

**Our ref: EOME0506**

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Date: 22 November 2021

Natural Resources Wales Marine Licensing Team  
Cambria House  
29 Newport Road  
Cardiff  
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Dear Sir/Madam,

## **On behalf of Milford Haven Port Authority – CML2057 Pembroke Dock Infrastructure Marine Licence Variation Application**

Further to the above application to vary the Pembroke Dock Infrastructure (PDI) Marine Licence (CML2057) please find enclosed the following documents:

- Environmental Appraisal for the PDI Marine Licence variation (Rev 02); and
- Pembroke Dock Infrastructure / META Phase 1 Pontoon Marine License Variations: Summary of Implications for Assessment (reference: EOME0506 / EOR0808 Rev 02).

### **Background**

Milford Haven Port Authority (MHPA) is redeveloping Pembroke Port in Pembroke Dock, located in Milford Haven (Figure 1.1), to support development of the offshore renewables industry in Wales. In June 2021, the Project was awarded a Marine Licence (CML2057) for the following key marine elements of the project:

- Capital dredging around the slipways and within the Graving Dock;
- The creation of a single 'mega' slipway by combining the two existing westernmost slipways and extending the slipway into the Milford Haven Waterway into deeper water; and
- The infilling of the Graving Dock.

The licensed activities associated with the removal of sediment/rock around the slipways include only for the excavation of material above the water mark at the time of excavation (in the dry), by backhoe excavator. Any rock identified within this area was to be removed using a larger backhoe excavator or a hydraulic rock breaker. In areas below the existing water mark (in the wet) the only activities currently licensed are the removal of material by backhoe excavator with a closed bucket attachment positioned on a barge.

MHPA have recently progressed with the detailed design of the slipway, and their contractors have highlighted a requirement for the use of a hydraulic rock breaker, such as a vibro-ripper, below the existing water mark (i.e. in the wet) for the removal of areas of harder rock. In addition, it has been determined that the secant piled walls at the existing flank walls of the slipways will need to be extended to the end of the slipway on both sides to retain the superficial deposits.

The current Marine Licence (CML2057) does not permit the use of hydraulic rock breakers in the wet or any type of piling, such as that now required for the new secant piled walls. MHPA are, therefore, seeking a

**Our ref: EOME0506**

variation to the Marine Licence (CML2057) to incorporate these additional activities. In addition, MHPA are also seeking to revise the consent to include for the temporary installation of a stank across the entrance of the eastern slipway (within the footprint of the consented slipway extension) to facilitate the consented works to this part of the project.

## **Proposed Development**

MHPA are seeking consent for the following additional activities to be added as a variation to the current Marine Licence (CML2057):

1. Revised slipway wall design from reinforced concrete walls to incorporate secant piled walls installed via rotary drilling (no change to the overall slipway footprint);
2. The use of a hydraulic rock breaker in the wet for the excavation of rock material at the bottom of the slipway; and
3. Installation of a temporary stank at the current eastern slipway to facilitate works being undertaken in the dry.

The enclosed Environmental Appraisal Report provide further detail regarding the installation methods and construction activities.

## **Environmental Assessment**

An Environmental Appraisal has been undertaken to consider the effects of the design and methodology variations on the following key receptors:

- Physical processes;
- Benthic ecology;
- Fish and shellfish;
- Marine mammals; and
- Designated sites.

The Environmental Appraisal has been informed by a project-specific underwater noise assessment to assess the implications of underwater noise arising from the proposed activities on sensitive receptors. The Environmental Appraisal concludes that, despite the design and installation methodology changes, the proposed development will continue to have a largely negligible impact on the marine environment requiring no mitigation.

## **Summary**

In summary, MHPA are seeking consent for a variation to the existing Marine Licence (CML2057) to accommodate changes to the design of the slipway wall, the use of a hydraulic rock breaker in the wet and for the installation of a temporary stank.

An Environmental Appraisal of the amended proposed development has been undertaken and confirms that despite the design and installation methodology changes, the proposed development will have a largely negligible impact on the marine environment requiring no mitigation.

I trust the enclosed and above is sufficient to allow the prompt consideration and determination of the application. If, however, you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Our ref: EOME0506**

Yours sincerely,  
for RPS Energy Consultants Ltd



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cc: Mr J Hester, Port of Milford Haven Authority