

T: +44 (0)1224 295579
E: ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot

Ms Cassie Butler
Affric Limited
Lochview Office
Loch Duntelchaig
Farr
IV2 6AW

Dear Ms Butler,

SCREENING OPINION UNDER PART 2, REGULATION 11 OF THE MARINE WORKS (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) SCOTLAND REGULATIONS 2017 (AS AMENDED) ("the EIA Regulations")

Thank you for your screening request, received on 28 June 2017.

The Scottish Ministers have reviewed the aforementioned information and have adopted the following screening opinion.

The proposed works are considered to fall under paragraph 1(e), 10(g) and 10(m) of schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations.

The Scottish Ministers are of the opinion that the proposed works are likely to have significant effects on the environment having considered the characteristics of the works, the location of the works and the characteristics of the potential impacts.

Characteristics of the works

- The size of the proposed works is 1.1 hectares.
- The proposed works are likely to cause nuisance to European Protected Species (EPS).
- The design of the proposed works involve multiple project phases which include a variety of methods including piling, blasting, land reclamation and dredging.

Location of the works

- The location of the proposed works within an environmentally sensitive area makes a Likely Significant Effect highly probable. The proposed works are located in:-
 - The Loch nam Madadh Special Area of Conservation (SAC); and
 - The Loch nam Madadh Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

- In addition the proposed works are located 4.5km from the Inner Hebrides and the minches candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC).
- It is also likely that the proposed works will affect the following EPS species: Risso's dolphin, Short-beaked common dolphin, Killer Whale, Minke Whale, Bottlenose dolphin, harbour porpoise and otters.

Characteristics of the potential impact

- The probability of an impact is high as;
 - The proposed works include reclaiming land from the qualifying features of the SAC and SSSI.
 - Any changes to the wave direction and geomorphology are likely to be permanent.
- There is the potential for cumulative impacts with the other proposed Harbour development works for Tarbert and Uig.
- The variety of methods proposed is such that these impacts are likely to be highly complex in nature.

On this basis the Scottish Ministers have concluded that the proposed works are an EIA project under the EIA Regulations and an environmental impact assessment must be carried out in respect of the works.

In considering your screening request the Scottish Ministers consulted with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Western Islands Council, The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Historic Environment Scotland. A copy of the consultation responses are attached for your review.

This screening opinion is based on the information you have provided as referred to above. If you increase, alter or extend the proposed works you are advised to contact Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team again to confirm if the screening opinion is still valid.

A copy of the screening opinion has been forwarded to Western Islands Council planning department.

Thank you for consulting with us on this matter. If you require any further assistance or advice on marine licence matters, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind Regards

[Redacted]

Jessica Hay
Licensing Operations Team
Marine Scotland