



**LIGHTSOURCE RENEWABLE ENERGY LTD**

**Land at Lower Farm, Yapton Lane, Walberton, West Sussex**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation  
OCTOBER 2015**

**PLANNING REFERENCE:** WA/34/15/PL  
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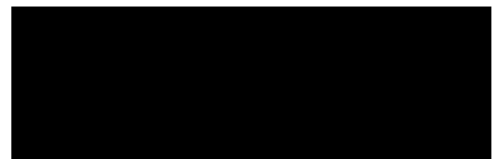
## **Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd**

### **Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Evaluation**

**October 2015**

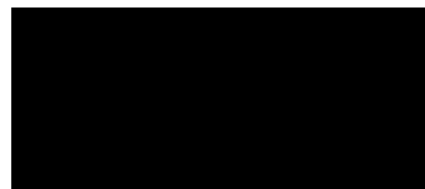
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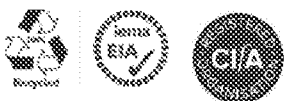
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DESK BASED ASSESSMENTS  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION  
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY  
TOPOGRAPHIC AND LANDSCAPE SURVEY  
HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING  
EIA AND HERITAGE CONSULTANCY

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## 1 INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology (WAA) has been commissioned by Lightsource Renewable Energy Ltd (hereafter referred to as 'the client') to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for an archaeological evaluation on land at Lower Farm, Yapton Lane, Walberton (Centred on NGR: SU 9828 0475; Figure 1). The evaluation by trial trenching is required to inform upon the potential archaeological resource and the impact upon it from the construction of a solar farm (Planning Reference: WA/34/15/PL).
- 1.1.2 The development is likely to affect below ground archaeological remains should they be present and as a result the Local Planning Authority requires a programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching to be undertaken ahead of the development. Should significant archaeological deposits or features be revealed it will provide a sufficient a level of archaeological information to enable the Local Planning Authority (LPA) to consider potential additional mitigation strategies.
- 1.1.3 The definition of an archaeological field evaluation is 'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national and international context as appropriate' (CIFA 2014a).
- 1.1.4 This document provides a methodology for an archaeological evaluation and has been developed in consultation with James Kenny, Archaeological Officer at Chichester District Council. In addition the WSI conforms to the guidelines and standards laid down in the following documents:
- *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIFA 2014a).
  - *Code of Approved Conduct for the Regulation of Arrangements in Field Archaeology*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists: Reading (CIFA 2014b).
  - *Management of Archaeological Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (Morphe), English Heritage 2006.
  - *Wardell Armstrong Archaeology: Excavation Manual*, Wardell Armstrong Archaeology, internal document, edition 1.2 (WAA 2012).

## 2 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Location and Geological Context

- 2.1.1 The site comprises pasture and arable land at Lower Farm, located at the south-eastern extremity of the Parish of Walberton. The land within the site slopes from a high point of 10m AOD in the north-west to a low point of 4m AOD in the south-east. Within this general south-eastern facing slope are localised variations in topography, probably resulting from runoff patterns which have formed small 'valleys' towards streams present to the south and the east of the site, see Figure 2 which shows the topographical survey of the site.
- 2.1.2 A broad stream marking the parish boundary is located 120m south of the site. This drains into the River Arun which is located 1.8km east of the site.
- 2.1.3 Solid geology comprises clay silt and sand of either the London Clay formation of the Lambeth Group formation. Superficial geology comprises raised beach deposits of sand and gravel (British Geological Survey 2014); the site is located at the Brighton-Norton raised beach and cliffline, a deposit which marks the period when sea levels were 8m higher than the present day.

### 2.2 Historical and Archaeological Background

#### *Prehistoric*

- 2.2.1 The site is located at the Brighton-Norton raised beach and cliffline, a deposit marking the period at which sea levels were 8m higher than the present day. This is probably about 200,000 years old and post-dates the earlier Goodwood Slindon beach and cliffline which was present north of the search area when sea levels were 40m higher than at present. The latter deposit has revealed early hominid remains at Boxgrove c.7km north-west of the site.
- 2.2.2 The earliest dated evidence for activity within the 1km search area comprises Mesolithic axes and flints which have been recorded 920-930m east of the site (HER references 1344 and 1462). Whilst this probably represents a temporary camp site located nearby a stream or marine inlet, rather than a home-base (Drewett 1999), it indicates that the site was located within an area utilised for foraging during the Mesolithic period.
- 2.2.3 Neolithic activity is attested to by a Neolithic axe 550m north of the site (HER reference 1345).
- 2.2.4 Evidence for funerary and settlement activity dating to the Early Bronze Age and Middle Bronze Age is focused to the north of the search area on the Downs and Lower Greensand

(Greatest 1999). However, by the end of the Bronze Age and into the Iron Age, settlement had expanded onto the coastal plain. Indeed, at Yapton (to the south of the site) Late Bronze Age pits and, a metalworkers' hoard testifying to an increase in Late Bronze Age trade and production, have been recorded (Hamilton & Manley 1999).

- 2.2.5 By the Late Iron Age settlement expanded further on the coastal plain, perhaps as a result of improvements made possible by extensive drainage networks. Principal settlements in closest vicinity to the site include that which has been recorded at North Bersted, c.5k south-west of the site (Hamilton & Manley 1999b).

#### ***Romano British***

- 2.2.6 The coastal plain was utilised for farming during the Romano-British period and a number of villas are recorded. Indeed a Roman villa site is recorded at Walberton, 880m north of the site (HER reference MWS8590).

#### ***Early Medieval (c.410 to 1066AD)***

- 2.2.7 The HER does not record any evidence for Anglo Saxon activity within the boundary of the site or within the search area.

#### ***Medieval (c.1066 to 1540AD)***

- 2.2.8 The establishment of settlement at Walberton by the end of the eleventh century is verified by its inclusion in the Domesday Book (1086) and a manor house was present at Walberton by 1302 (Hudson 1997). The land within the site was located within the south-eastern part of Walberton Parish which was within common meadow during this period (Hudson 1997).

#### ***Post Medieval (c.1540AD to present)***

- 2.2.9 The earliest cartographic evidence studied as part of this assessment comprised an 1852 copy of a 1630 map. This showed the Manor of Walberton belonging to Thomas Bennett Esquire. The land within the site was located within enclosed land in the south-eastern part of the Estate, see Figure 3. A footpath to Yapton was shown in the immediate vicinity of the western boundary of the site. Maps dating to 1756, 1778 and 1846 showed little change within the boundary of the site; the only change being the addition of an east-west field boundary in the western half of the site between 1778 and 1846. Buildings at Lower Farm had become established to the immediate west of the site by the time of the production of 1778 map.

#### ***Previous archaeological work***

- 2.2.10 Worthing Archaeological Society has undertaken oblique aerial photography, geophysical

survey and trial trenching and a further subsequent geophysical survey has been undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica Ltd (2015) on behalf of Wardell Armstrong and the Client.

- 2.2.11 Aerial photography of the site showed a circular anomaly c.15m in diameter and linear anomalies. This suggested the possible presence of a barrow or a round house and an associated field system although the subsequent resistivity survey did not record a conclusive anomaly which could be said to accord with the circular cropmark (Worthing Archaeological Society 2014).
- 2.2.12 A trial trench was excavated across the postulated location of the cropmark. This proved inconclusive in respect of the possible barrow/roundhouse (possibly due to inaccuracies in the locating of the trench in respect of the cropmark) but it recorded a possible metalled feature which may represent the remains of an undated road or trackway. A further trial trench was excavated across a linear feature located to the south-west and this was recorded as a 3m wide, 1.8m deep ditch. Whilst this was undated it was reported as being most likely prehistoric in date and due to its size a probably boundary ditch (Worthing Archaeological Society 2014).
- 2.2.13 An additional phase of trenching has been undertaken but the results of this work were not available although the work apparently confirmed the presence of a large ditch and a north-south aligned road/trackway which have been provisionally dated to the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age (Bannlund, P and Mills, J 2014, pers comm., 5<sup>th</sup> November).
- 2.2.14 The most recent geophysical survey (ArchaeoPhysica Ltd 2015) identified several anomalies that were interpreted as geological or agricultural in origin. However, a series of enhanced anomalies may be of archaeological interest within the south-east of the site possibly forming a series of interlinking ditches.
- 2.2.15 This later survey did not appear to detect all of the features identified by the earlier aerial photographs and/or the WAS resistivity survey, particularly the circular barrow/roundhouse feature although there is a suggestion that the survey may have been affected by variable and intermittent electromagnetic interference, thought to be linked with TETRA masts in the vicinity.
- 2.2.16 Also, much of the data thus far retrieved from the site has no geo-referencing and therefore it is difficult to overlay the previously undertaken works with those that are proposed for the forthcoming evaluation.

### **3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

3.1.1 Where archaeological remains are present the programme of archaeological evaluation by trial trenching will aim to interpret and characterise them. In addition the fieldwork will help inform upon the significance of the potential impacts of the development. The results of the evaluation will be used to inform the Local Planning Authority and allow an informed decision to be made upon the requirement for any further archaeological work should significant archaeological deposits and features be revealed.

3.1.2 The general aims of the evaluation are to:

- determine the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains within the proposed development site
- determine the character, date, extent and distribution of any archaeological deposits and their potential significance
- determine levels of disturbance to any archaeological deposits from plough damage or from any other agricultural/industrial practices or later building activities
- confirm the results of the previous geophysical surveys;
- establish whether the 'blanks' identified during the geophysical survey are reflected in reality with these areas lacking archaeological remains;
- confirm the results of the previous Worthing Archaeological Society trial pitting
- investigate and record all deposits and features of archaeological interest within the areas to be disturbed by the current development
- determine the likely impact on archaeological deposits from the proposed development
- disseminate the results of the fieldwork through an appropriate level of reporting.

### **4 METHOD STATEMENT**

4.1.1 In order to satisfy Condition 16 of Planning Decision on WA/34/15/PL and the stated objectives of the project as set out under Section 3, a scheme for an archaeological evaluation has been designed in order.

4.1.2 The archaeological evaluation by trial trenching is designed to characterise the potential of the proposed development site by placing eleven 50m long by 1.80m wide trenches and across the whole site area on a partially random grid array representing a 1% sample of the overall 9.93ha site area. This array will be designed in coordination with James Kenny, Archaeological Officer, Chichester District Council, to best target features previously identified by the aerial photography, geophysical survey and trial pitting but also to identify any previously unidentified linear features regardless of their orientation as well as identify any specific areas of activity to help provide the LPA as complete an understanding of the

site area as possible to aid their conclusions in the requirements of further mitigation should it be needed.

4.1.3 In advance of the fieldwork WAA will ensure that all reasonable measures have been taken to identify any constraints and will obtain information from the client on the presence of services, any ecological constraints, the presence of Public Rights of Way, the presence of contaminated land or any other risks to health and safety.

4.1.4 All trenches will be excavated by mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket under the close supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist to the first significant archaeological horizon or the natural substrate, whichever is encountered first. Should archaeological deposits be revealed, all surfaces will be cleaned by hand, inspected and deposits excavated to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their character, significance and date.

#### 4.2 Investigation and Sampling Strategy

4.2.1 Archaeological features will be sampled sufficiently to characterise and date them and to determine their significance i.e. 10% of fills of linear features (unless the linear features are substantial in which case an alternative sampling strategy will be discussed with the planning archaeologist) and 50% of pit fills. Smaller discrete features such as postholes will be a 100% sampled.

4.2.2 Measures will be taken to protect particularly significant, valuable or sensitive archaeological remains from exposure, accidental damage and / or theft.

#### 4.3 Recording

4.3.1 Archaeological deposits and features will be recorded according to accepted professional standards as set out in the WAA Field Manual (WAA 2012) and sufficient data will be recorded to allow the preparation of a report setting the results of the evaluation into their archaeological context.

4.3.2 Archaeological contexts will be recorded and numbered individually on *pro-forma* context sheets. A further more general record of the work, comprising a description and discussion of the archaeology is to be maintained as appropriate. Context sheets are to be primarily filled in by the archaeologist excavating the feature or deposit.

- 4.3.3 All features will be recorded using a Trimble TSC3 GPS unit with sub-centimetre accuracy with each point recorded in relation to the OSGB36 geod model and coded to an internal database to provide a dataset that records feature type, context number, associated drawing numbers and any other feature specific information that may be relevant. This plan will provide a geo-referenced 3 dimensional plan of the site, in addition, features that require more detailed illustration will be undertaken in relation to a feature specific baseline (that will be surveyed in using the GPS) and drawn at an appropriate scale on polyester based drafting film and labelled in relation to a site specific drawing register.
- 4.3.4 Sections will be drawn at a scale of 1:10. Significant archaeological features will normally be drawn in plan at a scale of 1:20 or 1:10 if appropriate. All detailed plans and sections will be related to the 1:100 or 1:1250 plans and the latter will be accurately related to the National Grid.
- 4.3.5 All plans and sections are to be levelled with respect to AOD and are to be drawn on polyester based drafting film and clearly labelled.
- 4.3.6 A full digital photographic record of the work will be kept. The photographic record is to be regarded as part of the site archive.
- 4.3.7 WAA will ensure that the complete site archive including finds and environmental samples is kept in a secure place throughout the period of fieldwork and post excavation works.

#### 4.4 Human Remains

- 4.4.1 In the unlikely event that human remains, both inhumations and/or cremations, be exposed during the course of the evaluation discussions will held with the LPA and the client on options for their appropriate preservation in situ or for their removal in accordance with professional standards and guidelines.
- 4.4.2 Wardell Armstrong Archaeology will have available within the team or on call an appropriately qualified and experienced osteoarchaeologist to supervise the excavation and removal of any human remains (where this is necessary) from the site.
- 4.4.3 In the event that human burials are discovered, a Ministry of Justice Licence will be required (in accordance with Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857) before the remains can be lifted. The need for a Ministry of Justice Licence applies to both inhumation and cremated remains. Application for a Licence will be made by WAA.

#### **4.5 Finds recovery and processing and treatment**

- 4.5.1 All artefacts recovered during the course of the archaeological evaluation are the property of the landowner. They will be suitably bagged, boxed and marked in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, Conservation Guidelines no.2 (UKIC 1990) and a suitable repository agreed with the LPA Planning Officer.
- 4.5.2 On completion of the project modern material, unstratified remains and objects that have been assessed as having no obvious grounds for retention will be discarded after a period of six months, unless there is a specific request to retain them (and subject to the collection policy of the relevant depository).
- 4.5.3 Records of artefact assemblages will clearly state how they have been recovered, sub-sampled and processed.

#### **4.6 Treatment of treasure**

- 4.6.1 Finds falling under the statutory definition of Treasure (as defined by the Treasure Act of 1996 and its revision of 2002) will be reported immediately to the relevant Coroner's Office, the landowner/client and the LPA Planning Officer. A Treasure Receipt (obtainable from either the FLO or the DCMS website) will be completed and a report submitted to the Coroner's Office and the FLO within 14 days of understanding the find is Treasure. Failure to report within 14 days is a criminal offence.
- 4.6.2 The Treasure Receipt and report will include the date and circumstances of the discovery in addition to the identity of the finder (put as unit/contractor) and (as exactly as possible) the location of the find.

#### **4.7 Environmental Sampling**

- 4.7.1 A structured programme of environmental sampling appropriate to the aims of the project will be implemented. The strategy and methodology for the sampling of deposits with palaeo-environmental potential will be in accordance with English Heritage Centre for Archaeology Guidelines "*Environmental Archaeology – A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*" (2011).
- 4.7.2 WAA's Environmental and Geo-archaeological Officers will undertake the processing and examination of deposits of particular significance.

- 4.7.3 Where deposits are dry, bulk samples for the recovery of charred plant remains, small bones and finds, will be taken from sealed and datable features such as pits, ditches, hearths and floors. Each context will normally be sampled. The size of the sample is expected to be in the range of 40-60 litres per context or 100% of smaller contexts. Samples will not be taken from the intersection of features.
- 4.7.4 Mollusc samples of 2 litres each will be taken vertically from appropriate sections to investigate the changes of vegetation through time.
- 4.7.5 Where deposits are wet, waterlogged or peaty, monoliths will be taken along cleaned vertical surfaces for the retrieval of pollen, diatoms, ostracods and foraminifera. The numbers to be taken will be agreed with the LPA.
- 4.7.6 For wet, waterlogged or peaty deposits, bulk samples of 20 litres will be taken from visible layers or spits for the retrieval of plant macro-remains and insects.
- 4.7.7 Environmental samples from dry deposits will normally be processed by flotation following the fieldwork and the residues will be sorted to retrieve small bones, small finds and charcoal that has not floated. Environmental samples from wet deposits will normally be sent to specialists for processing in laboratory conditions.
- 4.7.8 Where guidance is relevant the appropriate English Heritage papers will be followed (English Heritage 2005; 2006; 2007; 2011).

#### **4.8 Reporting**

- 4.8.1 Upon completion of the evaluation fieldwork WAA will produce an appropriate report, a draft of which will be supplied to the client for comment in the first instance. Once approved by the client a copy of the report will be forward to the Local Authority.
- 4.8.2 A summary of the site will be provided for insertion in an appropriate local/ relevant journal should the LPA deem it appropriate.
- 4.8.3 External specialists will only be called upon during compilation of the report if the character of the archaeological resource cannot be adequately determined without their input.

#### **4.9 Archive Preparation and Deposition**

- 4.9.1 WAA will make provisional arrangements for the deposition of the site archive with an appropriate museum or suitable repository agreed with the Planning Officer. WAA will obtain a provisional accession number for the site archive from the recipient museum (except where the museum prefers to issue an accession number following completion of fieldwork) and any guidelines from the recipient museum regarding deposition of the site archive.
- 4.9.2 The site archive, will include all project records and cultural material produced by the evaluation, and will be prepared in accordance with *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (Brown 2011; UKIC 1990).
- 4.9.3 On completion of the project WAA will arrange for the archive to be deposited in accordance with the provisional arrangements made with a suitable museum or repository at the onset of fieldwork. Any alternative arrangements will be agreed with the LPA.

#### **4.10 Monitoring and Liaison**

- 4.10.1 WAA will allow the site records to be inspected and examined at any reasonable time during or after the archaeological fieldwork by the client or any designated representative of the Local Planning Authority.
- 4.10.2 WAA will liaise closely with the LPA throughout the course of the development and will arrange for on-site meetings at key decision points.

#### **4.11 Dissemination**

- 4.11.1 The project will be registered with the Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS (OASIS), where a digital copy of the report will be made available.
- 4.11.2 A summary of the work will be submitted to the editor of any other relevant period journals agreed with the LPA should the results of the fieldwork warrant this.

#### **4.12 Health and Safety**

- 4.12.1 WAA will conduct the work in compliance with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and will also follow the guidance set out in *“Health and Safety in Field Archaeology”* produced by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers 1997.

- 4.12.2 WAA maintains a Health and Safety Policy and has available appropriate expertise in Health and Safety advice. Site staff will have an appropriate level of training to enable them to carry out fieldwork safely.
- 4.12.3 WAA will abide by the client's health and safety methodology as well as producing their own internal risk assessment document, all WAA staff will assist the client in maintaining the site in a safe condition. Hazards will be appropriately identified and managed including identification of buried and above ground services/utilities. Deep excavations will be appropriately fenced with relevant signage. Deep excavations will be shored, stepped or battered as appropriate for safe access and egress and allow for the required works to be conducted in a safe manner.
- 4.12.4 In addition to the risk assessment which will be undertaken prior to commencement of fieldwork, where appropriate a COSHH assessment will also be undertaken. Once on site these documents will be assessed and any variations will be documented and added to the appropriate document. These will be re-evaluated as periodically during the course of the excavations to make sure that they remain consistent to the site specific risks. All members of WAA and visitors will be required to be inducted and sign these documents on first arrival to site to show that they have read and understood the contents and any variations to the documents will be communicated as required.
- 4.12.5 During the fieldwork appropriate safety clothing will be worn by WAA staff at all times. The client will be requested to provide details of their own risk assessment before fieldwork commences. If there is conflict between the client's risk assessment and that of WAA then the client's will take priority, unless it is perceived to be placing the field team at greater risk.
- 4.12.6 The client will asked to provide all information reasonably obtainable on contamination and the location of live services before the evaluation commences.

#### 4.13 Staffing

- 4.13.1 The project will be directly managed by a full Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists or an archaeologist of equivalent standing.
- 4.13.2 The standards and codes of conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists will be adhered to at all times.

- 4.13.3 As far as is possible WAA will inform the LPA Planning representative of the start date of the work (at least five working days before) and arrange for monitoring visits to be undertaken if appropriate.
- 4.13.4 WAA will keep the client and the LPA informed of the progress of work and will notify both immediately if particularly important archaeological remains are encountered.
- 4.13.5 The archaeological evaluation will be monitored for the Local Planning Authority by James Kenny, Archaeological Officer at Chichester District Council.
- 4.13.6 The following members of the WAA team will be available, if necessary to advise when necessary:
- Environmental Archaeology: Don O'Meara MSC., M.A., BA (Member of Association for Environmental Archaeology)
  - Finds and Archives Officer: Megan Stoakley M.A., BA
  - Flint Expert: David Jackson BA Hons
  - Osteoarchaeologist: Damian Churchill M.A., BA Hons
  - Numismatics: Frank Giecco MIFA, DipArch, BA Hons
  - Geoarchaeology and Pollen: Nick Daffern MSc, BA (Hons) (Member of the Quaternary Research Association and the Association for Environmental Archaeology)

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