



Marine Licensing Variation Decision

The Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009)

Applicant: National Grid Electricity Transmission plc
Variation application reference no: RML2011v1

Dwryd Estuary

**VIP Snowdonia: Removal of Overhead Cable, Pylons
and Foundations from the Dwryd Estuary**

6 July 2023

Application Number: RML2011v1

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OUR DECISION

Based on all the information available, and having regard to all relevant considerations NRW has decided grant the variation to the Existing Marine Licence (see Annex 1) sought by the Variation Application.

This decision document:

- explains how the Variation Application has been determined, having regard to the relevant legal framework outlined in section 4;
- explains how relevant considerations have been taken into account and how each of the legal requirements have been considered in determining the Variation Application;
- provides a record of the decision-making process; and
- sets out the reasons for any conditions imposed in connection with any marine licence granted pursuant to the Variation Application.

1 APPLICATION DETAILS

1.1 The Variation Application

Applicant name and address	The Applicant is the organisation set out below: Organisation name: National Grid Electricity Transmission plc Company number: 2366977 Address: Warwick Technology Park Gallows Hill, Warwick CV34 6DA
Variation Application reference number	RML2011v1
Existing Marine Licence reference number	RML2011
Date Variation Application was duly made	29 June 2023
Description of variation	Extension of Marine Licence from 31 October 2028 to 31 October 2029.
Proposal[s] covered by the Variation Application	VIP Snowdonia: Removal of Overhead Cable, Pylons and Foundations from the Dwyrdd Estuary. (the Project)
Licensable marine activities	Removal of overhead cable, removal and dismantling of two pylons and their foundations (4ZC030R and 4ZC031); removal of the foundations of the previously dismantled pylon 4ZC030; and the associated temporary working areas, access tracks and watercourse crossings to access these locations; (the Proposed Activities)
Marine Plan area	Welsh inshore region and Welsh offshore region
Variation Application documents:	• RML2011-V01 Amended Variation Application Form

2 VARIATION APPLICATION PROCEDURE

2.1 The Variation Application

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The Variation Application was accepted by Natural Resources Wales (**NRW**) considered duly made on **29 June 2023**. This means we considered it was in the correct form and contained sufficient information for us to begin our determination, but not that it necessarily contained all the information we needed to complete that determination, and the documents considered may therefore include documents provided after the Variation Application was first made.

2.2 Documents considered

In reaching its decision, NRW has considered the documents listed in section 1 of this decision document along with such other information provided by the Applicant or received during any consultation, that NRW considered relevant.

2.3 Commercial Confidentiality

The Applicant made no claim that any information forming part of the Variation Application was subject to commercial confidentiality and we have not received any information in relation to the Variation Application that appears to be commercially confidential.

2.4 Publicity and advertising

The application sought to extend the licence end date to allow additional time for the licenced activity to take place. The licenced activities remain the same as within the existing consent therefore no notice was given to Local Authorities and no Public Notice was advertised for this Marine Licence variation.

2.5 Environmental impact Assessment

Council Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment aims to protect the environment and the quality of life by ensuring that projects which are likely to have significant environmental effects by virtue of their nature, size or location are subject to an environmental impact assessment (EIA) before permission is granted.

The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 ("the Regulations") transpose the EIA Directive in Wales and England for marine licence applications.

Having considered the Variation Application NRW has determined that it does not constitute a development requiring EIA under the Regulations.

3 CONSULTATION**3.1 Consultees**

As there were no changes to the licensable activities no additional impacts are expected above that which were considered during the determination of RML2011, NRW did not consider it appropriate to reconsult on this occasion.

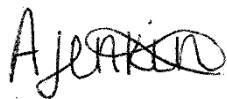
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4 Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on all the information available, NRW's decision is to grant the variation to the Existing Marine Licence sought by the Variation Application. RML2011v1 is an routine change to change the licence end date and as such we refer to section 4 of the decision document for RML2011 regarding the relevant legal framework and how each of the legal requirements have been considered. The decision document can be found here [Public register - Customer Portal \(naturalresources.wales\)](https://naturalresources.wales/public-register-customer-portal) by searching for RML2011.

NRW has determined that a Marine Licence for the Proposed Activities should be granted.

AUTHORISATION

Report by: Abbie Jenkins Position: Marine Licensing Officer	Date: 04 July 2023	Signed: 
Authorised by: Peter Morrison Position: Lead Specialist Officer acting on behalf of Marine Licensing Team Leader	Date: 06 July 2023	Signed: 

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ANNEX 1 – Variation to the Marine Licence

Licence End Date

Licence end date has been changed in section 1.3 of the Marine Licence from 31 October 2028 detailed in RML2011 to 31 October 2029 in RML2011v1.

Contact Details Update

Contact details for the HM Coastguard have been updated within Condition 3.4 from nmoccontroller@hmcg.gov.uk to zone30hmcg@gov.uk