

Sent by e mail only

Date: 04 October 2023

Dear Consultee,

**MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2007
(AS AMENDED) ("The Regulations")**

**REQUEST FOR SCREENING AND SCOPING OPINION – CARDIGAN TIDAL FLOOD
RISK MANAGEMENT SCHEME**

The Natural Resources Wales Permitting Service (NRW PS) has received a request for a screening and scoping opinion under the Regulations from Natural Resources Wales to ascertain whether the above proposal, will require an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and the submission of an Environmental Statement, and steer on the scope of the Environmental Statement (ES).

I have attached a copy of the screening and scoping request and supporting information for your review.

In accordance with the requirements of the Regulations the NRW PS is consulting organisations that we believe may have an interest in the proposal, by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities, or local or regional competences, in order to inform our screening and scoping opinion.

Please note, should an ES be required, this would support an application to NRW PS for a Marine Licence under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, in respect of works to be undertaken below mean high water springs.

Procedure for reaching a screening opinion

For your information, an EIA is required in relation to certain activities carried out in the course of projects listed in Schedule A1 and A2 of the above Regulations. Schedule A1 projects will always require an EIA, whereas Schedule A2 projects will only require an EIA if the project is likely to have significant effects on the environment due to its size, nature or location.

From our preliminary review of the documents, we consider that the proposed works fall within Schedule A2, under paragraph 64 as set out below:

“64. Inland-waterway construction not included in Schedule A1, canalisation and flood-relief works”.

To assess whether EIA is required for this project, the NRW PS must consider the matters relevant to consideration of whether or not a Schedule A2 project is likely to have significant effects on the environment, as outlined in Schedule 1 of the above Regulations.

I would be grateful therefore if you would consider the information attached, and provide a view, with clear reasoning, as to whether this proposal should be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment.

Procedure for reaching scoping opinion

I am canvassing your views on behalf of NRW in respect of whether the enclosed scoping report is adequate in terms of:

- a) Describing the proposal
- b) The matters proposed to be addressed in the Environmental Statement (as described in Schedule 3 of the Regulations), are suitable to inform an assessment of the potential environmental effects
- c) Identification of cumulative impacts
- d) Identification of transboundary impacts

If you believe either to be insufficient, please describe any additional issues which should be considered and the reasons for that opinion.

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 – Regulation 63

Further to the above, it would also be helpful if you could give your view as to whether the proposed works are likely to have a significant effect (either alone or in combination with any other plans or projects) on a European site/s and/or European Protected Species, and therefore whether an Appropriate Assessment is required under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Request for comments

I would be grateful for your response within **28 days** of the date of this letter, this being **01 November 2023**. If I do not hear from you by this date, I shall assume you have no comments to make on this screening request. However, please note you will be consulted on any formal application that may follow.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this request please do not hesitate to contact me quoting reference number SC2303.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Treby', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Stephen Treby
Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales