

Form WRE: Application for a new impoundment licence, technical variation to an impoundment licence or the removal of an existing impoundment

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

WRDCGE1105

Are you applying for a licence for a new impoundment or an existing impoundment

a new impoundment

Impoundment details

All information should correspond with any maps and drawings submitted with this application

	Impoundment location name/reference	Left bank National Grid Reference	Right bank National Grid Reference
	Intake	SO 11840 18747	SO 11840 18747
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Provide details about the type of impoundment you propose to construct at the points specified above and how the works will operate. This should include a description of any existing works and how your proposal will affect the flow of inland water.

Tell us the purpose of the works. If the water is to be impounded for more than one purpose, list both the primary and secondary purpose

Only one purpose; for a micro hydroelectric scheme. This response to be read with comments and uploaded files included in WRA application with the same WRDCGE1105 reference.
The uploaded Document A: Cover letter explains the micro hydroelectric project in its widest sense.
The other documents fully describe the project.

There is an existing impoundment. The original impoundment and abstraction licences were revoked in 2025 when the licence holder ceased trading (a few years ago). The hydro scheme is currently mothballed but the owner wants to restart it and is thus applying for a new impoundment and abstraction licence. So although the impoundment is there we understand that a new whole licence is required rather than if being an alternation to an existing impoundment.

The abstraction regime is likely to change and it may be required to slightly widen the weir section of the existing mass concrete dam wall.

Description of impoundment

Name of watercourse

Nant-y-Wenynen

Will your proposed impoundment result in a change to the submerged area (downstream) or new submerged areas behind (upstream of) the impounding works?
(If yes, ensure this is shown on any map or drawings submitted)

No

Will the ponded area created by the impoundment be lined?

No

Give the height of the impoundment structure, from the downstream toe to crest or top of spillway (in metres above Ordnance Datum). If the proposal involves an existing impoundment, state the change in height (in millimetres).

toe at 315.0mAOD

What is the overflow or crest level of the impoundment (in metres above Ordnance Datum)?

Crest at 315.7mAOD

Will the proposal create a raised reservoir?

(A raised reservoir is one where water is stored at a level above the natural level of the lowest level of the surrounding area.)

Yes

What is the proposed capacity of the impoundment when full to spillway level (in cubic metres)?

3m³ (although this has already filled up with rock and gravels)

Does the proposal involve the controlled release of water to safeguard downstream flows?

This could be the release of flood attenuation flows, reservoir compensation flows or a residual flow via a notch or orifice.

Yes

Tell us what the proposed flow at the outlet will be and how you intend to measure this. If the works involve monitoring of levels or flows, include details of this.

There is a combination of hands off flow (likely to be 4.7 lts/sec, or very similar flow) and 30% balance of flows not abstracted.

'Document C: Supplementary information for NRW forms' uploaded as part of abstraction licence application WRD (with the same WRDCGE1105 reference) fully details how these flows will be calibrated and controlled.

Is the impounded water to be used for a subsequent purpose?

Yes

Provide details of subsequent purpose (for abstractions, state the daily and annual quantities in cubic metres).

The abstraction has not yet been licensed but is likely to be up to 20.68 lts/sec instantaneous (or very similar flow) and this should give a daily abstraction limit of 1,786 m³/day (or very similar amount), and in a wet year maybe 329,216 m³/year (or similar order of magnitude).
'Document C: Supplementary information for NRW forms' uploaded as part of abstraction licence application WRD (with the same WRDCGE1105 reference) fully details how these flows and volumes have been calculated.

How will the impounded area be filled initially, and subsequently refilled if applicable?

Example: by rainwater, overland flow or pumped from another source.

The impoundment is an existing structure that was built in 2015. It use to be covered by an impoundment licence but this was cancelled in 2025.
As an existing structure that has been in place since 2015 the area behind the dam wall has already filled with stone, gravel, etc...

Fish and eel passage

Confirm the fish species present at your site.

See 'Document F: 2011 EA letter with relevant comments for 2026 applications' that was uploaded as part of form WRA. In this letter EA (Wales) noted no fish are expected to reach the intake and only brown trout may be present in the vicinity of the outfall.

Please confirm type of fish screen

Intake none

Outfall mesh with maximum 12mm holes.

Please confirm screen height and width - intake (millimetres)

Width 1000mm

Height 640mm

Please confirm screen height and width - outfall (millimetres)

Width 300mm diameter

Height 300mm diameter

Please confirm screen aperture size (millimetres)

Intake 3mm circular

Outfall 10mm x 10mm square mesh

Please confirm type of upstream fish/eel passage intake

None required

Please confirm type of downstream fish/eel passage

None required

Please confirm proposed flow for fish pass

None required

Construction, maintenance and operation

Provide details of maintenance or activities relating to the operation of the impoundment. Include the extent and frequency of activities. This could include the operation of scour valves or maintenance of a fish pass.

Describe any sediment management plan associated with the impoundment.

On a regular basis (probably weekly) the intake will be inspected to ensure there are no blockages on the weir or through the abstraction screen, and that the hands of flow is working properly.

There is no specific sediment management plan associated with the impoundment. Now that the back of the dam wall has filled up, any new sediment arriving at the dam will pass over the dam wall and continue down the stream.

Only a small amount of fine sediment will pass through the screen with the abstracted water and this will be returned to the stream at the outfall point.

Do you intend to divert the flow of the inland water while you are building, changing or removing the impounding works?

No

Proposed Design of Structure

Upload design drawings and calculations here. (Spreadsheet file formats need to be: .xls, .xlsx, or .ods)

- File: 09001-01-F - Site plan and pre-2015 intake details (A3).pdf - [Download](#)
- File: 09001-02-F - Existing post-2015 Intake details (A3).pdf - [Download](#)
- File: 09001-03-G - Existing post-2015 turbine house and outfall (A3).pdf - [Download](#)
- File: 09001-06-A - Proposed intake details (A3).pdf - [Download](#)
- File: 09001-08-A - OS map of site.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: A 09001 NRW App Covering Letter.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: B 09001 Design Statement and Construction Methodology.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: C 09001 Supplementary Information for NRW Forms.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: E 09001 2011 EA Letter with relevant comments for 2026 applications.pdf - [Download](#)

Please upload your stage 1 geomorphology photosurvey. Find out more on how to complete your survey on our Geomorphology Photosurveys for Hydropower developments page (opens in new tab)

- File: D 09001 Geomorphology photo survey.pdf - [Download](#)

Other permissions

Planning permission advice received?

Yes

Is planning permission required?

Yes

What is the status of the planning permission?

Approved

Planning permission reference

BBNPAuthority 12/08507/FUL

Have you applied for or do you hold a Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP) for the proposed works?

No

Commercial confidentiality and national security

Are you applying for Commercial Confidentiality?

No

Have you applied to the Welsh Ministers for national security for your 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 Bertie Thewes

Print name Bertie Thewes

Position Director, Dyffryn Cawnon Green Energy CIC

Date

* 08/05/2026

Submit your application

Enter your email address to get a copy of your application

bertiethewes@yahoo.co.uk