



Louise Treble
Marine Directorate- Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT)
Scottish Government
375 Victoria Road
Aberdeen
AB11 9DB

158_LET_01
20th February 2026

Dear Louise,

Regarding: Variation to Marine Licence MD-00011322 and Approval Request for Pre-Dredge Sampling Plan at Gasay, South Uist

I am writing to request a variation to the Marine Licence (MD-00011322) issued to Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL) on 16th January 2026. The Marine Licence permits the removal of sediment for sampling, as part of geotechnical investigations to inform CMAL's proposed new Gasay Ferry Terminal Development.

The requested variation to the licence is a result of progress in the proposal development, and changes to the geotechnical investigation plan in order to accommodate updated conceptual design options for the ferry terminal development.

Requested changes include:

1. Change of Agent;
2. Licence extension;
3. Location and number of sample stations; and
4. Change to material volumes for removal.

In addition, we would like to agree the pre-dredge sampling plan with MD-LOT.

1. Change of Agent

Affric Limited have been appointed by CMAL to provide environmental and consenting support for the Gasay Ferry Terminal Development. To align and simplify channels of communication, we would like to request the Agent of Marine Licence MD-00011322 be changed from Jacobs to Affric Limited. This has been discussed and agreed between CMAL, Jacobs and Affric Limited.



Can the agent details please be updated to:

Title:	Miss
Full name:	Claire Williams
Company name (if appropriate):	Affric Limited
Registered company number (if appropriate):	SC 426704
Address:	Lochview Office, Loch Duntelchaig, Farr Inverness, IV2 6AW
Telephone number (including dialling code):	[Redacted]
Email:	

2. Licence Extension

The geotechnical investigation works are now due to commence in early April 2026. To provide adequate time for work to be complete, and to accommodate delays beyond CMAL's control, we request that the expiry of the Marine Licence MD-00011322 be extended from 31st May 2026 to 31st December 2026. Note, the time to undertake the geotechnical investigations is approximately 5 weeks onsite and this has not increased.

3. Location and Number of Sample Stations

The Supporting Document (Jacobs, 2025)¹ provided as part of the application dated 19 June 2025, specified the sediment sampling would comprise of 8 boreholes and 3 vibrocores, to be taken within 5m of the indicative locations provided in Table 2-1 and Figure 2-1 of the Supporting Document.

The revised, indicative sediment sampling plan is provided in Drawing 2628-WS-FT-ZZ-DR-C-9905 P01. This ground investigation plan has been amended to accommodate updated development designs, and specifically, to re-position the vibrocores into the proposed dredge pocket.

The revised sediment sampling plan will include up to 12 Cable Percussion with Rotary Core boreholes and 3 vibrocores (the location of which are discussed below for the pre-dredge sampling plan). 10 boreholes are depicted in the drawing, and an allowance for an additional two boreholes is included. This is to ensure sufficient sampling can be undertaken (up to 12 boreholes into total) to adequately represent the site characteristics.



All sediment sampling will be undertaken within the location of the Licensed Activity as per Marine Licence MD-00011322, and within 100m of the coastline. If sampling at the indicative locations depicted in Drawing 2628-WS-FT-ZZ-DR-C-9905 P01 is not possible due to seabed characteristics, sample station locations may be revised in-field to ensure representative sampling of the proposed development area.

4. Change to Material Volumes for Removal

The current licence allows for the removal of a total of 2.6m³ of material, split into the categories of silt and bedrock. We would like to request the addition of a small allowance for sand and gravel removal, as it is currently not known what material will be encountered. Volumes are also requested to be adjusted to allow additional material to be removed as a result of the increased number of borehole samples to be collected.

The maximum amount of material to be removed is requested to be adjusted to:

- Silt (0.004 mm - <0.063 mm) = 0.3 m³
- Sand (0.063 mm - <2.0 mm) = 0.5 m³
- Gravel (2.00 mm - <64.0 mm) = 0.5 m³
- Other: Bedrock = 3.75 m³

Approval of Pre-Dredge Sample Plan

We would also like to request approval from MD-LOT of the pre-dredge sampling plan, in line with Marine Directorate's Pre-disposal Sampling Guidance, 2017.

A capital dredge campaign may be required to provide sufficient water depth for vessel manoeuvres on the approach to the proposed new berth. The dredging campaign will remove material of up to 10m depth (to -5m Chart Datum) as per the plan outlined in Drawing 2628-WS-FT-ZZ-DR-C-9905 P01. The total dredge volume will be ≤25,000m³.

Sampling will be undertaken in accordance with Marine Scotland's Pre-disposal Sampling Guidance, 2017. Three vibrocores will be taken in the indicative locations within the proposed dredge pocket as outlined in Drawing 2628-WS-FT-ZZ-DR-C-9901 P01. Vibrocores will be taken as dredge depth at these locations will be >1m. Each vibrocore will extend to at least the depth of proposed dredge in that location (unless bedrock is reached prior to the depth being achieved). Each core will be sampled at the surface layer (0-15cm), then every 50cm thereafter. Top, middle and bottom sub-samples will be analysed in line with the guidance, and all sub-samples will be retained for further analysis, if required.

Sample analysis will be undertaken by a laboratory that meets requirements of the Pre-Disposal Sampling Guidance, namely ISO17025 accredited for marine sediment analysis,



takes part in intercomparison exercises such as QUASIMEME and meets the LOD and sensitivity requirements set out in the CSEMP Green Book.

Environmental Considerations

The variation requested for the marine licence is not considered to result in any material change to the environmental impacts as assessed in the Supporting Information (Jacobs, 2025)¹ provided as part of the original application. The increase in boreholes, from 8 to a maximum of 12, will result in a slightly larger footprint of disturbance to the seabed and an increase in sediment removal. As per the mitigation outlined in the Supporting Information, a pre-works visual seabed survey was undertaken to inform whether there are any Priority Marine Features (PMFs) present in the footprint of the ground investigations. This survey, completed in August 2025, concluded that whilst there are occasional seapens present and evidence of burrowing/mounds, this habitat is infrequent at the site and fails to meet the minimum size to qualify as a PMF biotope. Furthermore, as any interaction from ground investigation works with the seabed will be localised, hence no PMF- or species-specific mitigation is required.

There will be no change to impacts on designated sites as a result of the variation as underwater noise associated with the geotechnical sampling will be minimal.

Vibrocres have been re-positioned further east into the refined dredge pocket as required for pre-dredge sampling. We wish to acknowledge NatureScot's consultation response to the marine licence and recognise Gasay is known to have high densities of otter, a European Protected Species, and known otter shelter features on the south-east coast of Gasay. A pre-works check will be undertaken a maximum of 8 weeks from works commencing, and if required, a licence to disturb otter will be sought from NatureScot. No works with the potential to affect otters will be permitted until an EPS licence has been granted.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact me on 07516 112050.

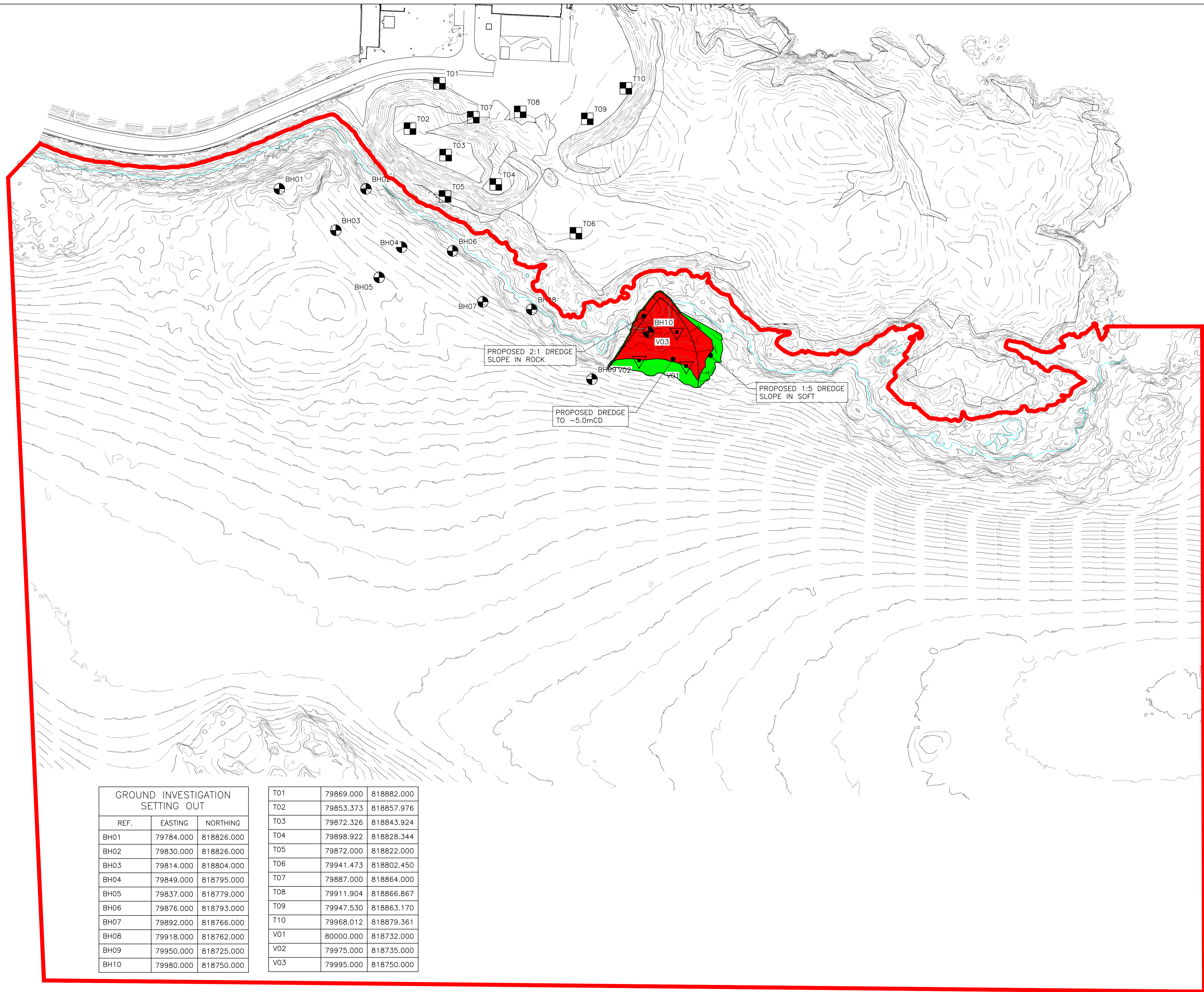
Kind regards,

[Redacted]

Claire Williams
[Redacted]

Principal Environmental Consultant

¹Jacobs, 2025. Gasay Ferry Terminal Redevelopment Ground Investigation Works – Supporting Information for Marine Construction Licence and EPS Licence. Document No. B2421300-00-TN-008.



GROUND INVESTIGATION SETTING OUT

REF.	EASTING	NORTHING
BH01	79784.000	818826.000
BH02	79830.000	818826.000
BH03	79814.000	818804.000
BH04	79849.000	818795.000
BH05	79837.000	818779.000
BH06	79876.000	818793.000
BH07	79892.000	818766.000
BH08	79918.000	818762.000
BH09	79950.000	818725.000
BH10	79980.000	818750.000

T01	79869.000	818882.000
T02	79853.373	818857.976
T03	79872.326	818843.924
T04	79898.922	818828.344
T05	79872.000	818822.000
T06	79941.473	818802.450
T07	79887.000	818864.000
T08	79911.904	818866.867
T09	79947.530	818863.170
T10	79968.012	818879.361
V01	80000.000	818732.000
V02	79975.000	818735.000
V03	79995.000	818750.000

GENERAL NOTES

- ALL LEVELS ARE IN METRES AND RELATE TO CHART DATUM UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.
- TOPOGRAPHIC AND BATHYMETRIC SURVEY INFORMATION FROM ASPECT SURVEY DATED 20 OCTOBER 2020.
- H.A.T. +4.9m CD
M.H.W.S. +4.1m CD
M.L.W.S. +0.5m CD
L.A.T. -0.2m CD
- CHART DATUM IS 2.32m BELOW ORDNANCE DATUM.

LEGEND:

- BH01 - PROPOSED BOREHOLE
- T01 - PROPOSED TRIAL PIT
- V01 - PROPOSED VIBROCURE
- DREGE DEPTH BELOW 1m (570m²)
- DREGE DEPTH OF 1m AND GREATER (1205m²) MAXIMUM DREDGE DEPTH = 8.5m
- MARINE LICENSE BOUNDARY

REV	DATE	DETAILS	DRAWN	CHK'D	APP'D

AMENDMENTS



PROJECT
GASAY FERRY TERMINAL



DRAWING TITLE
PROPOSED FERRY TERMINAL GROUND INVESTIGATION AND DREDGE DEPTH

DRAWN	CHECKED	APPROVED
PM	TR	TR
DATE	DATE	DATE
12.02.26	18.02.26	18.02.26
SCALE (A1)	STAGE	REV
1:1000	PRELIMINARY	P01

DRAWING No.
2628-WS-FT-ZZ-DR-C-9905