Form WRD: Application for a new abstraction licence or a technical variation to an abstraction licence

Application type

Reference number (The number you generated in form WRA). Example: WRNATURALRESOURCESWALES1101
WRNEWMINERALS3009

Are there any applications currently being assessed by us that are linked to this application?
No

Is the proposed abstraction going to be aggregated with another existing abstraction?
No

Are any applications, at the same site; being assessed by the Environment Agency?
No

Tell us when you want your abstraction licence to end: [DD/MM/YY]
31/12/2029

If you require a shorter or longer duration licence, please provide details and your justification
Worst case end date of the construction works

Abstraction details

Abstraction location name/reference
Newminerals Cement Mill

Abstraction point type
Area

National Grid Reference
ST3188084354

Downstream National Grid Reference (If abstracting from a reach), or corners of the area.

ST 32000 84486
ST 32025 84432
ST 31870 84284
ST 31823 84351

Do you have any further points of abstraction?

No

Means of abstraction

Provide full details of the equipment you propose to use to abstract water, such as maximum pump capacity and any relevant dimensions, e.g. pipe diameter. For groundwater abstractions, include details about the borehole (depth and diameter) and details of screening and lining.

The proposed dewatering system will comprise filtered sumps and perimeter drains, with shallow wellpoints used locally if required by ground conditions. Water will be pumped from the excavations using duty/standby electric submersible pumps.

The indicative maximum duty pump capacities are:

Buffer tank/drainage excavation: approximately 3 L/s duty capacity, with an equivalent standby pump.
Warehouse excavation: approximately 12–15 L/s duty capacity, with an equivalent standby pump.

The standby pumps are provided for resilience and are not intended to operate continuously in parallel with the duty pumps. Actual groundwater abstraction rates are expected to be materially lower than the installed pump capacities once initial drawdown has been achieved.

The pumped water will be conveyed through temporary flexible or rigid discharge pipework to settlement equipment and thereafter to the authorised discharge point at South Dock. Final discharge pipe diameters have not yet been fixed and will be confirmed by the appointed dewatering contractor as part of the detailed temporary works design.

No deep abstraction boreholes are proposed. The abstraction is intended to target shallow perched/standing groundwater within the Made Ground.

Flow meters will be installed to record abstraction volumes, and pumping will be controlled to maintain the required excavation water level while minimising abstraction.

Abstraction quantities

Abstraction location name/reference

Newminerals Cement Terminal - Buffer tanks

What purpose will the water be used for?

The water will not be used, but is transferred to South Docks - it is a dewatering operation, purely to enable the construction works

Period of abstraction

Will it be all year?

No

Start Date: [DD/MM/YY]

01/12/2026

End Date: [DD/MM/YY]

31/12/2029

Maximum quantities (cubic metres)

Annual 3000

Daily 110

Hourly 10.8

Peak abstraction rate (in litres per second)

3

Number of hours of abstraction per day

24

Add quantities for another location?

Yes

Abstraction quantities - Another location

Abstraction location name/reference

Newminerals Cement Mill - Warehouse excavation

What purpose will the water be used for?

The water will not be used, but is transferred to South Docks - it is a dewatering operation, purely to enable the construction works

Period of abstraction Will it be all year?

No

Start Date: [DD/MM/YY]
1/12/2026

End Date: [DD/MM/YY]
31/12/2029

Maximum quantities (cubic metres)	
Annual	7000
Daily	400
Hourly	54

Peak abstraction rate (in litres per second)
15

Number of hours of abstraction per day
24

Add quantities for another location?
No

Calculations and supporting information

Use this section to show us how you have calculated the amount of water you require. This should include details of your operational regime (for example, number of hours and days you intend to abstract, number of units produced or area to be irrigated). We use this information to determine if the volumes you propose to abstract are appropriate for the purpose. Depending which industry you are in, you may need to provide additional information below.

If your proposal involves the provision of a residual flow via a notch or orifice, provide information on how this is being calculated. This should include details of the equation being used.

The proposed abstraction is for temporary construction dewatering of the buffer tank/drainage excavation and warehouse foundation excavation.

The required abstraction volumes have been calculated from the estimated volume of drainable shallow groundwater within each excavation footprint, together with the predicted continuing seepage into the excavations during construction. The assessment adopts the measured shallow groundwater levels, proposed excavation control levels, excavation areas and assumed hydraulic properties of the Made Ground.

Dewatering is expected to operate continuously as required to maintain safe and workable excavation conditions. The buffer tank excavation is expected to require dewatering for approximately 2–3 months, while the warehouse excavation may require dewatering for approximately 2–5 months, depending on construction sequencing.

The resulting maximum licence quantities proposed are:

Buffer tank/drainage excavation: 3,000 m³/year, 110 m³/day, 10.8 m³/hour, peak 3 L/s.
Warehouse excavation: 7,000 m³/year, 400 m³/day, 54 m³/hour, peak 15 L/s.

The detailed calculations, assumptions, sensitivity assessment and operational regime are provided in the accompanying Groundwater Impact Assessment.

Additional document. (Spreadsheet file formats need to be: .xls, .xlsx, or .ods)

- File: Cemminerals_Newport_GIA_v1 24.09.2026 (1).pdf - Download

Means of measurement

State how you intend to measure the quantity of water you abstract. You do not need to do this for a temporary or transfer licence.

Meter

Water efficiency

Provide details of what measures you provide or intend to implement, to ensure efficient use of water. This could include water storage, re-use or recirculation, monitoring and checking for leaks, undertaking water audits or other industry specific good practice.

The abstraction is temporary and will be limited to the minimum volume necessary to maintain safe and workable excavation conditions.

Water efficiency measures will include:

pumping only when required to maintain the specified excavation control levels;
use of staged/sequential excavation, particularly for the warehouse, to minimise the area being dewatered at any one time;
calibrated flow meters to record abstraction volumes and maximum rates;
regular inspection of pumps, hoses, pipework and connections for leaks or unnecessary losses;
use of duty/standby pumps and level controls to avoid uncontrolled or excessive pumping;
diversion of clean surface runoff away from excavations where practicable so that it does not unnecessarily increase pumping requirements;
temporary storage where required to allow controlled management of pumped water.

The abstracted groundwater will not be used as process water and is intended to be transferred, following settlement/treatment where required, to South Dock. Abstraction rates and volumes will be monitored throughout the works and reduced where site conditions demonstrate that lower pumping rates are sufficient.

Fish and eel considerations (surface water abstractions only)

Does your proposal include measures to safeguard fish and eels? Only provide details of outfall screening if abstracted water is to be discharged back into a watercourse. For further guidance on appropriate screening Intake screening for fish (opens in new tab)

	Intake	Outfall
Type of fish screen	n/a	n/a
Screen aperture size (mm)	n/a	n/a

Confirm the fish species present at your site. If you're not proposing any measures to protect fish and eels, you must justify this. For example, we may have confirmed in our pre-application response that the intake is inaccessible to fish or you undertook a fish survey to confirm.

The abstraction is from shallow groundwater within temporary construction excavations and does not involve abstraction directly from a surface water body.

The discharge outfall to South Dock will terminate above the maximum operational water level in the dock, providing a free-falling discharge and preventing fish or eels from accessing the discharge pipe. On this basis, no fish or eel screening is proposed at the outfall.

Discharge details

If you intend to return any of the abstracted water to the environment, provide details below. Details of discharge location(s) should correspond with any maps submitted. Do not include discharges to a public sewage system.

	Discharge location name / reference	National Grid Reference of discharge point (12 digit)	Total volume to be discharged (cubic metres)	Environmental Permit for Water Discharge Activity number (if applicable)
	South Dock	ST 31939 84555	10000	not yet issued / applied for at same time
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-

Provide a description of the structure and equipment involved in discharge.

The stated maximum volume represents the combined maximum abstraction allowance of 3,000 m³ from the buffer tank/drainage excavation and 7,000 m³ from the warehouse excavation. Abstracted groundwater will be returned to South Dock following appropriate settlement/treatment. The HIA identifies South Dock as the proposed return location.

Description of discharge structure and equipment

Abstracted water will be pumped from the excavations through temporary pipework to a settlement system before discharge to South Dock.

The system will incorporate flow metering, temporary/emergency storage and duty/standby pumping arrangements to allow discharge to be controlled or stopped if necessary.

The final discharge pipe will terminate above the maximum operational water level in South Dock, providing a free-falling discharge and preventing access to the pipe by fish or eels.

Other abstractors / water users

Provide details of nearby abstractors or users of water who could be affected by your proposal. This should include deregulated users (exempt activities or abstractions < 20 cubic metres per day), anglers and canoeists.
Your local authority's environmental health will hold details of exempt domestic abstractors.

The Ground Investigation desk study identified no licensed groundwater abstractions within 1 km of the site, and no other groundwater users are known in the vicinity.

The proposed dewatering will affect only shallow perched/standing water within the Made Ground, with a limited and localised radius of influence around the excavation areas. The deeper groundwater horizon is hydraulically separated by the thick low-permeability alluvial sequence and is not affected. On this basis, impacts on other groundwater abstractors or users are not anticipated.

The abstraction does not involve taking water from South Dock or the River Usk. Surface-water users are therefore not affected by the abstraction.

Planning application

Have you sought advice on your planning 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	Jan De Vos
Print name	Jan De Vos
position	Director

If an agent is to sign on behalf of the Licence Holder, a letter of authorisation from the Licence Holder is required.

- File: Letter of authority_Francis.pdf - Download

Date
* 30/09/2026

Submit your application

Enter your email address to get a copy of your application
jan@rcsgroupuk.com