

Our ref: RML2420

Date: 10 September 2024

Dear Ms Mungo

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

LICENCE FOR **Associated British Ports Holdings Limited to perform Future
Port Talbot Marine Ground Investigations**

LICENCE NUMBER: **RML2420**

I am writing to advise you that the Marine Licensing Team, on behalf of the Welsh Ministers, as Licensing Authority, has considered your application, dated **04 June 2024** 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 **RML2420** and its conditions.

Advisory Note

NRW (A) recommends that the Licence Holder document the peat and clay habitat before and after the proposed ground investigations using photography as this would provide a useful evidence resource for better understanding the impacts of both jack-up barge spud legs and tracked CPT rigs on irreplaceable Section 7 Habitats of Principal Importance to Wales such as Peat and clay exposures.

Marine Licence, **RML2420**, 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 **RML2420** 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, **RML2420** is solely granted for the work to be undertaken at **Port Talbot**; 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.

Recommendations for future engagement

We strongly advise that you engage with all relevant consultees in the detailed design of any future proposal at the Port. As you will note from NRW Advisories representation which have been shared with you, significant concerns have been raised surrounding the potential impact of any forthcoming project on the section 7 habitats of principle importance.

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, Welsh Government Offices, Cathays Park, King Edward VII Avenue, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

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 you will be charged for any post licensing work associated with your licence. If you have any queries regarding the fees, please email the Marine Licensing Team via marinelicensing@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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

Rhiannon Smith
Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales