

## Stuart Flett Metal Detectorist

I am writing to you to bring to your attention an element of negative impact that the proposed erection of pylons across the Duddon Bay may have. I am a metal detectorist who has been working on land surrounding the Duddon Bay, in areas where the erection of pylons has been proposed.

I am registered with the British Museum Portable Antiquities Scheme, (PAS) and work closely with local historians to rescue and preserve artefacts that are so important to understanding the history of this part of the county. Any artefacts that I uncover which are historically significant, are recorded and documented by the PAS.

Since beginning to survey land, particularly around Grizebeck and Kirkby-in-Furness, I have unearthed some significant, historically important finds which are out of context with the current archaeological and historical thinking. I have unearthed numerous Roman artefacts, which is unusual locally, as there are no documented Roman Settlements in the area. Additionally, I have unearthed artefacts dating as far back as the Neolithic period, and most recently unearthed an artefact from the late Anglo Saxon period. This artefact has attracted great interest from local historians and archaeologists, as it plugs a gap in the historical records. The local museum has expressed a desire to acquire the artefact for their collection. There will clearly be more artefact to unearth, which would support the hypothesis that there were in fact Anglo Saxon settlers occupying this area. This is only the tip of the iceberg regarding what may yet to be unearthed in this area.

The introduction of the new pylons would disturb the archaeology during excavations and installation, thereby destroying the historical context and removing the opportunity for us to continue to learn more about the ancient history of this geographic area.

In addition, the electromagnetic interference from high voltage cables, reduces the effectiveness of ground penetrating electronic detecting and measuring equipment, so the quality of any future surveys would be extremely limited.

I would therefore ask that you consider this important element of the local geography when considering your options.

I would be grateful if you would acknowledge receipt of this correspondence, and include it in your consultation material.

Thank you  
Stuart Flett