

Form WRD: Application for a new abstraction licence or a technical variation to an abstraction licence

Application type

Reference number (The number you generated in form WRA). Example:
WRNATURALRESOURCESWALES1101

WRCANALRIVERTRUST15052025

Are there any applications currently being assessed by us that are linked to this application?

No

Is the proposed abstraction going to be aggregated with another existing abstraction?

No

Are any applications, at the same site; being assessed by the Environment Agency?

No

Tell us when you want your abstraction licence to end: [DD/MM/YY]

31/03/2038

Abstraction details

Abstraction location name/reference

CRT327 River Usk at Brecon

Abstraction point type

Single point

National Grid Reference

SO 03975 28882

Do you have any further points of abstraction?

No

Means of abstraction

Provide full details of the equipment you propose to use to abstract water, such as maximum pump capacity and any relevant dimensions, e.g. pipe diameter. For groundwater abstractions, include details about the borehole (depth and diameter) and details of screening and lining.

No change to the existing abstraction arrangement - "Gravity flow to an open channel controlled by a sluice gate."

This variation relates to the technicality surrounding the range of flows which we can abstract. Please see original submitted documents from 2019 CRT_327Supporting Information.pdf for what is in place (attached).

If necessary, continue on a separate sheet and upload below.

- File: CRT327_Supporting Information.pdf - [Download](#)

Abstraction quantities

Abstraction location name/reference

Inland water (river) known as River Usk at Brecon

What purpose will the water be used for?

Navigation

Period of abstraction Will it be all year?

Yes

Maximum quantities (cubic metres)

Annual 12775000

Daily 35000

Hourly 1458.3

Peak abstraction rate (in litres per second)

405.09

Number of hours of abstraction per day

24

Add quantities for another location?

No

Calculations and supporting information

Use this section to show us how you have calculated the amount of water you require. This should include details of your operational regime (for example, number of hours and days you intend to abstract, number of units produced or area to be irrigated). We use this information to determine if the volumes you propose to abstract are appropriate for the purpose. Depending which industry you are in, you may need to provide additional information below.

If your proposal involves the provision of a residual flow via a notch or orifice, provide information on how this is being calculated. This should include details of the equation being used.

This calculation is the maximum licenced available on existing licence (35 Ml/d) and then multiplied across the year/day/hour into cubic metres and l/s. This is consistent with the issued licence.

Means of measurement

State how you intend to measure the quantity of water you abstract. You do not need to do this for a temporary or transfer licence.

Other (please specify):

ADCP flow meter as approved in writing by NRW. New flow meter is not yet in place but written consent granted.

Water efficiency

Provide details of what measures you provide or intend to implement, to ensure efficient use of water. This could include water storage, re-use or recirculation, monitoring and checking for leaks, undertaking water audits or other industry specific good practice.

Please see attached supporting information as per our original application on maintaining water levels in the canal.

In addition to this there is continuous leak monitoring and repair programme on this canal by the asset engineers and operational team, as well as daily hydrologist checks when canal flow is constrained to ensure efficiency of water usage. We continue to meet with NRW and DCWW, as well as other catchment participants such as the Wye and Usk Foundation (WUF) regularly to discuss our abstraction and its role in the catchment.

Fish and eel considerations (surface water abstractions only)

Does your proposal include measures to safeguard fish and eels? Only provide details of outfall screening if abstracted water is to be discharged back into a watercourse. For further guidance on appropriate screening Intake screening for fish

| | Intake | Outfall |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Type of fish screen | Mesh and Bar | None |
| Screen aperture size (mm) | 10 millimetres | None |

Confirm the fish species present at your site. If you're not proposing any measures to protect fish and eels, you must justify this. For example, we may have confirmed in our pre-application response that the intake is inaccessible to fish or you undertook a fish survey to confirm.

There is no change to the existing arrangement at Brecon which conforms to regulations as set in the licence when issued.

The existing intake is approximately 22 m wide, extending parallel to the most downstream part of the weir crest. Water is abstracted via 12 mesh panels fitted with rectangular profile vertical bar screens. The spacing between bars was measured at 10 mm during the site visit. Abstracted water passes through a penstock into a rectangular settling pond which is used to reduce the amount of fine sediment entering the canal system.

Discharge details

If you intend to return any of the abstracted water to the environment, provide details below. Details of discharge location(s) should correspond with any maps submitted. Do not include discharges to a public sewage system.

| Discharge location name / reference | National Grid Reference of discharge point (12 digit) | Total volume to be discharged (cubic metres) | Environmental Permit for Water Discharge Activity number (if applicable) |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Monmouthshire & Brecon Canal | SO 04660 28224 | 35,000 | - |
| - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - |
| - | - | - | - |

Provide a description of the structure and equipment involved in discharge.

Gravity fed culvert into canal waterway. Please see CRT327 Supporting information, photograph 5.

Other abstractors / water users

Provide details of nearby abstractors or users of water who could be affected by your proposal. This should include deregulated users (exempt activities or abstractions < 20 cubic metres per day), anglers and canoeists.
Your local authority's environmental health will hold details of exempt domestic abstractors.

Our licence includes an arrangement Welsh Water (DCWW) to purchase water from the Usk Reservoir when flows in the River Usk constrain our licence to a point where we cannot abstract enough to sustain navigation on the Mon & Brec canal.

Planning application

Have you sought advice on your planning application?

No

Declaration

By signing below, you are declaring that, to the best of your knowledge; the information given in this form, on any map and in any supporting or additional information; is true.

Signed Adam Comerford
Print name Adam Comerford
position National Hydrology Manager

Date

* 10/07/2025

Would you like a copy of your submission?

Yes

Your email address

water.information@canalrivertrust.org.uk