

Sent by e mail

Ffôn/Phone: 0300 065 3371

19 November 2019

Dear Mr Morley,

**SCREENING OPINION UNDER THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2007 (as amended)**

**MORLAIS TIDAL STREAM DEMONSTATION PROJECT LOCATED TO THE WEST OF ANGLESEY**

I note that you have submitted an Environmental Statement with your application, but that the Natural resources Wales Permitting Service (NRW PS) have not previously issued a Screening Opinion on this project. I have therefore screened your application in accordance with The Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 (as amended) ("The Regulations").

The purpose of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening procedure is to determine whether the proposed works require an Environmental Impact Assessment and submission of an Environmental Statement (ES).

In reaching our Screening Opinion we have considered the proposed works against Schedule A1 and A2 of the above regulations. We have also consulted with the bodies that we consider have an interest in the project by reason of their environmental responsibilities, or local or regional competences, as required by the above regulations.

**Screening Opinion**

It is our opinion that Morlais project falls within the categories of project listed within Schedule A2, paragraph 13 and/or 20 of the above regulations (see below), and therefore must be considered in terms of its size, nature and location having regard to the relevant criteria listed in Schedule 1 of the above regulations.

*13. Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (unless included in Schedule A1).*

*20. Installations for hydroelectric energy production.*

We have carefully considered the criteria as set out in Schedule 1 of the regulations, and have determined, based on the information provided; that the project has the potential to

have a significant effect on the environment and therefore a statutory Environmental Impact Assessment is required.

We have come to this conclusion on the basis of the likely significant impacts of the project, specifically with regard to the large scale of the project up to 240MW and an offshore development area of 35km<sup>2</sup>. We have also come to this conclusion due to the nature of the project which will involve installation, maintenance and decommissioning of tidal devices and components over a 37 year period, which is likely to have significant environmental impacts on seabed habitats and species, mobile species and other users of the sea.

If the UK leaves the EU - either with or without a deal - the legal obligations relating to compliance with environmental permits and legislation will continue to apply. NRW on behalf of Welsh Ministers will continue to issue licenses in line with our current practice. If you have any questions about your permits or licenses please contact our Customer Care Centre on 03000 653 000.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Peter Morrison'.

**Peter Morrison**  
Marine Licensing Team  
Natural Resources Wales