

Marine Directorate Licencing Operations Team (MD-LOT)
Marine Scotland
By Email

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7 March 2024

Attn: Marine Directorate Licencing Operations Team (MD-LOT)

Lerwick Port Authority Dales Voe Ultra Deep Water Quay Development: EIA Screening Request

On behalf of our client, Lerwick Port Authority, we write regarding their intention to progress the above noted works. The works will be undertaken in accordance with a Harbour Revision Order (HRO), with marine construction and dredging licences applied for from Marine Directorate. An HRO application will be made to Transport Scotland.

The proposed development comprises 140m of combi steel pile wall and rock sockets positioned in a new -21m CD dredge basin (approx. 320,000m³), the majority of which will be brought ashore into reclamation works (approximately 8.3 Hectares) which is to be supplemented by additional land inert stone excavation (120,000m³) and rock armour protection works. Any dredged material unsuitable for land reclamation is expected to be deposited at sea, subject to a Best Practicable Environmental Option Assessment.

This development is separate to the proposed capital dredging operation to -14.5m CD at the existing Dales Voe facility, for which a marine licence application is underway: a sampling plan is being prepared and will be issued to MD-LOT in due course.

As the Ultra Deep Water Quay Development is expected to handle vessels of over 1,350 tonnes, we are of the opinion that the proposals fall into Paragraph 8 (2), Schedule 1 of the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017 ('the Regs'). As such any application to Marine Directorate requires to be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

We are commencing preparation of the above noted applications with the intention of construction work commencing in Q2 2026. As such can you confirm our interpretation of the regulations is correct, and that this project screens positively under the Regs as a Schedule 1 development? To aid you with forming your opinion we have attached the Development Boundary. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Due to the tight programme, in order to save time we have commenced the scoping exercise and will be submitting our scoping report in due course, in advance of the EIAR submission. Please note we are also drafting a shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for these works to help ensure suitable scrutiny of protected habitats and species and the identification of any required mitigation.





We look forward to your response on this matter and would welcome further discussion, as needed.

Yours sincerely for EnviroCentre Limited

(issued electronically)

Dr Ian Buchan **Associate Director**

Enc: 202071-P-10 Development Boundary Plan

CC: Andy Sandison, Arch Henderson Shane Jamieson, Arch Henderson Duar Fleming, EnviroCentre Jeet Shah, EnviroCentre

