

Project: Ulverston Gas Pipeline

Ecology Update Note May 2021

Ulverston_hedgerow removal

With regards to the hedgerows within and adjacent to the route of the pipeline (Total 1) it has been assessed under the Environment Act 1995. This act is an enabling act and gave rise to the Hedgerow Regulation 1997. This provides a list of criteria for assessing hedgerows and based on the criteria (below) classifies the hedgerows as either 'Important' and therefore requires hedgerow removal consent unless it is consented under planning permission or 'Not Important' and therefore no removal consent is required. Consent, if required is provided via a letter from the Local Planning Authority.

All hedgerows within the working area and access areas (Total 1) are classified as 'Not Important' and therefore hedgerow removal consent is not required from the Local Planning Authority. The hedgerow was assessed to be a species poor hedgerow.

The hedgerow does meet criteria A below but does not fulfil any of the Criteria B below as listed in Schedule 1 Part II. Therefore the hedgerow is classified as 'Not Important' under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

How we determine if the hedgerow is 'Important' or 'Not Important'

The criteria

- a) Has existed for 30years or more; and
- b) Satisfies at least ONE of the criteria listed in Part II of Schedule 1 (Of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997)

Schedule 1 Part II criteria

Archaeology and History

1. Marks a boundary of a historic parish or township existing before 1850
2. Incorporates an archaeological feature eg SAM
3. Occurs in or is part of an archaeological site
4. Marks the boundary of a pre 1600AD estate or Manor
5. Forms and integral part of a pre-Parliamentary enclosure field system EG. Pre-dates Enclosure acts

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Wildlife and Landscape

6. The hedgerow

- Contains schedule 1 birds, schedule 5 animals, or schedule 8 plants in WCA1981
- A declining breeder (category 3) in 'Red Data Birds in Britain' (1990)
- Categorized as endangered, extinct, rare or vulnerable in British Red Data books 'Vascular Plants' (1983), 'Insects' (1987), 'Invertebrates other than insects' (1991), OR Red Data Books of Britain and Ireland 'Stoneworts' (1992)
- Historic records 5 years for animals and 10 years for plants

7. The woody and herbaceous plants

- a) 7 woody species
- b) 6 woody species and 3 associated features
- c) 6 woody (and includes one of Black poplar, large or small leaved lime, wild service)
- d) 5 woody and 4 associated

8. The hedgerow

- Is adjacent to a footpath, bridleway or byway
- Includes at least 4 woody species and 2 associated features

Ecologists contact details

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