

Application for a Band 1 Marine Licence

Project description

Project name

Beaufort Seabed Cable Geotechnical and Geophysical Survey

Please provide a brief description of the proposed project, including location.

Note that this application is a revision to application RML2214. The fee for this application is retained from RML2214.

The proposed Beaufort subsea cable will join the UK and Ireland via a telecommunications cable across the Celtic Sea/Bristol Channel. UK landfall sites include Bude (Cornwall) and Port Eynon (South Wales) with Oxwich included as a potential optional landfall site depending on survey results. Fugro Germany Marine GmbH (Fugro) have been commissioned to conduct a scientific topographical, geophysical and geotechnical survey along all sections of the proposed cable route and landfall sites for the purposes of characterising seafloor sediment and shallow geological conditions to inform engineering design, route optimisation and maintenance of the cable systems.

The geotechnical component of the works is relevant to this application (Band 1 sediment sampling) as it includes seabed sampling. The seabed along the proposed route of the cable within inshore areas (0-15m depth) will be sampled by a small seabed clamshell grab at 500m intervals. Therefore, only 3 to 5 small grab samples are expected to be collected from inshore locations (0 -15m). Areas of seabed along the proposed cable route at depths greater than 15m will be sampled with a gravity core (or clamshell grab after gravity core failure) at 10 km intervals. In addition a cone penetrometer test (CPT) will be conducted at 4km intervals. There will be no gravity cores or CPT in inshore areas depths less than 15m. The grabs will be a maximum of 250cm³ in volume and the cores will be up to 2m in length. All samples will be returned to the seafloor once recorded and photographed. seabed survey works will be completed from specialist Fugro survey vessels. A small vessel (either Fugro Seeker or Fugro Surveyor 1) will complete the shallow inshore works (0-15m) working day operations only. The deeper water offshore works (>15m) will be completed by a larger survey vessel (Fugro Supporter) working 24 hour operations. No deposits of any kind will be made on the seabed during the survey.

The survey will commence week commencing 21 March 2022 and is expected to be complete 8 May 2022 (weather depending) although Fugro would appreciate a licence to cover the summer period to end September 2022 to allow for any extended or repeat sampling.

Applicant details

To whom the licence will be issued. This must be a legal entity such as an individual, registered company/ charity or public body.

Title	Mr
Full name	Paul English
Company or trading name	Fugro GB Marine Ltd
Company Registration Number (if applicable)	01135456
Name of contact or individual (if different)	Paul English
Position in company	Principal Consultant
Address (provide registered company address if applicable)	Victory House, Trafalgar Wharf Hamilton Road, Portchester HANTS
Postcode	PO3 6LL
Telephone number	02392 205500
Email address	p.english@fugro.com

Details of agent, contractor, vehicles and/or vessels used to carry out works

Does the applicant wish to be included in all correspondence?

Yes

Will the works require the use of vessels?

Yes

Will the works require the use of any vehicles?

No

Proposed project details

Licensable period

Determination of applications will be based on the works taking place during these dates. Please ensure you have included an adequate contingency period. If works are not completed by the requested licence expiry date you may be required to submit a new application. Including a contingency period within your original application does not impact on the licence fee.

Start date (DD/MM/YYYY) 21/03/2022

Requested licence expiry date (DD/MM/YYYY) 30/09/2022

Please detail the location of the proposed project.

This should be either Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference (i.e. SN 12345 67890) or Latitude and Longitude in decimal degrees to 4 decimal places (i.e. Lat 52.1234 Long -4.1234), defining the extent of the project. Please specify which coordinate system has been used and if using GIS co-ordinates, specify which projection has been used.

see accompanying GIS shapefile.

Method statement

Are the works within a sensitive area or one of the following activities: boreholes, replacement piles or beach management?

Yes

Band 1 method statement template

You can upload your method statement here or fill in the questions below.

- File: BEAUFORT_WMS_UK_rev.2.docx - [Download](#)

Please provide a brief summary of the application including location of the works (coordinates - lat/long, decimal degrees). For activities that cover a large area please provide coordinates of the approximate extent of works.

See attached method statement

Scope of works

Please provide a full description of all proposed works including: Sequence of works (mobilisation, marine works, site remediation (if required)) Estimated timing of works (duration, working hours, day/night, plus contingency) Plant, machinery or vessel required Estimated quantities (removals, deposits, construction materials)

See attached method statement

Access and working areas

Please provide details of access to the site and working areas. This should include: Attached map of the access/egress route and working areas (annotated aerial image and/or OS map) Predicted plant/vehicle movements Storage areas for plant, equipment and materials (if required) Risks to navigation

See attached method statement

Environmental mitigation

Please list appropriate mitigation measures to minimise impacts on the marine environment these may include: Pollution prevention and control procedure (guidance available on the NetRegs website) Spill response kits Minimise plant traffic Designated access and egress routes Storage of materials (fuel, chemicals, construction waste) Biosecurity (guidance available at <http://www.snh.gov.uk/docs/A1294630.pdf>)
Note: To assist you, the following mitigation statements will be used as conditions within the licence. By signing this method statement you will be agreeing to adhere to these restrictions. If you are unable to do this, the application will not qualify as Band 1. All equipment, temporary structures, access tracks, waste and/or debris associated with the works will be removed on completion of the works. Bunding, storage facilities and spill kits will be employed to contain and prevent the release of fuel, oils and chemicals associated with the plant, refuelling and construction equipment into the marine environment. Plant, vehicles and machinery will not be refuelled on the foreshore. Coatings and treatments will be suitable for use in the marine environment and are used in accordance with best environmental practice. All equipment, materials, machinery and PPE used will be in a clean condition prior to their arrival on site, and upon removal from site, to minimise risk of introducing non-native species into the marine environment. In the event of removal of any sensitive species or habitat designated by NRW under Schedule 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, no further removals will occur at that location or within 20m of that location.
Please list your bespoke mitigations here:

JNCC marine mammal mitigation (JNCC Guidelines for Minimising the Risk of Injury to Marine Mammals from Geophysical Surveys) will be applied throughout the survey. This includes watch keeping by marine mammal observers and use of passive acoustic monitoring during periods of reduced visibility as well as soft start procedures. A risk assessment of the effects of noise from the survey on marine mammals has been completed and has informed the mitigation measures being applied.
MARPOL guidance for the prevention of pollution from ships (as relevant)
Notice to Mariners will be issued.

Additional information

Please list any additional information that may help with the application:
Consents/permissions required List of plans or drawings attached to method statement
Emergency procedures Contact details

The following licences and notifications apply:
- Seabed Survey Licence (The Crown Estate)
- Notification of an Exempt Activity (Marine Management Organisation)
- Noise Registry (JNCC)
- Marine Licence for a Band 1 Activity (Natural Resource Wales (this application))

All survey methodologies are subject to specific Risk Assessment and Emergency Response Procedures.

Fugro has liaised with Trinity House, Maritime Coastguard Agency and Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

Materials of the project

Description of materials to be deposited seaward of Mean High Water Springs (MHWS)
(Please tick all that apply)

Other (please provide a description of materials):
none

Delivery method of materials to site

If sea delivery, details of vessels to be used with a chart of proposed route and transshipment area is required. If delivery is by vehicle, the details about the proposed access route are required. Please indicate if you are providing details in a separate file.

n/a

Will the works involve removals seaward of MHWS?

Yes

Description of materials to be removed seaward of MHWS (Please tick all that apply)

Silt

Gravel

Sand

Description of objects/materials to be removed seaward of MHWS, including quantities to be removed.

One sample of seabed sediment will be collected using a small clamshell grab at 500m intervals along the route of the proposed cable in water depths between 0 -15m.
One sample of seabed sediment will be collected using a gravity core (or grab sampler after gravity core failure) at 10km intervals along the route of the proposed cable in depths greater than 15m.
The gravity core will sample a seabed sediment core of maximum length 2m. The clamshell grab will sample surficial seabed sediments up to a maximum volume of 250cm³.
There will be no permanent removal of seabed sediments. All samples will be returned to the seabed after onboard recording and photography.

Additional information

Please provide the following:

You must include a suitably scaled extract of an Ordnance Survey Map or Admiralty Chart with location of project complete with north arrow and scale

If applicable, any construction plans and sectional drawings showing those proposed works below/seaward of MHWS, which should give details of the materials to be used (for beach replenishment the quantity, particle size and source of material to be deposited and deposit location is also required)

You must include details of correspondence with MCA, Trinity House and The Crown Estate

You must include any pre application advice/correspondence with NRW

Correspondence with RCAHMW (B1 removals only)

Please upload these below

Please list below all supporting documents that have been submitted with this application.

Method Statement showing charts and maps of the proposed cable route survey.

A zip file containing the GIS shapefiles for the cable route survey will be provided separately.

Communication from Trinity House, MCA and RCAHMW will be provided separately

Statutory powers

Does the applicant have statutory powers to consent any aspect of the project? e.g. coast protection authority, dredging powers, statutory undertakers

No

Public register

Is there any information contained within or provided in support of this application that you consider should NOT be included on the Public Register on the grounds that its disclosure:

	Yes	No
Would be contrary to the interest of National Security?		X
Would prejudice to an unreasonable degree you, or some other person's commercial interest or those of a third party?		X

Application fee

Please provide the method of payment

Reference number (not BACS remittance no.)

Fee is retained from RML2214

Declaration

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information given in this application form and supporting documentation is true.

WARNING: It is an offence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, under which this application is made, to fail to disclose information or to provide false or misleading information. This could invalidate any licence granted.

Name Paul English
Date 21 March 2022
Position in company Principal Consultant

If you would like a copy of your completed form, please add your preferred email address below:

p.english@fugro.com