

Your ref: SC2402 Fishguard Replacement Linkspan

Marine Licensing Team
Permit Receipt Centre
Natural Resource Wales
Cambria House
29 Newport Road
Cardiff
CF24 0TP

21 April 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

Subject: Marine Licence Application for Fishguard Replacement Linkspan

On behalf of our client Stena Line Ltd, RPS group have prepared the package of reports and accompanying information in order to assist Natural Resource Wales in respect of the determination of a marine licence for the above-mentioned development proposal at Fishguard Harbour.

Stena Line's overarching driver for this project is to have a new linkspan bridge and pontoon in place and operational by Spring 2027. Failure to achieve this would result in the closure of their Fishguard- Rosslare route.

The original proposals provided for a two lane linkspan bridge to allow vehicles to board/disembark the vessel side by side. This two lane linkspan would not fit in the location of the existing single lane linkspan and therefore necessitated the reclamation of new hinterland area as detailed in the initial submissions.

Geotechnical site investigations found the seabed in the area of reclamation to be poor. This created a significant risk that the project could not be completed by Spring 2027. Stena Line were not comfortable with this risk.

To mitigate this risk, Stena line revisited their original requirements and satisfied themselves that a single lane linkspan bridge was sufficient. This change to their requirements meant that the linkspan could be located where the current linkspan is and therefore avoided the need to reclaim hinterland. This is the basis of this new submission.

As per NRW letter dated 31st January 2025 'scoping opinion' an Environmental Impact Assessment accompanies this submission under Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) 2007 (as amended).

This submission includes 2 no. application forms for (1) Marine Works and (2) for dredge and disposal.

A full list of the documents and figures accompanying this licence application is enclosed with this letter (Document List).

Should you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Price

Senior Associate Planner