

Our Ref: ENQ/2024/0760

Your Ref:

Ask for: Alan Davidson

Tel: 01467 537835

Email: alan.davidson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Marine Directorate  
Scottish Government  
Marine Laboratory  
Aberdeen  
AB11 9DB

27 May 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

**The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017**  
**EIA Screening/Scoping Opinion for Extension to Smith Quay at Smith Quay, Peterhead Harbour**  
**Grid Reference: 413188.845776**

I refer to the above and to your request for a screening opinion under Regulation 8 of The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations 2017.

The Planning Authority is required to provide and record a formal screening opinion based upon an assessment of the location, nature, purpose and possible effects of the development. Based on this assessment it is my opinion that an Environmental Statement (EIA) is not required.

Under the terms of the above Regulations, the proposed development is of a type listed under Schedule 2.

The following statement gives full reasons for this conclusion:

Under Schedule 2, Section 10 (g): Infrastructure Projects, Construction of harbours and port installations, including fishing harbours (unless included under Schedule 1), as the proposed works are to be carried out on a site that measures less than 1 hectare, an EIA is not required.

You have the right to apply to Scottish Ministers for a screening direction should you disagree with the above opinion.

This opinion will be held for public inspection for a two year period, or until a planning application is submitted at which time the opinion will be transferred to the planning register with the application.

Should you wish to discuss any matters relating to this issue please contact the above named officer.

Yours faithfully  
[Redacted]

Paul Macari  
Head of Planning and Economy



**By email to:**

[MD.MarineLicensing@gov.scot](mailto:MD.MarineLicensing@gov.scot)

Claire Crookston  
Licensing Officer  
Marine Directorate  
Licensing Operations Team  
Marine Scotland

Longmore House  
Salisbury Place  
Edinburgh  
EH9 1SH

Enquiry Line: 0131-668-8716  
[HMConsultations@hes.scot](mailto:HMConsultations@hes.scot)

Our case ID: 300073327  
Your ref: SCR-0084  
11 June 2024

Dear Claire Crookston

[The Marine Works \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2017](#)  
[Peterhead Port Authority \(per Niras\) - Quay Extension - Smith Quay, Peterhead,](#)  
[Aberdeenshire](#)  
[Request for Screening Opinion](#)

Thank you for your consultation which we received on 21 May 2024 seeking our comments on an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) screening opinion for the above proposed development. This letter contains our comments for our historic environment interests. That is world heritage sites, scheduled monuments and their setting, category A-listed buildings and their setting, Historic Marine Protected Areas (HMPAs), gardens and designed landscapes and battlefields on their respective Inventories.

The relevant archaeological and conservation advisors will also be able to offer advice for their interests. This may include unscheduled archaeology, category B- and C-listed buildings and conservation areas. In this instance you should contact Aberdeenshire Archaeology Service ([archaeology@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:archaeology@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)).

### **Our Screening opinion**

We understand that the proposed development comprises an extension to the existing Smith Quay at Peterhead Harbour and associated works.

We are content that the proposals will not result in a significant impact on our interests. We have no comments to make on the requirement or otherwise for an EIA for this proposed development. However, we hope that the above information is helpful in reaching your decision on the matter.

We hope this is helpful. Please contact us if you have any questions about this response. The officer managing this case is Sam Fox and they can be contacted by phone on 0131 668 6890 or by email at [samuel.fox@hes.scot](mailto:samuel.fox@hes.scot).



HISTORIC  
ENVIRONMENT  
SCOTLAND

ÀRAINNEACHD  
EACHDRAIDHEIL  
ALBA

Yours sincerely

**Historic Environment Scotland**

Historic Environment Scotland – Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH

Scottish Charity No. **SC045925**

VAT No. **GB 221 8680 15**

Claire Crookston  
Licensing Operations Team  
Marine Directorate  
{By email: [claire.crookston@gov.scot](mailto:claire.crookston@gov.scot) }

13 June 2024

Our ref: CEA175585

Dear Claire

**THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2017  
SCR-0084 – PETERHEAD PORT AUTHORITY – QUAY EXTENSION – SMITH QUAY - PETERHEAD**

Thank you for your consultation dated 21 May 2024.

Peterhead Port Authority intend to apply for a Harbour Revision Order and a Marine Licence to create an 80m extension to the existing Smith Quay in Peterhead Harbour. Construction activities proposed include blasting, piling, rock revetment and land reclamation.

We advise that there is connectivity with European sites (Buchan Ness to Collieston Coast SPA, Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch SPA and Loch of Strathbeg SPA) as there is the potential for breeding seabirds from these sites to forage in the vicinity of the harbour. Bottlenose dolphins from the Moray Firth SAC are also known to occur in the area. A Habitats Regulation Appraisal (HRA) will be required to consider the potential impacts on these sites.

We consider the works are unlikely to have a significant effect, in HRA terms, on the Buchan Ness to Collieston SAC.

In our opinion, and based only on our remit, we consider this development likely to have significant environmental effects and therefore require EIA. Please note, this is only based on our consideration of likely significant effects within our remit, and we cannot comment on other environmental interests affected. As the effects from our perspective only relate to those on European site interests, the assessment could be very focussed. It may be that the conclusions of a HRA find no adverse effect on site integrity, in which case, from our point of view, no further value would be added with the production of a full EIA.

We agree with the list of designated sites and potential for connectivity with features outlined in Table 5.1 of the Screening Request Report. However, we advise that there is also connectivity

through foraging in and around the harbour area, of breeding seabirds from the Collieston to Whinnyfold Coast SSSI, common and sandwich terns from the Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch SPA and sandwich terns from the Loch of Strathbeg SPA.

The requirement for a European Protected Species (EPS) licence should be considered in relation to minke whales from the Southern Trench MPA and bottlenose dolphins.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Mutch

Operations Officer / North

[fiona.mutch@nature.scot](mailto:fiona.mutch@nature.scot)

**From:** [Fiona Mutch](#)  
**To:** [Claire Crookston](#)  
**Subject:** SCR-0084 - Peterhead Port Authority - Smith Quay Extension  
**Date:** 27 June 2024 14:28:53

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Dear Claire

I can confirm that as the potential impacts from our perspective are only in relation to designated sites, we are of the opinion that a full EIA is not required. A Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) will be required to consider the potential impacts on the qualifying interests of nearby European sites. A European Protected Species (EPS) licence may also be required in relation to minke whales from the Southern Trench Marine Protected Area and bottlenose dolphins.

Please let me know if you have any further queries about this response.

Regards

Fiona

Fiona Mutch | Operations Officer - North  
NatureScot | Inverdee House | Baxter Street | Torry | Aberdeen | AB11 9QA |  
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Thoiribh an aire airson adhbharan gnothaich, 's dòcha gun tèid sùil a chumail air puist-dealain a' tighinn a-steach agus a' dol a-mach bhon NàdarAlba.

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**From:** [Planning.North](#)  
**To:** [MD Marine Licensing](#)  
**Cc:** [Claire Crookston](#)  
**Subject:** PCS-20001686 SEPA Response to SCR-0084  
**Date:** 04 June 2024 14:29:17  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)

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To Whom It May Concern,

**SEPA Ref: PCS-20001686**

**Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Regulations  
2017**

**SCR-0084 - Peterhead Port Authority (per Niras) - Quay Extension  
Smith Quay, Peterhead**

Thank you for the above consultation. Based on the information provided, it appears that this application falls below the thresholds for which SEPA provide site specific advice. Please refer to our standing advice and other guidance which is available on our [website](#). In addition, please also refer to our SEPA standing advice for the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and Marine Scotland on marine consultations available [here](#).

If there is a significant site-specific issue, you do not think is addressed by our guidance or other information provided on our website, with which you would want our advice, please consult your line manager in the first instance and then, if required, contact Alan Farquhar, SEPA Planning Manager directly via the email above..

I trust these comments are of assistance.

Kind regards,

Zoe Griffin

Senior Planning Officer



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a dhèanamh dheth no a chleachdadh arithist. Mura h-ann dhuibhse a tha am post-d seo, feuch gun inns sibh dhuinn sa bhad le bhith cur post-d gu [postmaster@sepa.org.uk](mailto:postmaster@sepa.org.uk). Togalach Aonghais Mhic a' Ghobhainn, 6 Craobhruid Parklands, Eurocentral, Baile a' Chuilinn, Siorrachd Lannraig a Tuath, ML1 4WQ. Faodar conaltradh còmhla ri SEPA a sgrùdadh no a chlàradh no a sgaoileadh gus obrachadh èifeachdach an t-siostaim a ghlèidheadh agus airson adhbharan laghail eile.