

Sent by e mail

Ffôn/Phone: 0300 065 3477

Date 06 December 2024

Dear Consultee,

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

REQUEST FOR SCOPING OPINION – FISHGUARD REPLACEMENT LINKSPAN

The Natural Resources Wales Permitting Service (NRW PS) has received a request for a screening and scoping opinion under the Regulations from Stena Line Ports Ltd 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 scoping request and the links to the supporting information available to review through the [Online Public Register](#) below:

- Covering letter: [SC2402 - Covering Screening Scoping letter for NRW 27.11.24](#)
- EIA Scoping Report: [SC2402 - 794-NI-POR-00886 Fishguard EIA Scoping Report V.01 28.11.24](#)
- Admiralty Chart: [SC2402 - Chart 1484 Fishguard](#)
- Site Location: [Longsection SC2402 - PO0886-RPS-PD-XX-DR-C-SK17 Preliminary Planning Boundary-P01](#)
- Proposed General Layout: [SC2402 - PO0886-RPS-PD-XX-DR-C-SK18 Option1 Proposed General Layout P05](#)
- Longsection: [SC2402 - PO0886-RPS-PD-XX-DR-C-SK20 Longsection through Proposed Works-P03](#)

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 scoping opinion

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

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, Swyddfeydd Llywodraeth Cymru, Parc Cathays, Rhodfa'r Brenin Edward VII, Caerdydd.
CF 10 3NQ
Natural Resources Wales, Welsh Government Offices, Cathays Park, King Edward VII Avenue, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg a'r Saesneg
Correspondence welcomed in Welsh and English

- 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 in the Environmental Impact Assessment 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 **40 days** of the date of this letter, this being **15 January 2025**. Please note that this consultation has already been significantly extended to account for the Holyday season. Screening and Scoping requests have a statutory service level of 90 days and the normal consultation period is 28 days.

If I do not hear from you by the 15 January 2024, I shall assume you have no comments to make on this scoping request. However, please note you will be consulted on any formal application that may follow.

You will be provided with a copy of our Scoping Opinion once issued.
Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this request please do not hesitate to contact me quoting reference number **SC2402**.

Public Register

I would advise you that any information you provide in relation to the application is liable to be made available through our Public Register unless you specifically request otherwise.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely

Maria Alvarez

Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales