



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales**

Ein cyf/Our ref: CML2365

Natural Resources Wales

Welsh Government Offices
Cathays Park
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CF10 3NQ

Sent by e mail to
C/O

Ebost/Email:
maria.alvarez@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

11 February 2025

Ffôn/Phone: 0300 065 3477

Dear Planning,

MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009: PART 4 MARINE LICENSING

HYNET CARBON DIOXIDE TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE PROJECT – OFFSHORE

In accordance with Section 68 (3) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, notice is hereby given that the Marine Licensing Team has received an application from Liverpool Bay CCS Limited, for a Marine Licence under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, to undertake the above stated works.

The application is for the repurpose the existing Eni offshore assets in Liverpool Bay, which will include the natural gas import pipeline from the Douglas platform to Point of Ayr (PoA) Gas Terminal to become an export pipeline to transport CO2 to a newly constructed Douglas Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) platform. **A change to the approach cable route for the Welsh Channel and across Talacre Beach has been received, and it is out for consultation.**

All documents can be accessed through the Online Public Register using the case code [CML2365](#). However, the following documents have been submitted in support of this realignment to the cable route and are attached to this consultation:

- CML2365 LB CCS-Cable Realignment Technical Note-07.02.2025
- CML2365
MC000025_ENI_Hynet_RevisedDevelopmentArea_WelshWaters_Coordinates_250
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I would be grateful for any views that you may have regarding the significance of these changes to the works taking into account the:

- protection of the environment,
- protection of human health,
- prevention of interference with other legitimate uses of the sea,
- protection of the local biodiversity,
- minimisation of noise and nuisance,
- potential impacts on navigation, such as obstruction or endangerment,

- need for any special lighting or markings,
- potential impacts on marine archaeology interests or sites.

Please assess the application over a calendar year to highlight any potential seasonal issues that could arise as a result of the proposal.

In accordance with our responsibilities under national and European legislation, your advice should also take into account the following provisions:

Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended)

To comply with the requirements of the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the Marine Licensing Team is consulting the bodies whom it considers have an interest in the project by reason of their environmental responsibilities, in order that we can determine whether the proposed works constitute a “relevant project” as described within Schedule A1 and A2 of The Regulations.

From our review of the documents, we consider that the proposed works fall within Schedule A1, under paragraph 23 and has produced an Environmental Statement, which can be found on the Online Public Register for your review [CML2365](#), as follows:

“23. Pipelines with a diameter of more than 800 millimetres and a length of more than 40 kilometres for the transport of:

(a) gas, oil or chemicals;

(b) carbon dioxide streams for the purposes of geological storage, including associated booster stations.

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 – Regulation 63

The site of the proposed work lies within or adjacent to the boundary of an area designated as a European site of conservation importance under the provisions of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

The areas being:

Designated Site	Minimum Distance to Eni Development Area (km)
Fylde MCZ	0
Dee Estuary SAC/Aber Dyfrdwy SAC	0
Liverpool Bay/Bae Lerpwl SPA (UK9020294A)	0
Dee Estuary SPA (UK9013011)	0
Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA (UK9005103)	1
Ribble Estuary SSSI	2.7
Menai Strait and Conwy Bay SAC/Y Fenai a Bae Conwy SAC	13.54
Shell Flat and Lune Deep SAC	15.18
Creigiau Rhiwledyn/Little Ormes Head SSSI	15.45
Pen Y Gogarth/Great Ormes Head SSSI	18.29
Aber Afon/Conwy SSSI	21.43
Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA (UK9020326)	22
River Dee and Bala Lake SAC	22.53
Morecambe Bay SAC	26.5
West of Walney MCZ	28.73
Anglesey Terns/Morwenoliaid Ynys Môn SPA (UK9013061)	30
North Anglesey Marine SAC	39.6
West of Copeland MCZ	47.13
Drigg Coast SAC	70.06
Isle of Man Marine Nature Reserves (MNRs)	70.06 to 91.05
Cumbria Coast MCZ	73.09
North Channel SAC	91.4
Aberdaron Coast and Bardsey Island/Glannau Aberdaron ac Ynys Enlli SPA (UK9013121)	98

I have consulted with the statutory nature conservation consultees for their views on whether the proposed changes, either alone or in combination with other projects, are likely to have additional significant effects on the sites and/or on any European protected species, and if an Appropriate Assessment of the implications for the sites and/or species having regard to their conservation objectives is necessary.

However, I would be grateful for any views you may have on whether the proposed changes to the works will adversely affect a European designated site or protected species. NRW will be considering the sites within Welsh waters. For other sites that fall under the North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA) remit, please refer to the NSTA consultation [Hynet Carbon Dioxide Transportation and Storage Project - Offshore - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/hynet-carbon-dioxide-transportation-and-storage-project-offshore).

I would also be grateful to know what additional 'relevant' plans and projects you are aware of that should be considered in combination with the proposed works.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

Under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, Statutory Authorities are required to give notice to the Natural Resources Body for Wales (hereafter “Natural Resources Wales”) of operations likely to damage any of the flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features by reason of which a site of special scientific interest (SSSI) is of special interest.

The proposal is within or has a potential pathway to:

- Dee Estuary;
- North Wirral Foreshore;
- Ribble Estuary, and
- Sefton Coast.

As such notice has been given to Natural Resources Wales.

Biodiversity Duty under the Environment (Wales) Act 2016

Under section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 (‘the 2016 Act’), a public authority in Wales must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of its functions in relation to Wales, and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems, so far as consistent with the proper exercise of those functions.

In complying with the duty under section 6 of the 2016 Act, a public authority must take account of the resilience of ecosystems, in particular—

- (a) diversity between and within ecosystems;
- (b) the connections between and within ecosystems;
- (c) the scale of ecosystems;
- (d) the condition of ecosystems (including their structure and functioning);
- (e) the adaptability of ecosystems.

If you consider the proposed changes to the works will impact upon ecosystem(s), please advise NRW as to:

- the ecosystem(s) that you consider would be affected;
- how you consider that the ecosystem(s) would be affected; and,
- mitigation measures that would avoid adverse impacts to the ecosystem(s) identified.

In complying with the duty under section 6 of the 2016 Act, a public authority must also have regard to any list of the living organisms and types of habitat which in their opinion are of principal importance for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales published by the Welsh Ministers under section 7 of the 2016 Act. The Welsh Ministers have published interim lists of habitats and species, for the purposes of section 7 of the 2016 Act, which are available from the Biodiversity Wales Partnership:

<https://www.biodiversitywales.org.uk/Environment-Wales-Bill>

If you consider the proposed changes to the works will impact upon listed species and / or habitat(s) listed under the 2016 Act, please advise NRW as to:

- any species and / or habitat listed under section 7 of the 2016 Act that you consider would be affected; and,
- mitigation measures that would avoid adverse impacts to the species and / or habitats identified.

Consultation Response Due

A response to this consultation letter is required within **42 days** of the date of this letter, this being **25 March 2025**. If I do not hear from you by this date I shall assume you have no comments to make.

Please send your response electronically where possible to:

maria.alvarez@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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.

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Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this application please do not hesitate to contact me quoting reference number: **CML2365**

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours faithfully,

Maria Alvarez

Marine Licensing Team

Permitting Services

Natural Resources Wales