

Application for a Band 1 Marine Licence

Project description

Project name

A494 River Dee Bridge - Relocation of Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) assets, GI

Please provide a brief description of the proposed project, including location.

The overall scheme (driver for the current project), involves the proposed construction of a new structure across the River Dee. To enable this scheme to progress, strategic DCWW assets will need to be relocated. To inform the design of the relocated assets (e.g. location and installation methods), a ground investigation (GI) involving boreholes drilled into the river channel is proposed (current project). Three boreholes are planned to be drilled to 50m below seabed level and will be located on the south-east side of the existing bridge - approximate coordinates shown below:

BH 5 SJ 32613 68474

BH 6 SJ 32588 68426

BH X1 SJ 32601 68449

Applicant details

To whom the licence will be issued. This must be a legal entity such as an individual, registered company/ charity or public body.

Title	Mr
Full name	Stephen Hoult
Company or trading name	Dwr Cymru Welsh Water
Company Registration Number (if applicable)	02366777
Name of contact or individual (if different)	Stephen Hoult
Position in company	Project Co-ordinator – EDT Infrastructure
Address (provide registered company address if applicable)	Linea Fortran Road St. Mellons, Cardiff, Wales,
Postcode	CF3 0LT
Telephone number	07464538922
Email address	Stephen.Hoult@dwrcymru.com

Details of agent, contractor, vehicles and/or vessels used to carry out works

Agent details

This is who we will correspond with unless otherwise informed. If no agent is identified we will contact the applicant.

Title	Miss
Full name	Claire McCormack
Company or trading name	APEM Ltd
Company Registration Number (if applicable)	02530851
Name of contact or individual (if different)	-
Position in company	Senior Fisheries Scientist
Address (provide registered company address if applicable)	Riverview, A17 Embankment Business Park Vale Road Heaton Mersey Stockport
Postcode	SK4 3GN
Telephone number	07721486375
Email address	c.mccormack@apemltd.co.uk

Does the applicant wish to be included in all correspondence?

Yes

Will the works require the use of vessels?

Yes

Will the works require the use of any vehicles?

No

Proposed project details

Licensable period

Determination of applications will be based on the works taking place during these dates. Please ensure you have included an adequate contingency period. If works are not completed by the requested licence expiry date you may be required to submit a new application. Including a contingency period within your original application does not impact on the licence fee.

Start date (DD/MM/YYYY) 31/10/2022

Requested licence expiry date (DD/MM/YYYY) 19/12/22

Please detail the location of the proposed project.

This should be either Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (i.e. SN 12345 67890) or Latitude and Longitude in decimal degrees to 4 decimal places (i.e. Lat 52.1234 Long -4.1234), defining the extent of the project. Please specify which coordinate system has been used and if using GIS co-ordinates, specify which projection has been used.

Borehole Number OSGB NGR
BH 5 SJ 32613 68474
BH 6 SJ 32588 68426
BH X1 SJ 32601 68449

Method statement

Are the works within a sensitive area or one of the following activities: boreholes, replacement piles or beach management?

Yes

Band 1 method statement template

Please provide a brief summary of the application including location of the works (coordinates - lat/long, decimal degrees). For activities that cover a large area please provide coordinates of the approximate extent of works.

The overall scheme (driver for the current project), involves the proposed construction of a new structure across the River Dee. To enable this scheme to progress, strategic DCWW assets will need to be relocated. To inform the design of the relocated assets (e.g. location and installation methods), a ground investigation (GI) involving boreholes drilled into the river channel is proposed (current project). Three boreholes are planned to be drilled to 50m below seabed level and will be located on the south-east side of the existing bridge - approximate coordinates shown below:

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Scope of works

Please provide a full description of all proposed works including: Sequence of works (mobilisation, marine works, site remediation (if required)) Estimated timing of works (duration, working hours, day/night, plus contingency) Plant, machinery or vessel required Estimated quantities (removals, deposits, construction materials)

The broad scope of works and methods of working are set out below (within which the final Contractors Construction Phase Plan will adhere).

Sequencing of works:

A floating jack-up vessel that will be floated from a nearby port, will be moved to the location of the proposed boreholes. Once the vessel is in position and legs lowered to the bed, the boreholes will be drilled, and samples removed as the drilling progresses to the required depth of 50m below seabed level. These boreholes will then be backfilled with an inert cement bentonite grout by tremie through the drill string. This will create a seal in the holes, limiting groundwater migration. This grout will be prevented from escaping out of the top of the borehole.

Estimated timing of the works:

The ground investigation works (GI) are expected to commence on 31st October 2022 and will continue until the 4th December 2022 for a duration of five weeks. A two-week contingency, until the 19th December 2022, has been added in case of weather delays, and any extra movements of the vessel that may be required to allow others to pass. Mobilisation and demobilisation works will be conducted up to 24 hours per day for limited periods. Rotary drilling would be conducted between 0700hrs and 2200hrs. Chiselling and any other percussive activity would be conducted during daytime working hours of 08:00hrs to 18:00hrs.

Plant, machinery, or vessel required:

A jack up barge with support vessel which will be fully equipped with self-contained welfare facilities.

Estimated quantities (removals, deposits, construction materials):

The surface of the riverbed is understood to be sandy and mobile due to scour. Disturbance due to positioning of the jack-up rig would be kept to a minimum possible. Approximately 7m³ of material per borehole is expected to be removed during the GI and taken off site.

Access and working areas

Please provide details of access to the site and working areas. This should include:
Attached map of the access/egress route and working areas (annotated aerial image and/or OS map)
Predicted plant/vehicle movements
Storage areas for plant, equipment and materials (if required)
Risks to navigation

The map attached shows the potential access route for the GI. The working area within the river will be confined to each of the borehole locations, which are also shown on the map ('Access plan.png').

Predicted plant/vehicle movements:

Once the main vessel is in location at the start of the GI then support vessels and support vehicles will be used to take people and supplies on and off vessel daily. The main vessel may be moved if required to allow other marine traffic to pass. It will then be moved from the location at the end of the GI. Precise vessel details including workboat certification, crew qualifications and insurance details will be provided to the harbour master (Capt. Graeme Proctor, Dee Conservancy) ahead of works, as part of the Harbour Authority review.

Storage areas for plant, equipment and materials:

Vessels will have self-contained storage with the plant necessary for daily working. A support vessel will be used to bring additional material and labour to the place of work on a daily basis from a nearby dock facility. No storage area on the banks of the river is required.

Risks to navigation:

A schedule has been provided by Airbus, and the vessel will be moved out of the way when required. The Contractor conducting the GI will also be made aware of any previous shipping incidents in the area and adopt suitable mitigation measures to avoid similar incidents from reoccurring. The Contractor shall notify the Harbour Master of the proposed survey works at least 10 days prior to mobilisation to site such that the Notice to Mariners can be issued (initial consultations have been made to establish protocol and information required by the Dee Conservancy Harbour Authority).

Environmental mitigation

Please list appropriate mitigation measures to minimise impacts on the marine environment these may include: Pollution prevention and control procedure (guidance available on the NetRegs website) Spill response kits Minimise plant traffic Designated access and egress routes Storage of materials (fuel, chemicals, construction waste) Biosecurity (guidance available at <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/A1294630.pdf>)

Note: To assist you, the following mitigation statements will be used as conditions within the licence. By signing this method statement you will be agreeing to adhere to these restrictions. If you are unable to do this, the application will not qualify as Band 1. All equipment, temporary structures, access tracks, waste and/or debris associated with the works will be removed on completion of the works. Bunding, storage facilities and spill kits will be employed to contain and prevent the release of fuel, oils and chemicals associated with the plant, refuelling and construction equipment into the marine environment. Plant, vehicles and machinery will not be refuelled on the foreshore. Coatings and treatments will be suitable for use in the marine environment and are used in accordance with best environmental practice. All equipment, materials, machinery and PPE used will be in a clean condition prior to their arrival on site, and upon removal from site, to minimise risk of introducing non-native species into the marine environment. In the event of removal of any sensitive species or habitat designated by NRW under Schedule 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, no further removals will occur at that location or within 20m of that location.

Please list your bespoke mitigations here:

Works will be carried out within winter months so as to avoid the key migratory periods for those fish species which are a feature of interest of the Designated Sites (Dee Estuary SAC and River Dee & Bala Lake SAC).

Fish runs (source – fish capture data at Chester weir):

- Sea trout: fish run commences at the end of April, reaches a peak at the end of June/early July and continues until the end of August.
- Salmon: fish run commences at the end of April, builds to June and continues steadily until mid-October. Smolt run in May-June: regarded as an especially significant period.
- Lamprey-River and Sea: Lamprey run is Mar-Apr, then adults returning upstream in autumn. Marine catches occur from mid-April to early July, with peak period being May.

Biosecurity:

Chinese Mitten Crabs are known to be present in the main stem of the Dee downstream of Farndon. There have been unconfirmed reports of this species higher up the Dee catchment.

As the contractor requires a barge or vessel within the estuary to complete the GI works then marine biosecurity procedures will be followed as detailed below:

- All vessels, barges and marine machinery used on site will be of local origin and maintained to limit biofouling. Alternatively the equipment / vessel must be thorough inspected for biofouling by an appropriately qualified marine ecologist before arriving at the site.
- The contractor will confirm for each vessel that the most recent cleaning and anti-fouling treatment was applied within the manufacturers recommended effective time span for that treatment.
- If vessels have travelled outside British waters since the last treatment, the vessel will be visually inspected for biofouling by an appropriately qualified marine ecologist before arriving at the site.
- Vessels shall not discharge any water (e.g. ballast tanks, bilge water, anchor lockers) from the vessel except at recognised disposal facilities.

Additional information

Please list any additional information that may help with the application:
Consents/permissions required List of plans or drawings attached to method statement
Emergency procedures Contact details

Consents/permissions required:

- Marine Licence – Band 1 low risk activity (NB consistent with the highly similar and nearby GI sampling operations undertaken by Fugro Geoservices Ltd for the River Dee Bridge Improvement Project in 2019).
- SSSI assent (Afon Dyfrdwy/River Dee) - please confirm if separate NRW application is required in respect of SSSI assent.

Crown Estate (CE) consent is assumed not required based on no CE ownership - as confirmed by CE email correspondence dated 09/08/2022.

List of plans or drawings attached to method statement:

- Drawing Number 'ECL.9222.D06.002.pdf' - Marine Borehole Locations

Figures attached:

- OS Map showing site ('OS Map.png' & 'OS Map2.png')
- Crown estate land ownership map ('Crown Estate ownership.png')

Materials of the project

Description of materials to be deposited seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) (Please tick all that apply)

Sand

Other (please provide a description of materials):

The surface of the riverbed is sandy and some very localised disturbance (around borehole locations) is anticipated, but no new material deposits.

Delivery method of materials to site

If sea delivery, details of vessels to be used with a chart of proposed route and transshipment area is required. If delivery is by vehicle, the details about the proposed access route are required. Please indicate if you are providing details in a separate file.

Jack up barge to be retained on site for duration of works, with support vessel providing daily access (providing people access and supplies on and off jack up barge daily). Fully equipped with self-contained welfare facilities.

Will the works involve removals seaward of MHWS?

Yes

Description of materials to be removed seaward of MHWS (Please tick all that apply)

Silt

Stone/rock

Sand

Description of objects/materials to be removed seaward of MHWS, including quantities to be removed.

Approximately 7m3 of material per borehole is expected to be removed during the GI and taken off site.

Additional information

Please provide the following:

You must include a suitably scaled extract of an Ordnance Survey Map or Admiralty Chart with location of project complete with north arrow and scale

You must include details of correspondence with MCA, Trinity House and The Crown Estate

You must include any pre application advice/correspondence with NRW

Please upload these below

- File: Access plan.png - [Download](#)
- File: Crown Estate ownership.PNG - [Download](#)
- File: OS Map.png - [Download](#)
- File: OS Map2.png - [Download](#)
- File: MCA comms.txt - [Download](#)
- File: Dee Conservancy Harbour Authority comms.txt - [Download](#)
- File: TH comms.txt - [Download](#)
- File: CE comms.txt - [Download](#)

Please list below all supporting documents that have been submitted with this application.

'Access plan.png' - Access route

'Crown Estate ownership.PNG' & 'CE comms.txt' - confirmation of no CE ownership.

'OS Map.png' & 'OS Map2.png' - Ordnance survey extracts showing project location.

'MCA comms.txt' - provisional MCA correspondence.

'Dee Conservancy Harbour Authority comms.txt' - provisional Harbour Authority correspondence.

'TH comms.txt' - provisional Trinity House correspondence.

Statutory powers

Does the applicant have statutory powers to consent any aspect of the project? e.g. coast protection authority, dredging powers, statutory undertakers

No

Public register

Is there any information contained within or provided in support of this application that you consider should NOT be included on the Public Register on the grounds that its disclosure:

	Yes	No
Would be contrary to the interest of National Security?		X
Would prejudice to an unreasonable degree you, or some other person's commercial interest or those of a third party?		X

Application fee

Please provide the method of payment

BACS

Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information given in this application form and supporting documentation is true.

WARNING: It is an offence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, under which this application is made, to fail to disclose information or to provide false or misleading information. This could invalidate any licence granted.

Name	Stephen Hoult
Date	17/08/2022
Position in company	Project Coordinator

If you would like a copy of your completed form, please add your preferred email address below:

Stephen.Hoult@dwrcymru.com