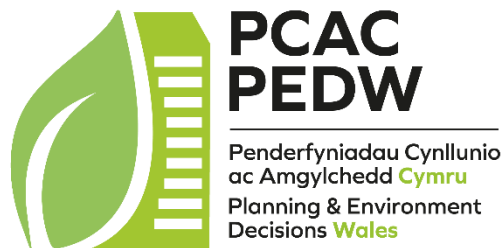


Adeilad y Goron
Parc Cathays
Caerdydd CF10 3NQ

Crown Buildings
Cathays Park
Cardiff CF10 3NQ



Ffôn / tel: 0300 123 1590

Ein Cyf / Our Ref: HRO CAS-03457-C1Q0T7

Ebost / email: PEDW.infrastructure@gov.wales

Dyddiad / Date: 21/01/2025

TO:

James O'Connor
Eversheds Sutherland LLP
Via Email

Harbours Act 1964 (as amended) ('the 1964 Act')

Proposed Development: Replacing current 1970s Hydraulic linkspan (bridge between port and ferry) with a floating type linkspan. Works would include new bankseat hinge and approach road. Piles in seabed.

Developer: Stena Line Ports Limited

Location: Fishguard Port, Goodwick Pembrokeshire, SA64 0BX

On 09 January 2025, Planning and Environment Decision Wales (PEDW) received notification that the above developer intends to submit an application for a Harbour Revision Order (HRO). PEDW is required to provide a Screening Decision which confirms whether the application requires an environmental impact assessment (EIA). The notice of intention to submit a HRO application also confirmed that the project will be subject to an application for a Marine Licence from Natural Resources Wales (NRW).

Screening Decision

In accordance with paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 3 of the 1964 Act, the Welsh Ministers are satisfied that the development requires an environmental impact assessment. The developer has confirmed in their notification that they intend to submit an Environmental Statement for the project.

EIA Deferral Direction

This project will be subject to both an application for consent under Section 14, Section 17 and Part 1 to Schedule 3 of the 1964 Act and for a Marine Licence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth Gymraeg. Cewch ateb Cymraeg i bob gohebiaeth Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh. Correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not involve any delay.

Section 17(2C) of the 1964 Act provides that the Welsh Ministers are the appropriate authority in respect of applications for an HRO. Planning and Environment Decisions Wales is authorised to undertake work in respect of these applications for the Welsh Ministers.

For the purposes of paragraph 20D of Part 1 of Schedule 3 of the 1964 Act, NRW is the Licensing authority in respect of applications for a Marine Licence in the Welsh inshore area and the Welsh offshore area.

In accordance with paragraph 20D of Part 1 of Schedule 3 of the 1964 Act, I hereby serve notice that, in respect of the above proposed developments, the Welsh Ministers are satisfied that:

- a) an assessment of the effects of the project on the environment, or any activity to be carried out in the course of it, has been, is being or will be carried out by NRW under the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007 ('the Marine EIA regulations').
- b) The marine works assessment will be sufficient to meet the requirements of Section 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 3 of the 1964 Act, as follows:
 - (i) the preparation of an environmental statement by the applicant,
 - (ii) the carrying out of consultations about the likely significant effects of the project on the environment,
 - (iii) consideration of the information about the likely significant effects of the project on the environment, and
 - (iv) reaching a reasoned conclusion on the significant effects of the project on the environment.
- c) NRW will make the reasoned conclusion (and any information relating to that assessment that the Welsh Ministers may reasonably require) available to the Welsh Ministers for the purposes of determining the application. The Welsh Ministers will give consideration to the reasoned conclusion when making a decision on the application for an HRO.

Therefore, under powers provided by paragraph 20D of Part 1 of Schedule 3 of the 1964 Act, I am satisfied the EIA does not need to be considered by the Inspector appointed to examine the HRO application. Paragraphs 20E to 20G of Part 1 of Schedule 3 to the 1964 Act will now apply to the determination of the application for the HRO.

Accordingly, any HRO application for this project cannot proceed to a final determination until the Welsh Ministers have considered the conclusion on the significant effects of the deferred project on the environment reached by NRW under the Marine EIA regulations.

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth Gymraeg. Cewch ateb Cymraeg i bob gohebiaeth Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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If you have any queries, please contact Planning and Environment Decisions Wales using the contact details at the top of this letter.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely

Tanya Leck

Tanya Leck
Swyddog Cynllunio | Planning Officer

Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth Gymraeg. Cewch ateb Cymraeg i bob gohebiaeth Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

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