

wardell-armstrong.com

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE  
ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES  
LAND AND PROPERTY  
MINING AND MINERAL PROCESSING  
MINERAL ESTATES  
WASTE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



**BARR ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED**

**KILLOCH ENERGY RECOVERY PARK**

**HABITATS REGULATIONS APPRAISAL SCREENING REPORT**

**MAY 2021**

**DATE ISSUED:** May 2021  
**JOB NUMBER:** GM11372  
**REPORT NUMBER:** 009  
**VERSION:** V0.1  
**STATUS:** Final

**BARR ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITED**

**KILLOCH ENERGY RECOVERY PARK**

**HABITATS REGULATIONS APPRAISAL SCREENING REPORT**

**MAY 2021**

**PREPARED BY:**

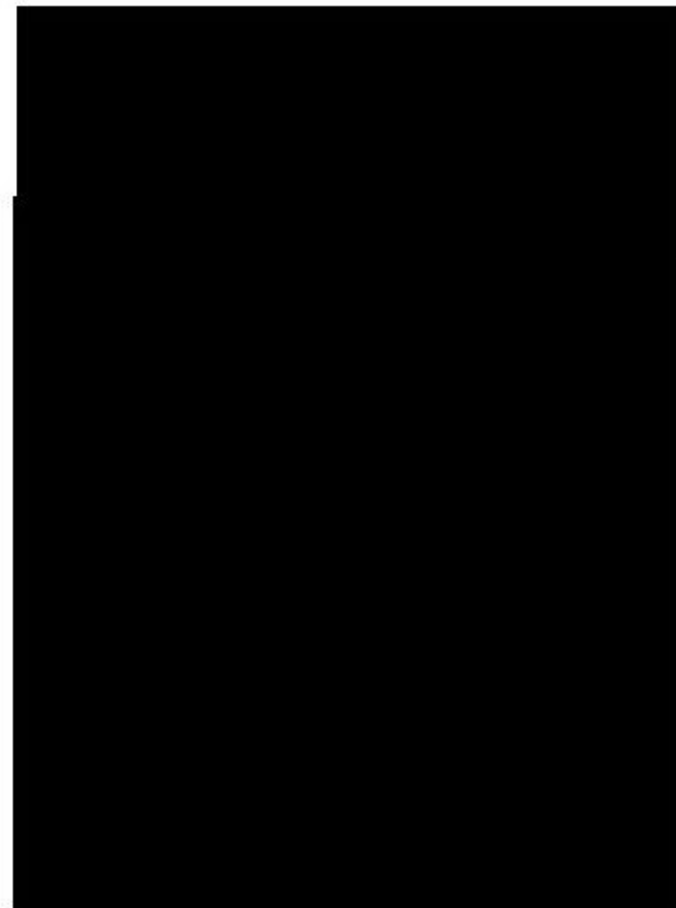
Joanne Martindale Principal Ecologist

**REVIEWED BY:**

Helen Embleton Associate Director  
(Ecology)

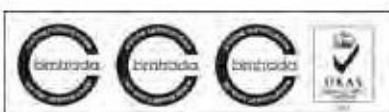
**APPROVED BY:**

Tim Palmer Associate Director  
(Ecology)



*This report has been prepared by Wardell Armstrong LLP with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, within the terms of the Contract with the Client. The report is confidential to the Client and Wardell Armstrong LLP accepts no responsibility of whatever nature to third parties to whom this report may be made known.*

*No part of this document may be reproduced without the prior written approval of Wardell Armstrong LLP.*



## CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION .....	2
1.1	Background.....	2
1.2	Site Context .....	2
1.3	Project Description.....	2
1.4	Proximity to Designated Areas.....	3
1.5	Ecological Context of the Site.....	3
1.6	Current Legislation .....	5
2	Methods.....	7
2.2	Stage 1 – Likely Significant Effect Test .....	7
2.3	Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment .....	7
2.4	Stage 3 – Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI) Test.....	8
2.5	Confirming Other Plans and Projects That May Act in Combination.....	8
3	Pathways of Impact.....	9
3.2	Effects of Disturbance on Breeding, Migrating and Wintering Birds Associated with PAs. 9	
3.3	Air Pollution and Air-borne Pollutants .....	10
3.4	Changes in Water Quality and Hydraulic Conditions.....	10
4	European Sites .....	11
4.2	Airds Moss Special Area of Conservation (SAC).....	11
4.3	Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands Special Protection Area (SPA).....	11
5	Likely Significant Effect Test .....	13
6	In-Combination Effects .....	17
7	Conclusion.....	18
8	References .....	19

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report

<b>DRAWINGS</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>SCALE</b>
21113 PL_03	Site Location Plan	1:500 @A3
GM11372_028	Ecological Designations	1:120,000 @A3

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

1.1.1 Wardell Armstrong LLP (WA) were appointed by Barr Environmental Ltd to produce a 'shadow' Stage 1 Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) screening report regarding the proposed development of an energy recovery park (project) at Killoch (the site), located off the A70 between Ayr and Cumnock in East Ayrshire.

1.1.2 The report seeks to inform an assessment to be undertaken by the competent authority (East Ayrshire Council) of any aspects of the project that would cause 'likely significant effects' on the interest features of European sites, specifically:

- Airds Moss Special Area of Conservation (SAC); and
- Muirkirk and North Lowther Uplands Special Protection Area (SPA).

1.1.3 In order to fully assess the potential for likely significant effects upon these internationally designated sites, this project has been assessed both in isolation and in combination with other plans and projects. The East Ayrshire Local Development Plan (2017) is the principle source of information for in-combination assessments as well as relevant developments within 10km, listed in the Request for Scoping Opinion (WA, 2020).

1.1.4 The assessment is informed by the Figures within the Drawings Section of the report, a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Wardell Armstrong 2020) which is attached as Appendix 1, and Chapter 8: Air Quality, Odour and Human Health.

### **1.2 Site Context**

1.2.1 The project site is located at the head office of Barr Environmental Limited which currently incorporates a number of office and storage buildings, asphalt plant and ancillary infrastructure, an area used for training purposes and general laydown area for equipment, see the 'Proposed Site Plan' (FOB Design, Drawing Reference: 21113\_PL04).

### **1.3 Project Description**

1.3.1 The project is to build and operate an energy recovery park on the existing brownfield site, which has historically been used as a coal mining and processing facility. It is proposed to build a facility with the capability to process, recycle and reuse residual