



Tata Steel UK Ltd

Electric Arc Furnace

Stage 1 Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report

2487033 – P&C EAF (Rev00)
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RSK GENERAL NOTES

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Where field investigations have been carried out, these have been restricted to a level of detail required to achieve the stated objectives of the work.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1.1 This Habitats Regulations Assessment report has been produced in relation to a proposed development at Tata Steelworks in Port Talbot, South Wales (central Grid Ref SS 77524 86021). It is being produced in order to comply with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Neath Port Talbot Council are the appropriate authority for the purposes of the Habitats Regulations Assessment.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of the screening assessment is to establish whether the Proposed Development is likely to have a significant effect on a European site on its own or in combination with other proposals.
- 1.1.3 The red line boundary (Figure 1) falls within close proximity to three internationally important sites covered by four designations for their nature conservation interests. These comprise: Kenfig/ Cynffig SAC, Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr/ Cefn Cribwr Grasslands SAC and Crymlyn Bog/ Cors Crymlyn Ramsar and SAC.
- 1.1.4 This report presents the results of a Habitat Regulations Assessment Stage 1 Screening assessment undertaken by RSK Biocensus in relation to the proposed works. Its purpose is to establish whether the proposed works are likely to have a significant effect on the qualifying features of the internationally important designed sites listed above, and therefore conclude whether or not a HRA Stage 2 'Appropriate Assessment' is required.

1.2 Background and pre-screening

Desktop review and field survey

- 1.2.1 For the purposes of this report, a desk-based assessment has been undertaken covering 2 km from the proposed works, focusing on the habitats and species which are listed as 'primary reasons' or 'qualifying features' in the designations of the adjacent protected areas. Information was collated from the organisations and websites listed below:
- Multi-Agency Geographic Information on the Countryside (MAGIC) website (www.magic.gov.uk).
 - The Natural Resources Wales designated sites website¹.
 - The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) website (www.jncc.gov.uk).
- 1.2.2 A walkover survey of the site was carried out in August 2021, and between November 2023 and May 2024. The reports set out a robust review of the available information on habitats present within, and adjacent to, the designated sites. They ensure an informed

¹ <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/wildlife-and-biodiversity/protected-areas-of-land-and-seas/find-protected-areas-of-land-and-sea/?lang=en>

judgment can be made about the potential impacts of the Proposed Development on the qualifying interests of the site.

- 1.2.3 The desk study review supplemented by the site walkovers is considered sufficient to undertake a robust screening exercise.

1.3 Methodology

- 1.3.1 Habitats Regulations Assessment is a requirement of Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). The assessment must be made by the Competent Authority, and this report has been prepared to inform their decision.
- 1.3.2 This HRA Screening has been undertaken with reference to guidance published by UK Government (Gov.UK, 2019)² and the 'Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook' (DTA Publications, 2021)³. Consideration has been given to the nature of the proposed works, and whether these would be likely to result in a significant effect on any of the qualifying features of the four internationally important designated sites.
- 1.3.3 Details of the proposed works were examined (presented in Section 2.0); and documents relating to the Ramsar, SPA and SAC sites, together with the previous environmental reports prepared for the proposed development, were used to provide the ecological baseline (Section 3.0). On a precautionary basis, all internationally important designated sites were considered within a radius of approximately 10 km. Screening matrices (adapted from National Highways, 2020) were used to assess systematically the likelihood of significant effects arising from each part of the works upon each designated site (Appendix A and Appendix B), before drawing a conclusion on whether HRA Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment was required.

² UK Government (2019). *Guidance on the use of Habitats Regulations Assessment*. [online] Gov.UK. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment>

³ DTA Publications Limited (2021). *Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook*. [online] DTA Publications. Available at: <https://www.dtapublications.co.uk/>

2.0 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Scheme description

2.1.1 The Proposed Development will require the demolition of existing buildings and structures, and the construction of a new EAF steel production facility. The Proposed Development also includes a scrap metal handling facility and associated scrap yards, slag processing facility, chemical and material storage structures, buildings, handling systems, electrical control rooms and power infrastructure, laboratories, offices and ancillary facilities, together with new and amended transport infrastructure, landscaping and associated development.

2.2 Ecological context

2.2.1 The site is located to the south-east of the town of Port Talbot. The site is industrial and dominated by buildings and hard standing. The dominant habitats on site are neutral grassland, coastal floodplain grazing marsh, broadleaved plantation woodland, open water and reedbeds, scrub and ephemeral short perennial vegetation. There are a number of water course channels throughout the grassland within the southern extent of the site. There is one lagoon associated with channels and one large lake associated with the steelworks, located at the northern extent of the site.

2.2.2 The site forms part of the operational Port Talbot Steelworks. It is immediately bordered to the north, east and west by the wider Tata Steelworks site. A public right of way (Longlands Lane) and Margam Moors SSSI are situated adjacent to the south of the site. The surrounding landscape is a mixture of woodland, hedgerows, waterbodies (reservoir), grassland and residential properties within Margam. Swansea Bay (Bristol Channel) is located approximately 880m west of the site. A review of aerial photographs and Ordnance Survey maps shows that there are two ponds located within 500 m of the site.

2.3 Timing and duration of works

2.3.1 Construction works will commence in mid-2025 with the Electric Arc Furnace coming online from mid-2027.

3.0 THE PROTECTED SITES

- 3.1.1 There are three sites covered by four international designations of nature conservation importance within 10 km of the proposed site (see Figure 2).
- 3.1.2 The following protected sites are located within 10km of the site, but are not considered to be close enough to be impacted in this case (see Appendix A):
- Cefn Cribwr Grasslands/ Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr SAC (6.4 km south-east)
 - Crymlyn Bog Ramsar site (8.1 km north-west)
 - Crymlyn Bog/ Cors Crymlyn SAC (8.1 km north-west)
- 3.1.3 There are no credible impact pathways between the site and the above protected sites, as they are not hydrologically connected and the site does not support any functionally linked land associated with them.
- 3.1.4 There is only one such site within 2 km of the site which is Kenfig/ Cynffig SAC (1.4 km south). It should be noted that all proposed development works lie outside of this designated area.

3.2 Kenfig/ Cynffig SAC

- 3.2.1 Kenfig/ Cynffig has been designated as an SAC on the basis that it supports the following habitats and species of European importance⁴.

Qualifying features

Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for the selection for this site:

- Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")
- Dunes with *Salix repens* ssp. *Argentea* (*Salicion arenariae*)
- Humid dune slacks
- Hard oligomesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp.

Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection:

- Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)

Annex II species that are a primary reason for the selection for this site:

- Petalwort (*Petalophyllum ralfsii*)
- Fen orchid (*Liparis loeselii*)

⁴ <https://naturalresources.wales/guidance-and-advice/environmental-topics/wildlife-and-biodiversity/protected-areas-of-land-and-seas/find-protected-areas-of-land-and-sea/?lang=en>

Annex II species that are present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection:

- None

3.2.2 Further details of the designation and qualifying features for this SAC are provided in Appendix B.

Conservation objectives

3.2.3 The conservation objectives of Kenfig SAC are, subject to natural change, to ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the favourable conservation status of its qualifying features, by maintained or restoring:

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats;
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats; and
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely.

4.0 IDENTIFICATION OF LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS

4.1 Kenfig/ Cynffig SAC

4.1.1 A screening matrix for the proposed development is presented in Appendix B of this report.

Direct Impacts

4.1.2 There will be no direct habitat loss from the proposed development on the statutory site during either construction or operation.

Indirect Impacts

4.1.3 The site is not hydrologically linked to Kenfig SAC, and the site does not support any functionally linked habitat associated with the protected species under its designated. As the proposed development is industrial in nature there is not considered to be any recreational impacts to the protected site.

4.1.4 There is however, potential for air quality impacts from the construction and operational works on Kenfig SAC specifically NO_x deposition. The highest baseline average for NO_x deposition within Kenfig SAC is 0.663 µg/m³, the dispersion modelling of the proposed development shows that the annual average will decrease to 0.0964 µg/m³ during the interim / construction period with a slight increase to 0.161 µg/m³ (still a decrease from the baseline) once the electric arc furnace is operational.

4.1.5 The critical level (point at which the habitats / species would die) for Kenfig SAC is 30 µg/m³ which the current and predicted site levels are well below. The minimum critical loads for the habitats and species under the designation are between 5 and 10 kg/ha and the maximum critical loads are between 10 and 20 kg/ha. The dispersion modelling demonstrates that the predicted deposition for both construction and operation will be well within these parameters.

4.1.6 The current steel works, as a coal fired furnace together with the coking works have high levels of emissions. The transition to an electric arc furnace will greatly reduce the emissions and result in 'cleaner' air for the local area.

4.1.7 This impact is considered to be a positive effect in the context of the surrounding area.

Potential for likely significant effects

4.1.8 The proposed development is anticipated to have no negative effect upon the conservation objectives or integrity of the Kenfig/ Cynffig SAC site.

4.1.9 The management plan for Kenfig SAC states that several features on the Kenfig part of the SAC are considered potentially sensitive to air quality impacts, including through deposition of atmospheric nitrogen. Atmospheric nitrogen oxide (NO_x) levels may be exceeded due to proximity of several nearby sources including industrial (steel

works/chemical works/power station), agricultural (chicken farms – ammonia), old landfill sites (methane), transport (M4) and wind-blown particulates (adjacent tips).

4.1.10 The key features of Kenfig SAC which are sensitive to atmospheric nitrogen deposition are:

- Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes");
- Dunes with *Salix repens* ssp. *Argentea* (*Salicion arenariae*);
- Humid dune slacks;
- Hard oligomesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp.;
- Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*);
- Petalwort (*Petalophyllum ralfsii*); and
- Fen orchid (*Liparis loeselii*)

4.1.11 Deposition will increase the growth of coarse species to the detriment of the protected less vigorous species and result in the loss of the rare habitats present.

4.1.12 The expected decrease in the dispersion from the steel works in the operational phase of the proposed development will have a positive effect on the overall nitrogen oxide (NOx) levels experienced by the SAC.

4.2 Cumulative effects

4.2.1 There are no other known plans or projects which could result in significant effect on the designated site in combination with the proposed development.

4.2.2 The following projects were considered as part of the cumulative effects:

- P2014/0825 - Foel Trawsnant Bryn Port Talbot – Wind Farm – 7 km north of development
- P2021/1255 - Land off J38 of the M4, Margam – metal processing plant – 850 m north of development
- P2021/1193 - Former Oil Refinery Llandarcy Neath – Housing – 10 km north of the development
- P2023/0858 - Crown Wharf Port Talbot Docks (Project Dragon) - Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) production facility – 1.3 km north-west of development
- DNS/3264571 - Y Bryn Wind Farm – Wind Farm – 1 km north-east of development
- DNS CAS-03018-G7G6H7 - Mynydd Ty-Talwyn Energy Park – Wind Farm – 5.5 km east of the development.
- DNS CAS-01977-L5K6R7 - Eirlys Solar Farm – Solar Farm – 4 km north of the development
- National Grid Margam substation extension and cable connection – Adjacent to the development.

- 4.2.3 These schemes are largely renewable project and will not cause changes to the atmospheric nitrogen deposition levels at Kenfig SAC and therefore there are no cumulative impacts to consider.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1.1 Habitats Regulations Assessment is a requirement of Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). The assessment must be made by the Competent Authority, and this report has been prepared to inform their decision.
- 5.1.2 The proposed development is not connected with or necessary for the management of any internationally important designated site.
- 5.1.3 Proposed development works will take place from mid-2025 until mid-2027.
- 5.1.4 The potential for significant effects arising from the proposed development has been considered in relation to the following internationally important designated sites:
- Cefn Cribwr Grasslands / Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr SAC;
 - Crymlyn Bog Ramsar site;
 - Crymlyn Bog/ Cors Crymlyn SAC; and
 - Kenfig/ Cynffig SAC.
- 5.1.5 Having carried out a Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening for the proposed development, it is concluded that the proposed development is not likely to have a significant effect on any internationally important designated site, either alone or in combination with any other plans or projects. A HRA Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is therefore not required.

6.0 FIGURES

Figure 1 – Site Location Plan

Figure 2 – Protected Sites within 10km

275000 275200 275400 275600 275800 276000 276200 276400 276600 276800 277000 277200 277400 277600 277800 278000 278200 278400 278600 278800 279000 279200 279400 279600 279800



- Legend:**
- Site boundary
 - 2021/2022 survey area

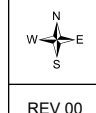
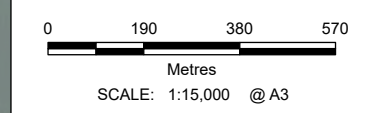


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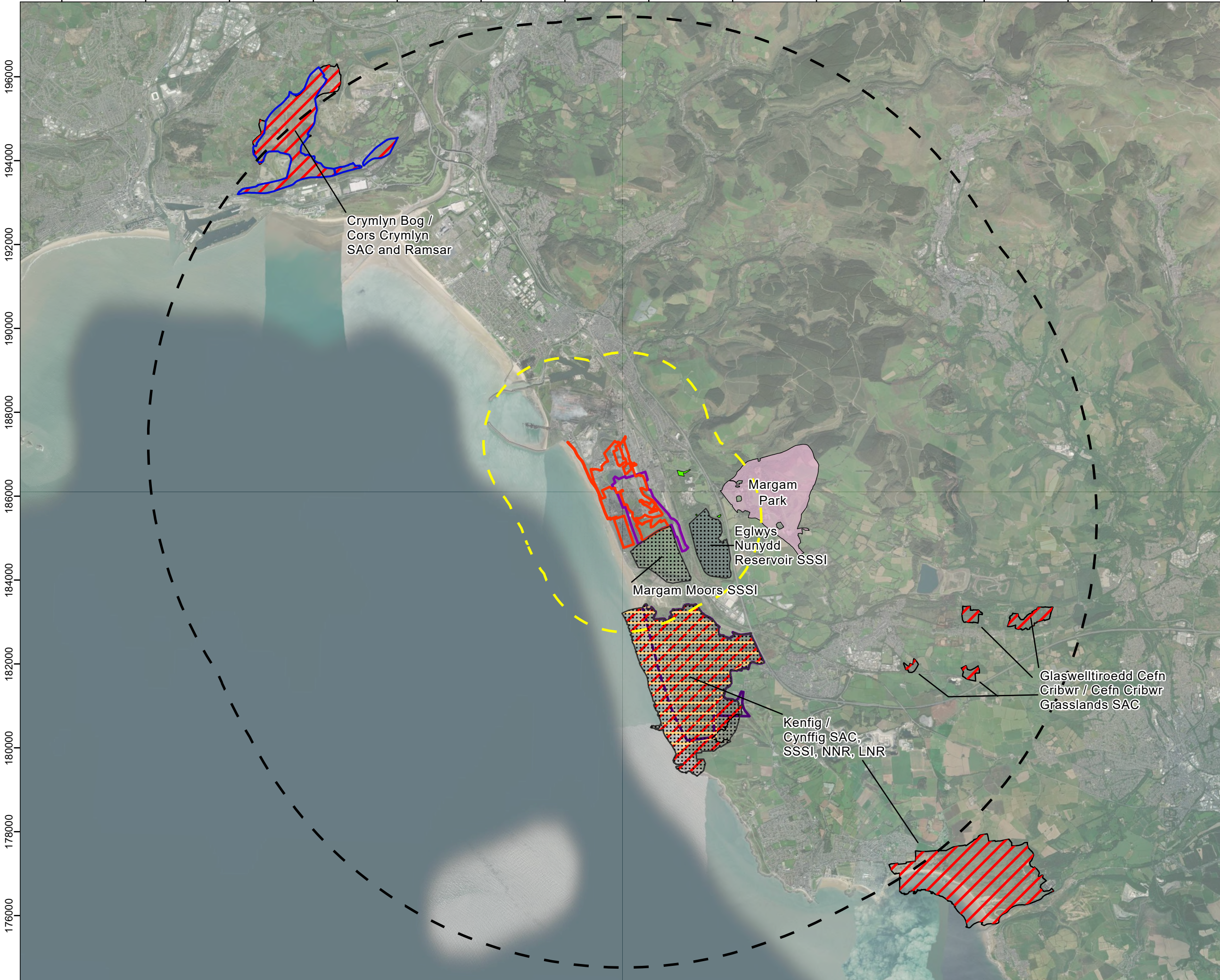
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TITLE: Figure 1:
Site Location Plan



264000 266000 268000 270000 272000 274000 276000 278000 280000 282000 284000 286000 288000 290000



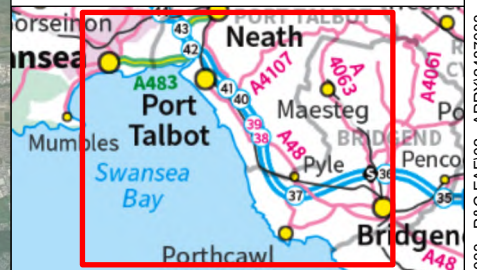
- Legend:**
- Site boundary
 - 2021/2022 survey area
 - 2km site buffer
 - 10km site buffer
 - Special area of conservation (10km)
 - Ramsar (10km)
 - Special site of scientific interest (2km)
 - Local nature reserve (2km)
 - National nature reserve (2km)
 - Country park (2km)
 - Ancient woodland (1km)

Crymlyn Bog /
Cors Crymlyn
SAC and Ramsar

Margam
Park
Eglwys
Nunydd
Reservoir SSSI
Margam Moors SSSI

Kenfig /
Cynffig SAC,
SSSI, NNR, LNR

Glaswelltiroedd Cefn
Cribwr / Cefn Cribwr
Grasslands SAC

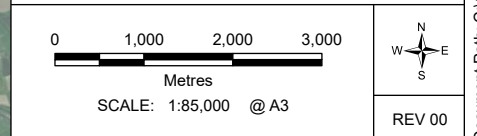


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TITLE: Figure 2:
Protected sites within 10km



APPENDIX A – SCREENING MATRIX FOR SITES OVER 2 KM

Project Name	Electric Arc Furnace
National Site Network Site under Consideration	Cefn Cribwr Grasslands / Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr SAC Crymlyn Bog Ramsar site Crymlyn Bog/ Cors Crymlyn SAC
Date	31/05/2024
Author	Alexandra Ellis BSc MSc MCIEEM (RSK Biocensus)
Brief description of the project or plan	Demolition of existing buildings and structures, and construction of a new electric arc furnace based steel production facility
Land-take	The proposed development is over 2km from the sites and will involve no land-take.
Distance from the designated site or key features of the site (from edge of the project assessment corridor)	Cefn Cribwr Grasslands / Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr SAC (6.4 km south-east) Crymlyn Bog Ramsar site (8.1 km north-west) Crymlyn Bog/ Cors Crymlyn SAC (8.1 km north-west)
Resource requirements (from the designated site or from areas in proximity to the site, where of relevance to consideration of impacts)	No resource requirements are needed from within the sites
Emissions (e.g. polluted surface water runoff – both soluble and insoluble pollutants, atmospheric pollution)	No emissions will affect these sites.
Excavation requirements (e.g. impacts of local hydrogeology)	No excavation requirements are needed from within the sites.
Transportation requirements	Access to the site for construction traffic will be from the existing road network.
Duration of construction, operation, etc.	Approximately 2 years.
Other	None
Description of avoidance and/or mitigation measures	
Describe any assumed (plainly established and uncontroversial) mitigation measures, including information on:	

Nature of proposal	The works involve the demolition and construction of buildings, over 2 km of the boundaries of the sites.
Location	The works are to take place outside of the sites.
Evidence for effectiveness	Legally required and widely accepted best practice.
Mechanism for delivery (legal conditions, restrictions or other legally enforceable obligations)	Legal conditions of national legislation & best practice guidance.
Designated site Site conservation objectives – where these are readily available	The objective of these sites is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the features listed for the sites.
Assessment criteria	
Describe the individual elements of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) likely to give rise to impacts on the designated site.	There will be no direct or indirect impacts on the designated sites from the proposed development.
Initial assessment	
The key characteristics of the site and the details of the designated site to be considered in identifying potential impacts. Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of:	
reduction of habitat	None
disturbance to key species	None
habitat or species fragmentation	None
reduction in species density	None
changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.)	None
climate change	None
Describe any likely impacts on the designated site as a whole in terms of:	
interference with the key relationships that define the structure of the site	None
interference with key relationships that define the function of the site	None
Indicate the significance as a result of the identification of impacts set out above in terms of:	
Reduction of habitat area	No impacts anticipated
Disturbance of key species	No impacts anticipated

Habitat or species fragmentation	No impacts anticipated
Loss	No impacts anticipated
Fragmentation	No impacts anticipated
Disruption	No impacts anticipated
Disturbance	No impacts anticipated
change to key elements of the site (e.g. water quality etc.).	No impacts anticipated
Describe from the above those elements of the project or plan, or combination of elements, where the above impacts are likely to be significant or where the scale or magnitude of impacts is not known.	None
Outcome of screening stage (delete as appropriate)	Significant effects are likely/ Sufficient uncertainty remains/ Not likely to be significant effects
Are the appropriate statutory environmental bodies in agreement with this conclusion (delete as appropriate and attach relevant correspondence).	YES/NO Note: No formal consultation with a statutory environmental body has been undertaken in relation to this Screening assessment.

APPENDIX B – SCREENING MATRIX FOR KENFIG/ CYNFFIG SAC – UK0012566

Project Name	Electric Arc Furnace
National Site Network Site under Consideration	Kenfig/ Cynffig SAC (UK0012566)
Date	31/05/2024
Author	Alexandra Ellis BSc MSc MCIEEM (RSK Biocensus)
Brief description of the project or plan	Demolition of existing buildings and structures, and construction of a new electric arc furnace based steel production facility
Land-take	The proposed development is over 1km from the site and will involve no land- take.
Distance from the designated site or key features of the site (from edge of the project assessment corridor)	1.4 km south-west of the red line boundary
Resource requirements (from the designated site or from areas in proximity to the site, where of relevance to consideration of impacts)	No resource requirements are needed from within the SAC.

Emissions (e.g. polluted surface water runoff – both soluble and insoluble pollutants, atmospheric pollution)	<p>There is potential for air quality impacts from the construction works on the adjacent SAC specifically NO_x deposition. The highest baseline average for NO_x deposition within Kenfig SAC is 0.663 µg/m³, the dispersion modelling of the proposed development shows that the annual average will decrease to 0.0964 µg/m³ during the interim / construction period with a slight increase to 0.161 µg/m³ (still a decrease from the baseline) once the electric arc furnace is operational.</p> <p>The critical level (point at which the habitats / species would die) for Kenfig SAC is 30 µg/m³ which the current and predicted site levels are well below. The minimum critical loads for the habitats and species under the designation are between 5 and 10 kg/ha and the maximum critical loads are between 10 and 20 kg/ha. The dispersion modelling demonstrates that the predicted deposition for both construction and operation will be well within these parameters.</p> <p>The current steel works, as a coal fired furnace together with the coking works have high levels of emissions. The transition to an electric arc furnace will greatly reduce the emissions and result in 'cleaner' air for the local area.</p> <p>This impact is considered to be a positive effect in the context of the surrounding area.</p>
Excavation requirements (e.g. impacts of local hydrogeology)	No excavation requirements are needed from within the SAC.
Transportation requirements	Access to the site for construction traffic will be from the existing road network.
Duration of construction, operation, etc.	Approximately 2 years.
Other	None
Description of avoidance and/or mitigation measures	
Describe any assumed (plainly established and uncontroversial) mitigation measures, including information on:	
Nature of proposal	The works involve the demolition and construction of buildings, within 1.4 km of the boundary of the SAC.
Location	The works are to take place outside of the SAC.
Evidence for effectiveness	Legally required and widely accepted best practice.

Mechanism for delivery (legal conditions, restrictions or other legally enforceable obligations)	Legal conditions of national legislation & best practice guidance.
Characteristics of designated site (s)	
A brief description of the designated site to be produced, including information on:	
Name of designated site and its EU code	Kenfig/ Cynffig SAC (UK0012566)
Location and distance of the designated site from the proposed works	Kenfig SAC is located 1.4 km south-west from the red line boundary.
Designated site size	1191.67 ha
Key features of the designated site including the primary reasons for selection and any other qualifying interests	<p>Annex I habitats that area a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2130 "Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes") * Priority feature • 2170 Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>) • 2190 Humid dune slacks • 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp. <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae</i>) <p>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1395 Petalwort <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i> • 1903 Fen orchid <i>Liparis loeselii</i>

<p>Vulnerability of the designated site – any information available from the standard data forms on potential effect pathways</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil pollution and solid waste (excluding discharges) • Grazing • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities • Invasive non-native species • Problematic native species • Air pollution, air-borne pollutants • Mowing / cutting of grassland • Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions • Other ecosystem modifications • Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), including damage caused by game (excessive density), and taking/removal of terrestrial animals (including collection of insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds of prey, etc., trapping, poisoning, poaching, predator control, accidental capture (e.g. due to fishing gear), etc.) • Use of biocides, hormones and chemicals • Abiotic (slow) natural processes • Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish) • Biocenotic evolution, succession • Changes in abiotic conditions • Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources
<p>Designated site Site conservation objectives – where these are readily available</p>	<p>The objective of this site is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the features listed for this site.</p>
<p>Assessment criteria</p>	
<p>Describe the individual elements of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) likely to give rise to impacts on the designated site.</p>	<p>There will be no direct impacts on the designated site from the proposed development.</p> <p>There is the potential for indirect impacts arising from emissions.</p>
<p>Initial assessment</p>	
<p>The key characteristics of the site and the details of the designated site to be considered in identifying potential impacts. Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of:</p>	
<p>reduction of habitat</p>	<p>No direct loss of qualifying habitat anticipated.</p>

disturbance to key species	No disturbance to key species anticipated.
habitat or species fragmentation	It is not anticipated that there will be any habitat or species fragmentation within the SAC.
reduction in species density	None
changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc.)	None
climate change	None
Describe any likely impacts on the designated site as a whole in terms of:	
interference with the key relationships that define the structure of the site	None
interference with key relationships that define the function of the site	None
Indicate the significance as a result of the identification of impacts set out above in terms of:	
Reduction of habitat area	No impacts anticipated
Disturbance of key species	No impacts anticipated
Habitat or species fragmentation	No impacts anticipated
Loss	No impacts anticipated
Fragmentation	No impacts anticipated
Disruption	No impacts anticipated
Disturbance	No impacts anticipated
change to key elements of the site (e.g. water quality etc.).	Minor positive changes to the deposition levels within the SAC.

<p>Describe from the above those elements of the project or plan, or combination of elements, where the above impacts are likely to be significant or where the scale or magnitude of impacts is not known.</p>	<p>There is potential for air quality impacts from the construction and operational works specifically NO_x deposition. The highest baseline average for NO_x deposition within Kenfig SAC is 0.663 µg/m³, the dispersion modelling of the proposed development shows that the annual average will decrease to 0.0964 µg/m³ during the interim / construction period with a slight increase to 0.161 µg/m³ (still a decrease from the baseline) once the electric arc furnace is operational.</p> <p>The critical level (point at which the habitats / species would die) for Kenfig SAC is 30 µg/m³ which the current and predicted site levels are well below. The minimum critical loads for the habitats and species under the designation are between 5 and 10 kg/ha and the maximum critical loads are between 10 and 20 kg/ha. The dispersion modelling demonstrates that the predicted deposition for both construction and operation will be well within these parameters.</p> <p>The current steel works, as a coal fired furnace together with the coking works have high levels of emissions. The transition to an electric arc furnace will greatly reduce the emissions and result in 'cleaner' air for the local area.</p> <p>This impact is considered to be a significant positive effect at the Local level.</p>
<p>Outcome of screening stage (delete as appropriate)</p>	<p>Significant effects are likely/ Sufficient uncertainty remains/ Not likely to be significant effects</p>
<p>Are the appropriate statutory environmental bodies in agreement with this conclusion (delete as appropriate and attach relevant correspondence).</p>	<p>YES/NO</p> <p>Note: No formal consultation with a statutory environmental body has been undertaken in relation to this Screening assessment.</p>



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