

Sent by e mail to
C/O

5 May 2021

Dear Stephanie,

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

Newport Transporter Bridge

I am writing further to your request for a screening opinion, dated 19 February 2021, made 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

We have considered the proposed works against Schedule A1 and A2 of the above regulations and have determined, based on the information provided; that the project does not fall within the categories of project listed within Schedule A1 or A2 of the Marine Works Regulations and does not form part of a wider EIA project, therefore the project does not require a statutory Environmental Impact Assessment.

We also agree with the Screening Report that if we were to consider the project fell within those categories described within Schedule A2, due to the location, scale and nature of works and the possibility of effectively reducing the impact through appropriate mitigation we would still conclude that the project as described would not require a statutory EIA as it is unlikely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment.

However, advice has been provided regarding the proposed works and is set out in Annex 1 below.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

As part of the screening exercise, we have also considered whether the proposed project, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on any site designated as a European site of conservation importance under the above Regulations. To assist in making this judgement of likely significant effect, we have sought advice from our statutory nature conversation advisor.

It is our initial view that the following sites could be impacted by the proposal: River Usk SAC, Severn Estuary SAC, Severn Estuary SPA and Severn Estuary Ramsar.

We would encourage you to contact Natural Resources Wales Technical Experts to receive further pre-application advice

This Screening Opinion will be provided to all those bodies that were consulted and will be publicised on our website and on our Public Register.

The UK left the EU on 31 January 2020 – all legal obligations relating to compliance with environmental licences/permits and legislation will continue to apply. NRW on behalf of Welsh Ministers will continue to issue licenses in line with our current practice.

Yours sincerely



Will Cooke
Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales

Approved by:



Peter Morrison
Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales

Cc: All Consultation Bodies

Annex 1 – Screening Opinion SC2104

General comments received:

Natural Resources Wales Technical Experts

As the site is above and adjacent to protected sites an HRA and WFD Assessment will be required on submission of the full application.

It is advised that as part of the HRA certain mitigation measures should be reviewed, assessed where relevant. For example, this may include some slight amendments to the timing of certain activities in relation to specific migratory fish species i.e. Atlantic salmon *Salmo salar*, which may not be covered by the current proposed measures contained in the EclA .