum to the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report (ITPEnergised, 2023) for the Kimberly Clark Facility, in Flint, Coleshill. This statement provides additional information to be incorporated into **Section 4.4 Net Benefit for Biodiversity**.

The report currently contains recommendations to create a ride and edge-habitat structure along the new access track proposed to pass through the woodland on Site, in addition to provision of bird and bat boxes within the woodland. In addition to this and in conjunction with P23-0117_EN_0001_B Landscape Masterplan (2023), the following enhancements will also be incorporated into the scheme:

- An area of wildflower meadow, comprising a native species rich seed mix, covering 1.08ha will be sown within the area to the north of the proposed development.
- Linear Hazel coppice to reference the overhead lines will be planted to provide additional scrub habitat. Approximately 29 hazel trees will be planted. Other individual standard native trees (58 in total) will also be planted across the site.
- The attenuation basin is to be seeded with an appropriate native meadow seed mix which is tolerant of occasional submergence.
- The hedgerows along the wider site boundaries will be strengthened through gapping up with suitable native species.
- Native hedgerows (341m in length) will be created, along with a band of scrub planting (0.21ha) around the Proposed Development. This will provide enhanced connectivity around the site and between the woodland and existing hedgerows and will provide abundant resources for birds, invertebrates and small mammals.

Natural Resources Wales (NRW) has developed a framework for evaluating ecosystem resilience based on five attributes and properties specified in the Environment (Wales) Act. This is referred to as DECCA: Diversity, Extent, Condition, Connectivity and Aspects of ecosystem resilience. The focus is on ecosystem resilience in the legislation and policies seek to address the broader issues affecting biodiversity. The five attributes of the framework include: diversity, extent, condition, connectivity and ecosystem resilience (adaptability, recovery and resistance).

The design of the above habitat enhancements and creation has taken into consideration the five attributes of the DECCA framework. Through implementation of these measures, along with appropriate long-term management, the project is considered to achieve a NBB throughout the project lifetime and beyond.

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