

Determination Report

Report under the Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended) and the Environment Act 1995 of an application for a new temporary licence number WA/060/0001/0032.

In this document, Natural Resources Wales ('NRW') means the Natural Resources Body for Wales ('the NRW') established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) Order 2012.

Please note that on 01 April 2013, the functions previously conducted by the Countryside Council for Wales ('CCW'), Forestry Commission Wales ('FCW'), and the functions of the Environment Agency within Wales ('EA/EAW'), (CCW,FCW and EA/EAW together 'the Legacy Bodies') were transferred to NRW.

In determining this application, NRW has exercised its duties and powers under the Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended) and the Environment Act 1995 and has taken account of guidance issued by the Legacy Bodies where relevant.

NRW has decided to issue the licence.

1. Summary of the proposal

The applicant, South Wales Trunk Road Agent (SWTRA), has applied for a temporary abstraction licence to facilitate work being carried out on the flood plain of the Afon Tywi to protect the A40 from erosion. The work requires the construction of a steel pile wall which needs anchors to provide support. Water is needed from the Afon Tywi on a temporary basis to "drill" the holes needed to install the anchors.

Water will then be collected and recirculated at the drill face and disposed to a suitable treatment facility with surface water run-off controlled to prevent impact to the river.

1.1 Departures from application forms

Abstraction location

On Form WRD the applicant provided an abstraction location of NGR of SN 52566 21415. This was subsequently amended to between NGRs SN 52516 21384 and SN 52627 21380 (see [email correspondence dated 19/1/2022](#), saved to DMS).

Abstraction quantities

On [Form WRD](#) the following quantities of abstraction were proposed:

15 cubic metres per hour
100 cubic metres per day
2700 cubic metres per year

In an [email dated 19/1/2022](#) (saved to DMS) the applicant requested that the maximum hourly quantity is increased to 25 cubic metres, but confirmed that the maximum daily quantity would remain limited to 100 cubic metres. It was also suggested that the annual quantity could be increased from 2700 to 2800 cubic metres. However, upon drafting the licence it was realised

that the annual quantity should remain at 2700 cubic metres to be consistent with condition 5.1, which authorises abstraction for 27 calendar days.

The quantities for inclusion on the licence are therefore as follows:

25 cubic metres per hour
 100 cubic metres per day
 2700 cubic metres per year

An instantaneous rate not exceeding 7 litres per second.

The above quantities were confirmed in writing with the applicant in [correspondence dated 21/03/2022](#), saved to the DMS).

Abstraction period

On form WRD the applicant originally requested an abstraction start date of 28th February 2022. However, the applicant was advised that the abstraction start date could not be before the statutory determination date of the application (see [email dated 17/02/2022](#), saved to DMS). In an [email dated 09/03/2022](#) the statutory determination date was confirmed as 22nd March and the applicant was advised to factor this into the project timescales.

In an [email correspondence dated 21/03/2022](#) (saved to DMS), the applicant was advised that any licence issued would include a 6 month expiry date to allow flexibility for the abstraction start date. The applicant was also reminded that the licence conditions only allow abstraction for a period of 27 consecutive calendar days after the commencement of abstraction.

2. Application details

Administrative details	
Applicant name and address	South Wales Trunk Road Agent ("the Licence Holder") Unit 12 Llandarcy House The Courtyard Llandarcy SA10 1EJ
Application contact details	Applicant: Richard Jones - head of South Wales Trunk Road Agent Tel: 01792 326667 Mob: 07725331619 Email: h.davies2@southwalestra.gov.uk Agent: Jon Robinson – Principal Engineer, Atkins West Glamorgan House 12 Orchard Street Swansea SA1 5AD Tel: 01792 633523 Email: jon.robinson@atkinsglobal.com
Application reference number	PAN-016645
New licence number	WA/060/0001/0032
Catchment	Carmarthen Bay and the Gower
NRW Area	South West Wales
Date application received	17/01/2022

Relevant date	22/02/2022 (date application received as complete)
Determination date	22/03/2022
Agreed extended determination date	Not applicable.

Abstraction details	Proposal
Location of abstraction	Afon Tywi near A40, Llanegwad, Carmarthenshire.
Source of supply	Inland water known as Afon Tywi.
Point of abstraction (NGR) (reach)	Between National Grid References SN 52516 21384 and SN 52627 21380.
Purpose of abstraction	Abstraction for the purpose of installing water flushed ground anchors.
Period of abstraction	For 27 consecutive calendar days after the commencement of abstraction.
Quantities and rates:	
cubic metres per hour	25
cubic metres per day	100
cubic metres per year	2700
litres per second	7
Means of abstraction	A temporary 100mm diameter pump.
Measurement of abstraction	Meter (see email dated 31/1/22 confirming meter will be in place to monitor and limit the abstraction volume each day).

3. Case history

Date	Event
06/01/2022	Submission of pre-app enquiry (PPN-00688)
12/1/2022	Response to pre-app enquiry
17/1/2022	Submission of formal application for temporary licence (PAN-016645)
18/1/2022	Application invalid
15/2/2022	Provision of redacted 'agreements to permit entry'; confirmation from legal that these were acceptable to demonstrate Rights of Access.
17/2/2022	Update to applicant confirming Rights of Access requirement met; advised that we will proceed with application subject to application fee payment.
8/3/2022	Confirmation regarding payment of application fee
9/3/2022	Application accepted as valid

4. Validation of the application

The applicant has submitted all the required information for a complete and valid application.

	Yes/No	Comments
Is the applicant entitled to apply for the necessary licence?	Y	On Application Form, applicant stated that they are occupier of land / have a right of access. Applicant provided a site plan showing the abstraction location in relation to the proposed works (see here) and evidence of permission to enter land (see email dated 15/2/2022 , saved to DMS). Legal confirmed Rights of Access evidence provided was acceptable (see email dated 15/2/2022, saved to DMS).

<p>Were any supplementary reports submitted or has any additional information been requested by Natural Resources Wales?</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>19/01/2022 - initial responses to invalid email, including updated NGRs. 20/01/2022 - Pump specification details 24/01/2022 - Updated site drawing showing abstraction location 24/1/2022 - Further details re. pump usage 24/1/2022 - Provision of environmental reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EIA Screening update Jan 2021 • Environmental Screening Nov 2020 31/1/2022 - Confirmation re pump usage / use of flow meters 11/2/2022 - Email correspondence between applicant and WG re land acquisition (Rights of Access) 15/2/2022 - Provision of redacted 'agreements to permit entry' (Rights of Access) 17/2/2022 - Provision of info re pollution prevention measures; confirmation of 5mm intake screen and operation hours to limit disturbance to others.</p>
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5. Water Resources (Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations) 2003 as amended by the Water Resources (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2006.

Natural Resources Wales Permitting Team confirm that the proposal is not a “relevant project”, as defined by the Regulations. No environmental statement is therefore required by Natural Resources Wales to be submitted in respect of this application and project proposal.

6. Justification of requirements and water efficiency

Justification of need

According to [Form WRD](#), water is needed for the proposed drilling: a proportion will be sourced from a DCWW hydrant, but in addition, water will also be sourced from the Afon Tywi. Multiple sources are considered necessary to provide flexibility during construction, particularly in relation to weather risks.

As part of the pre-application enquiry ([PPN-00688](#)), the applicant advised that initial calculations indicated a water requirement from the river of between 20 – 100 cubic metres per day.

In an [email dated 19/1/2022](#) the applicant requested that the maximum hourly quantity is increased from 15 to 25 cubic metres. On Form WRD, it was stated that abstraction would be for up to 6 hours per day. Based on this the maximum daily rate would be 90 cubic metres. However, a maximum daily rate of 100 cubic metres per day was applied for, to allow for variations in the working day.

In an [email dated 20/1/2022](#), the applicant advised that abstraction will be via a 100m diameter pump, with a maximum pump capacity of 120 cubic meters per hour. In a subsequent [email dated 24/1/2022](#), the applicant advised that the usage will be regulated to a rate of 25 cubic meters per hour to reflect the water requirement for the speed at which the anchors will be dug. In a further [email dated 27/1/2022](#), the applicant confirmed the provision of flow metres in order to be able to monitor and limit the abstraction volume each day.

The applicant understands that temporary licence only authorises abstraction for a period of 27 consecutive days, and will only abstract from the river during period authorised by licence.

NRW considers the requirement to abstract water on a temporary basis justified and reasonable.

Water efficiency

The applicant advised that once water has been used for drilling, it will be collected / recirculated at the drill face and disposed of as appropriate to a suitable treatment facility (see [email dated 17/2/2022](#)). NRW considers this an efficient use of water.

7. Advertising

Application was not advertised	Yes/No	Comments
WR-29 completed	N	
Temporary licence	Y	WR29 filed for audit only. Applications for temporary licences are not advertised.
Variation to permanent licence to introduce time limit	N	
Renewal on same terms	N	
National security	N	

No statutory bodies have been notified because the proposal is not subject to advertising.

Notice of this proposal has not been published; consequently no external representations from the general public can be made or considered.

8. Internal consultation

[Email notification to internal teams 31/1/2022](#)
[Internal consultation sent 17/2/2022; reminder sent 1/3/2022](#)

Consultee (name, date and summary of comments)
Technical Fisheries
Date: 09/02/2022 (see email from Environment Team)
Comments: Happy with proposal. (see section 10.4)
No response received in ICE pack, but previous correspondence advised that a 5mm screen would be required on the intake.
Biodiversity
Date: 09/02/2022 (see email from Environment Team)
Comments: Happy with proposal. (see section 10.3)
No response received in ICE pack, but previous correspondence suggested the following:

<i>"One of the features of the SAC is Otters – We'd like the site to not undertake drilling operations overnight or at dusk/dawn to limit disturbance".</i>
Designated Sites
Date: 03/03/2022 (see ICE pack)
Comments: Happy with proposal. (see section 10.8)
ICE pack response suggested that although in principle the proposals had the potential to impact on SAC feature such as otter, they acknowledged the mitigation measures proposed by the applicant and advised these would need to be assessed via an HRA; also suggested the need to consider pollution prevention measures as part of the HRA.
People and Places
Date: 10/03/2022 (see ICE pack)
Comments: Happy with proposal. (see section 10.2.2)
No concerns given that the proposal is to abstract a small proportion of the Q95 flow.
Geoscience
Date: 21/02/2022 (see ICE pack) and 1/3/2022 (see email)
Comments: Happy with proposal.
Although not a groundwater abstraction, Geoscience were consulted given the proposed drilling operation. They advised that there were no concerns and that the applicant appears to be following all pollution prevention measures regarding impacts to water quality.
Environment Team
Date: 25/02/2022 (see ICE pack)
Comments: Happy with proposal. (see section 15)
No concerns regarding the abstraction or potential impacts to other water users; requested that a metering condition is included on licence and that Env Team are notified once operations commence.
Development and Flood Risk
Date: 10/02/2022 (see email) and 3/3/2022 (see ICE pack)
Comments: Happy with proposal.
Initial correspondence advised that the FRAP for the wider works at this site was issued in September 2021 and that details can be found on the DMS folder here . The only element that required a FRAP was some land raising to create a temporary piling platform which would then become a permanent extension of the carriageway. Also advised on process for consultation on pollution prevention.
ICE pack response confirmed no response and that a FRAP has already been applied for and granted - DFR/S/2021/0136.
Hydrology
Date: 21/02/2022 (see) and 1/3/2022 (see email)
Comments: Happy with proposal. (see section 10.2.2)
ICE pack response confirmed no concerns regarding proposal; confirmed that proposed abstraction represented a small proportion of total river flow; initially suggested Q95 HoF was required but email correspondence subsequently confirmed no HoF required; noted that the pump capacity is greater than the max daily abstraction rate but acknowledged that licence conditions would ensure the maximum abstraction rate and maximum daily volume are not exceeded.

Geomorphology
Date: Not applicable.
Comments: No response received in ICE pack
Protected Species
Date: 04/03/2022 (see email)
Comments: Team unable to provide response at this time.
Bryophytes
Date: 24/02/2022 not provided (see ICE pack)
Comments: Happy with proposal.
ICE pack response confirmed that the threatened Bryophyte (Rhytidiadelphus subpinnatus) identified approx. 3km d/s of abstraction is unlikely to be impacted by abstraction as located well above the normal inundation level for the river. Also confirmed that there no likely impact on the Dendrocryphaea lamyana (SSSI feature) colony by the bridge at Nantgaredig.

9. External consultation

It was not necessary to refer the proposal to statutory consultation bodies.

10. Technical assessment of the proposal

10.1 Water Framework Directive and CAMS resource assessment, and licensing strategy

Category	Comments/Name
Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy Area (CAMS)	Carmarthen Bay_Tywi
Current resource status and licensing strategy (CAMS or other strategy) for this location	Water Available
WFD Integrated Water Body (name/ID)	GB110060036250 - Tywi - conf with Llandovery Bran to conf with Cothi.
WFD Ecological Status	Good

This proposed activity has screened out of requiring a Water Framework Directive Assessment as temporary licences are considered a “green light activity” as defined in OGN 72: Guidance for assessing activities under the Water Framework Directive.

NRW are satisfied that there will be no deterioration in ecological status to the identified waterbody as a result of the components of the activity authorised by-the licence.

10.2 Hydrology

Abstraction is proposed from the Afon Tywi which is within the Carmarthen Bay catchment. The catchment is surface water dominated, and supports a wide range of natural habitats and diverse species. This is reflected in a number of designations, including the Tywi Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Scientific Area (SSSI).

Flows in the Tywi are influenced by the operation of Llyn Brianne reservoir which is in the upper catchment. Water is not directly abstracted from the reservoir but is instead released to augment flows in the Tywi for abstraction for public water supply further downstream.

As the river is regulated there is no local information available to improve natural flow estimates. However, natural flows have been estimated on the River Tywi at grid ref 252550 221300 using Qube software, as follows:

- Annual MF is 28.78 m³/s and Q95 is 3.499 m³/s.
- March MF is 39.82 m³/s and Q95 is 9.435 m³/s.
- April MF is 20.69m³/s and Q95 is 5.56 m³/s.

10.2.1 Impact on flows

The proposed maximum abstraction rate is 25m³/hr which is equivalent to 0.00694 m³/s or 7l/s. This represents a very small proportion of the mean and Q95 flows, as shown below.

- 0.02% of the annual MF and 0.2% of the annual Q95.
- 0.02% of the March MF and 0.07% of the March Q95.
- 0.03% of the April MF and 0.12% of the April Q95.

Given that the proposed abstraction is temporary and represents a very small proportion of mean and low flows, no concerns have been raised regarding impacts to flows. The licence will include conditions limiting abstraction to 27 consecutive days and ensuring the maximum abstraction rate and maximum daily volume are not exceeded. It is not considered necessary to apply any Hands off Flow restrictions.

The above assessment was included in the [HRA](#) and [Appendix 4](#) which have both been reviewed and signed-off (see section 10.7 below).

10.3 Impact on the ecology

Potential impacts on ecology, including otter, are considered unlikely for following reasons:

- Abstraction is temporary and represents a very small proportion of mean and low flows. The licence will include conditions limiting the abstraction to 27 consecutive days and ensuring the maximum abstraction rate and maximum daily volume are not exceeded.
- The licence will authorise abstraction from the riverbank between 2 points, which will reduce impacts to the riverbank by allowing variation in the work area.
- The issue letter accompanying the licence will remind the applicant of the need to follow all relevant Pollution Prevention measures and guidance, as well as advising against any drilling operations at dusk/dawn or overnight to limit disturbance to otter.

Relevant teams were consulted on the above measures as part of the internal consultation and HRA / Appendix 4 assessment (see section 10.7 below). As no further concerns were raised and the [HRA](#) and [Appendix 4](#) have both been reviewed and signed-off, the mitigation is considered acceptable.

10.4 Impact on fisheries

The Afon Tywi is used by both twaite and allis shad (*Alosa fallax* and *A. alosa*), and also supports a population of sea trout (*Salmo trutta*). Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*), eel (*Anguilla Anguilla*), river lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*) and sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marius*) are other migratory fish present. Non migratory fish include the brown trout (*Salmo trutta fario*) and bullhead (*Cottus gobbio*).

The abstraction has the potential to change water levels and / or flows in the river, which could have adverse impacts on fish species. However, the proposal is for a temporary abstraction and represents a very small proportion of mean and low flows. Therefore, any impacts are considered unlikely. The licence will include conditions limiting the abstraction to 27 consecutive days and ensuring the maximum abstraction rate and maximum daily volume are not exceeded.

To prevent the entrapment, entrainment or impingement of fish, the licence will include a condition (9.4) requiring the installation of “a fish basket screen with spacing no greater than 5 millimetres” on the abstraction pump.

As above, the issue letter accompanying the licence will remind the applicant of the need to follow all relevant Pollution Prevention measures and guidance.

The fisheries team were consulted on the above measures as part of the internal consultation and HRA / Appendix 4 assessment. As no response was received and the [HRA](#) and [Appendix 4](#) have both been reviewed and signed-off, the mitigation is considered acceptable.

10.5 Impact on water quality

In an [email dated 17/2/2022](#), the applicant advised that “flush returns would be collected/recirculated at the drill face and disposed of as appropriate to a suitable treatment facility with surface water run-off controlled to prevent impact to the river”. [We] will undertake a watching brief to ensure loss of flush does not adversely affect the river with works to stop and be revaluated if identified. The [attached sketch](#) details temporary drainage and silt trap layout that have been implemented on site”.

Relevant teams were consulted on the above measures as part of the internal consultation and HRA / Appendix 4 assessment (see section 10.7 below). As no further concerns were raised and the [HRA](#) and [Appendix 4](#) have both been reviewed and signed-off, the mitigation is considered acceptable. As above, the issue letter accompanying the licence will remind the applicant of the need to follow all relevant Pollution Prevention measures and guidance.

10.6 Protected rights and lawful users

Following a [MyMap manual screening exercise undertaken on 16/2/2022](#), the following licensed abstractions were identified:

Licence Number	Details
22/60/3/0016	GW abstraction (well) approx. 3.3km west of abstraction
22/60/3/0035	DCWW SW abstraction from River Towy at Nantgaredig

In addition, the following deregulated abstractions were identified :

Licence Number	Details
22/60/2/0001	GW abstraction (well) approx. 1.6km west of abstraction
22/60/3/0014	GW abstraction (well) approx. 1.1km east of abstraction
22/60/1/0026	GW abstraction (well) approx. 1.1km south east of abstraction
22/60/1/0029	GW abstraction (well) approx. 2km south west of abstraction

No additional abstractions or lawful uses were identified through the internal consultation process; neither were any concerns raised regarding potential impacts.

Due to the temporary nature of the abstraction and the fact it represents a very small proportion of mean and low flows, no protected rights are considered to be at risk of derogation as a result of this proposal.

10.7 Conservation impacts (designated and/or wetland sites)

Following a [MyMap manual screening exercise undertaken on 16/2/2022](#), the designations were identified:

Nearest Conservation Sites (Distance or downstream) and Potential Impacts			
Designation Types	Name of Site	Potential Impact	Distance & Direction
National Conservation Designations			
Special Area Conservation (SAC)	Afon Tywi / River Tywi	Yes – see 10.8 below.	Abstraction within designation boundary
Ramsar	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Special Protection Area (SPA)	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	Afon Tywi	Yes	Abstraction within designation boundary
Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTEs) GW only	Not applicable.	No	
Other Conservation Designations			
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Ancient Woodland	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Listed Buildings	Mounting block at N en hurchyard Ty Llandre Stables and coach hous Red Lion	No – due to temporary nature of abstraction	Approx. 0.5km west of abstraction location

Historic Monuments	<p>CASTELL-HOWELL, G/</p> <p>OLD POUND, LLANEG</p> <p>PEN-Y-CNAP</p>	No – due to temporary nature of abstraction	Approx. 0.6km west of abstraction location
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs)	Pen y Cnap Castle	No – due to temporary nature of abstraction	- approx. 900m from abstraction location
World Heritage Sites	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Heritage Coast	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
ESA	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Local Wildlife Site	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
National Landscape Designations			
National Parks	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Heritage Coast	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Others			
Restoring Sustainable Abstraction Programme (RSAP)	None identified in proximity of abstraction	No	
Protected Habitats	Reedbeds	No - located more than 100m from watercourse	Approx. 1km south west from abstraction
	Purple moor grass and rush pastures -	No - located more than 100m from watercourse	approx. 1.4km south west from abstraction
	Lowland dry acid grassland and Lowland calcareous grassland	No - located more than 5km downstream of abstraction	Adjacent to water course
	Purple moor grass and rush pastures	No - more than 5km downstream of abstraction	Adjacent to water course
Protected Species	European Eel, Atlantic Salmon, Shad, River Lamprey and Bullhead	Yes – see section 10.4 above	River is migratory route for

	Threatened Bryophyte (Rhytidiadelphus subpinnatus)	No - located well above the normal inundation level for the river.	these species Approx. 3km d/s of abstraction
	Dendrocryphaea lamyana (SSSI feature)	No - see Bryophyte response in section 8 above.	Colony located by the bridge at Nantgaredig.

10.8 Habitats Directive Regulations and CRow Act

Given the location of the abstraction in the Afon Tywi SAC, a [HRA Form 1](#) has been completed. It was not possible to screen out likely significant effect (section 3). Therefore, an appropriate assessment was completed (section 4). This concluded that, **the project will not adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site**, taking into account any conditions or restrictions as applicable (see those listed in respect of the Appendix 4 below), either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects. The Carmarthenshire Environment Team were consulted and provided their response in [HRA Form 2](#), which concluded that they agreed with the content and conclusions of the HRA report.

Given the location of the abstraction in the Afon Tywi SSSI, an [Appendix 4](#) has been completed, which concluded the permission is **not likely to damage** any of the flora, fauna or geological or physiological features which are of special interest because of the **conditions**:

- To ensure no **long term** impacts, any licence issued will only authorise abstraction “for 27 consecutive calendar days after the commencement of abstraction”.
- To ensure no significant changes to **river flows** or **levels**, any licence issued will specify an hourly and daily abstraction rate, and will also require the Licence Holder to take and record readings of the meter during the authorised abstraction period.
- To prevent the **entrapment, entrainment or impingement** of fish, any licence issued will include a condition requiring the installation of “a fish basket screen with spacing no greater than 5 millimetres” on the abstraction pump.
- To reduce **impacts to the riverbank**, abstraction is authorised to take place from between two points (National Grid References SN 52516 21384 and SN 52627 21380), which will be specified on any licence.
- To avoid adverse impacts resulting from **pollution or disturbance**, the applicant has provided details of the Pollution Prevention measures that will be in place on site (see above). Pollution Prevention measures were considered as part of the Flood Risk Activity Permit application, which has already been applied for and granted DFR/S/2021/0136. In addition, they will be reminded of these requirements in the issue letter accompanying the licence.

10.9 Other considerations

Consideration	Impact Yes/No	Comments
Flooding	No	See response from Development and Flood Risk detailed in section 8 above.
Archaeology	No	See section 10.7 above – due to temporary nature of abstraction impacts are considered

		unlikely.
Recreation/amenity	No	Not applicable.
Subsidence and desiccation	No	Not applicable.

10.10 Other consents that might be required or related to this proposal

Consents	Yes/No	Comments
Environmental Permit for water discharge activity	No	In an email dated 17/2/2022 (saved to DMS), the applicant advised that <i>"flush returns would be collected/recirculated at the drill face and disposed of as appropriate to a suitable treatment facility."</i>
Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP)	No	See response from Development and Flood Risk detailed in section 8 above.
Other	No	Not applicable.

10.11 Representations (and Decision Statement if applicable)

Applications for temporary abstraction licences are not required to be advertised, therefore no representations were received and there is no requirement for a Decision Statement.

11. Cost benefits and environmental mitigation or gain

Options considered	Option 1: issue the licences as applied for. Option 2: issue the licences with appropriate conditions in accordance with policy and guidance. Option 3: refuse application.
Preferred option	Option 2: issue the licences with appropriate conditions in accordance with policy and guidance.
Reason for choosing preferred option(s)	As this operation will be low risk and the application is for a temporary abstraction, the costs and risks to the environment do not make a refusal a reasonable or appropriate course of action. Issuing the licence for this activity will contribute to work being carried to protect the A40 from erosion. All conditions applied to the licence are in accordance with current legislation and policy.
Assessment of likely benefits and costs of proposed option to: (does not need to be quantified in £'s, although if available this information should be included).	
Water Resources/ The Environment	There is low risk of environmental damage occurring as a result of this proposal. The proposal accords with local water resources policy and is sustainable.
The applicant	The applicant will benefit from the availability of water for their operation. There will be a cost saving from not having to use mains water for this purpose. The applicant will incur the costs of installing and maintaining the method of abstraction and of measuring the volumes of

	<p>water they abstract.</p> <p>The applicant will have to pay the application fee, any advertising costs that apply and an annual subsistence charge based on their licensed quantity.</p>
Natural Resources Wales	<p>Natural Resources Wales will incur the cost of determining the application and enforcing the licence. These costs will be partly recovered through the application charge and annual charges, where applicable.</p> <p>In determining the licence in accordance with local and national policy, Natural Resources Wales is fulfilling its duties as a regulator.</p>
The economic and social well being of the rural community.	No adverse effects upon the social and economic well being of local communities in the rural area are perceived as a result of this proposal.

12. Biodiversity and sustainable development

The principles of sustainable development and biodiversity are embodied in the conditions attached to the licence.

13. Time limit

A shorter time limit than the CED has been applied to the licence. This is in line with the application submitted for a temporary abstraction licence which states the abstraction will be temporary, with a scheduled duration of 27 consecutive days.

The applicant has been issued a licence which will expire 6 months from date of issue, with conditions which stipulate that the 27 consecutive days of abstraction will start once abstraction has begun and NRW are notified.

14. Special agreements

Not applicable to this application.

15. Measurement of water abstracted

The applicant is required to measure the abstraction on a monthly basis via a meter to demonstrate compliance with the terms of the licence and to provide information on actual water usage for water planning purposes. The Licence Holder will be advised of the measuring requirements which the need to have regard to NRW's Abstraction Metering Good Practice Manual.

16. Considerations of SMNR – Compliance with our General Purpose

We are satisfied that this decision is compatible with our general purpose of pursuing the sustainable management of natural resources in relation to Wales and applying the principles of sustainable management of natural resources.

17. Conclusion and recommendations

Full and due consideration has been given to any representations made, and due regard has been taken of protected rights and other lawful interests.

The principles of sustainable development are embodied in the conditions attached to the licence.

The conditions incorporated on the licence are considered to be necessary and reasonable in the light of the available and presented evidence. The conditions are also considered to be consistent with appropriate standards for enforcement by Natural Resources Wales.

I therefore recommend approval of the application (as modified) and issue of Licence number WA/060/0001/0032 with the conditions as drafted.

APPENDIX 1 – FULL APPLICANT DETAILS AND FINANCE MEMO

1. Enforcement – Criticality Class

Critical

2. The following new temporary licence to abstract water has been granted

Licence number: WA/060/0001/0032
Licence Holder name: South Wales Trunk Road
Registered address: Unit 12 Llandarcy House The Courtyard Llandarcy SA10 1EJ
Correspondence address: Jon Robinson – Principal Engineer, Atkins West Glamorgan House 12 Orchard Street Swansea SA1 5AD Tel: 01792 633523 Email: jon.robinson@atkinsglobal.com

Area	South West
CAMS	Carmarthen Bay_Tywi
LEAP	Carmarthen

3. PALS Purpose

Primary Code	Secondary Code	Use/Loss Level
I – Industrial	CON – Construction	150 – General Use Relating to Secondary Category (High Loss)

4. Financial charge calculation

Issue date	21 st March 2022
Effective date	21 st March 2022
Expiry date	21 st September 2022
Permanent licence (Yes/No)	No
Two part tariff offered (Yes/No)	No
Other agreement (Yes/No)	No
Chargeable (Yes/No)	No
Reason if non chargeable	Temporary

If authorised, the licence will be exempt from the payment of annual charges being one of the categories under Paragraph 6.2.1 of Natural Resources Wales's Charges Scheme.