

STAGE 2 – DETAILED EIA SCREENING ASSESSMENT

5	Detailed Screening Questions	
Questions to be considered	Yes/No/Unknown – provide description	For 'Yes/Unknown', are effects <u>likely</u> to be <u>significant</u>? State any features of the development or measures to be used to avoid or prevent what might otherwise have been significant adverse effects.
CRITERION 1. CHARACTERISTICS OF DEVELOPMENT		
Question 1(a) Size and design of the Development		
Will construction, operation or decommissioning of the Project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies, etc.)?	The proposed works at Nant-y-Ffrith involve reconstruction of the weir and redesigning of the current spill weir and bridge. This will involve the installation of new supply and drawdown siphons and increasing the current footprint of the existing spillway. A widened channel is also proposed. To facilitate the proposed works, the site will require a temporary compound area and temporary access route which are to be located on third party land. Following completion of construction works, the Reservoir would be capable of retaining an increased capacity and surface area.	A majority of the construction works will take place within the reservoir itself. The temporary access road and construction compound would cause only a local impact for a relatively small period of time and any visual impact would not be long term. The northern boundary, the reservoir is screen by a row of mature trees and the applicant states their intention to restore the land where any temporary works take place. Unlikely significant effect
Question 1(b) Cumulation with Existing and/or Approved Development		

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Are there any other factors which should be considered such as: - consequential development which could lead to environmental effects? - the potential for cumulative impacts with other existing or planned activities in the locality? - any plans for future land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project? - transfrontier impacts?	No. The development proposed relates to the Reservoir itself which is in a rural location. There are no development proposed nearby which could be affected by the proposed improvement works, either currently or in the future. The development would not lead to any transfrontier impacts being contained within the operational boundary of the reservoir	Unlikely significant effect
Question 1(c) Use of Natural Resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity		
Will construction or operation of the Project use natural resources such as land, water, materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in short supply?	Yes. Energy will be used during the construction phase as well as construction materials. Further resources would be used during transportation of construction material to the site. The scale of resource use is unlikely to be of more than local significance however, and best practice employed by the construction company/operators of the site can minimise energy use. Land take would be minimal, with all works to be carried out on previously developed or sparsely vegetated land.	Unlikely significant effect

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	The proposed works are intended to improve the water holding capacity of the reservoir in the future. Given the nature of the proposed development, particularly when considered in the context of the site, the impacts are unlikely to be significant in EIA terms.	
Question 1(d) Production of Waste		
Will the Project produce solid wastes during construction or operation or decommissioning?	Yes. Solid waste is likely to be generated during construction, however it is realistic to conclude that best practice techniques will be used during construction to minimise the generation and disposal of solid waste.	Unlikely significant effect
Question 1(e) Pollution and Nuisances		
Will the Project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to human health or the environment or raise concerns about actual or perceived risks to human health?	No. Given the nature of the development, it is considered unlikely that significant quantities of materials that are harmful to the environment or to human health will be used, stored, transported, handled or produced either during	Unlikely significant effect

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	construction or upon completion of the works.	
Will the Project cause noise and vibration or release of light, heat energy or electromagnetic radiation?	Yes. Noise and vibration is likely to occur during construction. However the effects would be localised and time limited. Best practice techniques can also be expected to minimise impacts. Given the nature of the development, there is potential for some noise to be generated when transporting materials to the site, however, noise impacts will be localised both in terms of extent and frequency and will not be significant in EIA terms.	Unlikely significant effect
Will the Project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air , or lead to risks of contamination of land or water (including surface waters, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea)?	Yes. There is potential for dust pollution during construction however it can be reasonably concluded that best practice techniques would be employed to minimise this. In any case, dust impacts would be localised in scale and extent and no significant in EIA terms.	

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Question 1(f) Risk of major accidents and/or disasters relevant to the development concerned, including those caused by climate change, in accordance with scientific knowledge		
Will there be any risk of major accidents and/or disasters during construction or operation of the development?	There is a risk of accidents during the construction phase. The risks are considered to be localised and would be minimised by adoption of best practice techniques by site contractors. Measures will be implemented to ensure contractors can safely work within the reservoir body without significant risk. Any risk of accidents arising from the development, post construction would not be increased and is not considered significant in EIA terms.	Unlikely significant effect
Question 1(g) Risks to Human Health (for example due to water contamination or air pollution)		
Will there be any risk to human health during the construction and/or operation of the development	Yes. There is a risk to human health from dust arising from construction works and the obvious risk of drowning. However as noted above, using best practice techniques means these risks are low in EIA terms.	Unlikely significant effect
CRITERION 2. LOCATION OF DEVELOPMENT		

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Question 2(a) Existing and Approved Land Use		
Will the Project result in social changes, for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles, employment?	No. The works proposed are intended to improve the function and capacity of the reservoir and would not result in social changes.	Unlikely significant effect
Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location, which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected by the project?	Yes. Public Footpath 89 (Brymbo) runs to the east of the site. Should any works interfere with the right of way, a temporary closure or re-direction would need to be applied for by the contractors to the Council's Rights of Way department. It is also reasonable to conclude that the reservoir would be closed off for public access during construction works. Any impact would be for temporary period and is not considered to be significant in EIA terms.	Unlikely significant effect
Are there any transport routes which are susceptible to congestion or which cause environmental problems, which could be affected by the project?	No. The construction phase would be temporary and it is not considered that the works would necessitate a significant increase in vehicular movements on nearby highways. The impact would not be significant in EIA terms.	Unlikely significant effect
Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area where there will be loss of greenfield land?	No	Unlikely significant effect

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Are there any areas on or around the location occupied by land uses which could be affected by the project, particularly sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities?	No	Unlikely significant effect
Question 2(b) Relative Abundance, Availability Quality and Regenerative Capacity of Natural Resources in the Area and its Underground		
Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources e.g. groundwater, surface waters, forestry, agriculture, fisheries, tourism, minerals, which could be affected by the project?	The site comprises an existing reservoir which is understood to be fished however it is not a registered fishery. The works are intended to secure its ongoing function. This would be a positive impact and not significant in EIA terms.	Unlikely significant effect
Question 2(c) Absorption Capacity of the Natural Environment		
Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology, or are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora, which could be affected by the project?	No. The site is not located in a SAC, SSSI or SPA. A Preliminary Ecology Appraisal (PEA) has been undertaken and identifies 3 type of priority habitats within the site, however these are located to the southern side of the reservoir and would not be impacted upon by the proposed works. The recommendations made in the submitted PEA will be fully implemented to ensure there is no risk to protected or priority species and habitats.	Unlikely significant effect

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Are there any inland, coastal, marine or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	The site comprises an existing reservoir however the works are intended to secure its ongoing function and capacity. It is not considered that there would be a wider impact on other inland, coastal, marine or underground waters in EIA terms.	Unlikely significant effect
Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	Yes. The reservoir lies within the designated AONB. The site benefits from existing natural landscaping and topography which screens it from wider views. The works proposed in the majority will take place in the reservoir itself and as such, visual impact would be minimal and insignificant in EIA terms.	Unlikely significant effect
Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?	No. The reservoir is visible upon approach to it rather than in the wider context.	Unlikely significant effect
Are there any areas on or around the location which are densely populated or built-up, which could be affected by the project?	No.	Unlikely significant effect
Are there any areas or features of historic or cultural importance on or around the location which could be affected by the project?	According to the submitted detail, CADW have identified the reservoir	Unlikely significant effect

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	as a 'non- designated' asset. The contractor will therefore liaise directly with the Councils Conservation Officer to ensure no detriment to any historic or cultural features. The enhancement works proposed are contained within the operation boundary of the site and would not be significant in the wider context or in EIA terms.	
Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded, which could be affected by the project?	No. As a statutory undertaker, Hafryn Dyfrdwy have a responsibility under the Water Industries Act to maintain and enhance its infrastructure. The proposed works are intended to support the long term resilience and capacity of the water supply network.	Unlikely significant effect
Is the project location susceptible to subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	The site does lie within a Flood Zone 3 for Surface Water and Small Watercourses. As noted above, the enhancements proposed would serve to increase capacity of the reservoir, mitigating future flood risk. The risk would be localised and not considered significant in EIA terms	Unlikely significant effect
Has there already been a failure to meet environmental quality standards that is relevant to the project?	No	n/a

Statement of reasons

Having regard to the selection criteria for screening Schedule 2 development contained in Schedule 3 of the 2017 Regulations, it is the opinion of Denbighshire County Council, Flintshire County Council and Wrexham County Borough Council that the proposed development is not likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its nature, size and location. Consequently the proposed development is not Environmental Impact Assessment development requiring the submission of an Environmental Statement.

In light of the above EIA is not required.

6		Outcome of assessment	
(ii)	If a SO/SD has been provided do you agree with it?	N/A	
(iii)	Is EIA required?	No	
Outcome		Action	✓
Schedule 2 development – threshold exceeded/ criterion met or Sensitive Area but not likely to have significant effects on the environment		Issue direction stating EIA Not Required	x
Schedule 2 development – threshold exceeded/ criterion met or Sensitive Area and likely to have significant effects		Issue direction stating EIA Required	
Project does not fall within the EIA Regulations as either: (a) it is listed within the descriptions of development Column 1 of Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations but does not meet relevant threshold/criterion; or (b) it does not fall within the categories of development in Column 1 of Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations.		EIA Not Required - Issue direction stating either: (A) project listed within descriptions of development in Column 1 of Schedule 2 of the EIA Regs but does not meet relevant threshold/criterion; or (B) project does not fall within the categories of development in Column 1 of Schedule 2 of the EIA Regs	
Schedule 2 development but effects not clear at this stage – file to be reviewed at a later stage		No action – review when appropriate i.e. on receipt of new information/case progress	
Name and Job Title of Assessor		Jenni Perkins – Senior Planner	
Date of Assessment		20/11/2025	