

From: [Marine Licensing](#)
To: [Marc Murray](#)
Subject: Q22012: Llŷr Geophysical surveys - Marine Licences and EPS licence
Date: 13 April 2022 11:43:00

Good Morning Marc,

I have taken a look at the query that Maria has forwarded. I have assigned it a reference of Q22012

For the MBES, SBP, SSS and Magnetometer, a marine licence will not be required. In terms of the requirement of an EPS licence for these activities, our Species Licensing Team will be able to advise you further. They can be contacted at:

trwyddedrhwyogaeth@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

A marine licence will be required for the benthic grab samples. I note that you said that you have previously undertaken works in Scotland under an exemption for grabs, however Wales has slightly different exemptions and grab samples are not covered under Welsh Order. For reference the Marine Licensing (Exempted Activities) (Wales) Order 2011 can be found [here](#).

For the CPT, provided no material is being removed from the seabed then these will not need a marine licence. If material is removed, this can be included in your application for benthic grab samples.

In terms of timescales for determination, this depends on the band of licence you require. If your works meet the criteria for a Band 1 licence, the service level agreement for determination is 6 weeks from the submission of a complete application. Criteria for a Band 1 Sampling licence are:

- Sediment (grab) samples where the total sample volume across all samples is no more than 4 cubic metres. The density of grab samples should not exceed 50 samples within any one hectare.

If your works exceed this criteria you will require a Band 2 licence which carries a service level agreement of 4 months from the submission of a completed application.

If you have any further questions please let me know.

Kind Regards

Will

Marine Licensing Team

Trwyddedu Morol/ Marine Licensing

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi.
Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

From: Alvarez, Maria <maria.alvarez@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>
Sent: 13 April 2022 08:44
To: Marc Murray <marc.murray@cierco.uk>; Marine Licensing <marinelicensing@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Llŷr Geophysical surveys - Marine Licences and EPS licence

Hello Marc,
I am forwarding your email to our general inbox to be dealt with as those general questions are best addressed that way.
Regards,
Maria

From: Marc Murray <marc.murray@cierco.uk>
Sent: 12 April 2022 14:51
To: Alvarez, Maria <maria.alvarez@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>
Subject: Llŷr Geophysical surveys - Marine Licences and EPS licence

Good afternoon Maria,

We are in the process of organising and tendering the geophysical and benthic surveys required for the Llŷr project – we are planning to complete this activity over the summer period. It will involve surveying the Crown Estate Lease areas and the potential export cable route to secure bathymetric, benthic, topographic (debris, wreck and outcrop), sediment characterisation and magnetic anomaly information using the following equipment:

- Multibeam Echosounder (MBES)
- Sub-bottom profiler (SBP)
- Sidescan Sonar (SSS)
- Magnetometer; and
- Benthic grab samples

We are also considering cone penetration tests (CPT) – this is still under discussion, but it would be useful to understand whether this activity impacts on the level and timings of permits required. Specifically, I'd like to understand the process to establish the need and secure the require permits from NRW for the following:

- a. a European Protected Species (EPS) licence for the works – assuming this is required, it would be beneficial for you to confirm; and
- b. if a Marine Licence is required. We've undertaken similar works in Scotland under a scientific exemption, could you let me know if a Marine Licence exemption could be

secured for this work under the scientific exemption (either with or without the CPT works).

It would also be useful to understand the relevant turnaround times from application to determination/issue and how much detail is required for the licence application. It would also be useful to understand whether the licences could be issued to the Llŷr project or whether it would need to be issued to the contracted survey company.

I hope I've provided enough information to enable you to answer the question, but please don't hesitate to contact me if you require further information or clarification on any point.

With kind regards

Marc Murray



Cierco Ltd

Tel: + 44 (0)1383 662163

Mobile: + 44 (0)7808 706 753

Email: marc.murray@cierco.uk

Website: www.ciercoenergy.com

Office: The Boathouse | Silversands | Hawkcraig Road | Aberdour | Fife | KY3 0TZ | United Kingdom

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