

Our ref: CML2331

Date: 12 October
2023

Dear Tom Brinicombe

MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009: PART 4 – MARINE LICENSING

LICENCE FOR MaresConnect Ltd to carry out Seabed Surveys

LICENCE NUMBER: CML2331

I am writing to advise you that the Marine Licensing Team, on behalf of the Welsh Ministers, as Licensing Authority, has considered your application, duly made 23 June for a Marine Licence under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, and hereby grant a Marine Licence for you to undertake the above stated works.

Accordingly, please find attached for your review and retention a copy of Marine Licence **CML2331** and its conditions.

Advisory Note

Marine Licence, **CML2331**, constitutes a statutory consent; therefore, the conditions set out herein must be complied with in full and will be binding upon any agent or contractor who undertakes any activity on the project on your behalf.

You are urged to read the conditions of Marine Licence **CML2331** carefully, in particular the need to advise Welsh Government Marine Enforcement Officers of the commencement of works within **10 days** prior to work starting.

Marine Licence, **CML2331** is solely granted for the work to be undertaken in North Wales; however, it does not absolve you from applying for further consents or licences as necessary to enable the full completion of your project.

If the works authorised by this Licence are unlikely to be completed by the expiry date, the Licence Holder should apply for a replacement marine licence **at least 4 months** prior to the expiry date of this Licence.

Should you require clarification as to the reasons for the inclusion of any of the conditions attached to the Licence then you must request written notice within **28 days** of the receipt of this letter.

The Crown Estate is affected by the proposed works and landowner's consent is required. The Crown Estate has been made aware that a Seabed Survey Licence application will be sent to Consents@thecrownestate.co.uk **3 months** before the seabed intrusive surveys

are due to commence. Provided landowner's consents for the proposed activity is granted, The Crown Estate has no objection to this Marine Licence Application.

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust have raised concerns that there has been no pre-application consultation with them from either MaresConnect or their Intertek consultants regarding the intended onshore cable route to a Bodelwyddan substation. They understand that directional drilling will be used in combination with opencut trenching or drilled techniques in existing road corridors. While this methodology may not present any great impacts there is also some mention of the cable route crossing open terrain, which could have a significantly higher impact on archaeology. It is strongly encouraged that they are consulted prior to the submission of the cable installation application.

Rights of appeal

You have the right of appeal to the Welsh Ministers against this decision. The Appeal must be made in accordance with the Marine Licensing (Appeals Against Licensing Decisions) (Wales) Regulations 2011.

A notice of appeal must be received by the Welsh Ministers within six months beginning with the date of the decision to which the appeal relates.

You must send written notice of appeal including the documents listed below to the Welsh Ministers at the following address:

Welsh Ministers c/o Marine Licensing Branch, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff. CF10 3NQ.

At the same time you must send a copy of the notice of appeal to the Natural Resources Body for Wales at the following address:

Permitting Service Manager, Permitting Service(Cardiff), Natural Resources Wales, Cambria House, 29 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0TP

The notice of appeal must include:

- a) the name, address (including any email address) and telephone number of the appellant and any agent acting for the appellant;
- b) a statement of the grounds of appeal;
- c) a statement as to whether the appellant wishes to have the appeal dealt with by way of written representations, a hearing or an inquiry;
- d) a copy of the decision to which the appeal relates;
- e) a copy of all documents upon which the appellant wishes to rely; and
- f) a list of all the documents, including dates (where any document is dated), specified in bullet points d and e above. :

You may withdraw an appeal by notifying the Welsh Ministers in writing and sending a copy of that notification to the NRW at the address specified above.

Please be aware that the Welsh Government has changed the Marine Licensing fees and charges in Wales. You will be charged for any post licensing work associated with your licence. If you have any queries regarding the fee changes, please email the Marine Licensing Team via marinelicensing@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Following the UK's departure from the EU on 31 January 2020 and the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, the legal obligations relating to compliance with environmental permits and legislation will continue to apply. NRW will continue to issue and regulate all permits and licenses in line with our current practice. If you have any questions about your permits or licenses and/or site management, please contact our Customer Care Centre on 03000 653 000.

Yours sincerely

Joe Thomas
Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales