

XLINKS' MOROCCO-UK POWER PROJECT

Environmental Statement

Volume 2, Appendix 3.3: Surface Water Abstraction Licences, Discharge Consents and Pollution Incidents

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XLINKS' MOROCCO – UK POWER PROJECT

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Contents

1	SURFACE WATER ABSTRACTION LICENCES, DISCHARGE CONSENTS AND POLLUTION INCIDENTS	1
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	Methodology	1
1.3	Desk Study.....	4

Tables

Table 1.1:	Surface water abstractions.....	4
Table 1.2:	Pollution incident categories	4
Table 1.3:	Pollution incidents	4
Table 1.4:	Discharge consents	5

Figures

Figure 1.1:	Surface water abstraction licences and discharge consents within the hydrology and flood risk study area	3
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Glossary

Term	Meaning
Converter Site	The Converter Site is proposed to be located to the immediate west of the existing Alverdiscott Substation Site in north Devon. The Converter Site would contain two converter stations (known as Bipole 1 and Bipole 2) and associated infrastructure, buildings and landscaping.
Converter station	Part of an electrical transmission and distribution system. Converter stations convert electricity from Direct Current to Alternating Current, or vice versa.
Environmental Impact Assessment	The process of identifying and assessing the significant effects likely to arise from a project. This requires consideration of the likely changes to the environment, where these arise as a consequence of a project, through comparison with the existing and projected future baseline conditions.
Environmental Permitting Regulations	Provide a consolidated system of environmental permitting in England and Wales. Permits are required by facilities which carry out activities that could pollute the air, water or land and increase flood risk by adversely affecting land drainage.
Environmental Statement	The document presenting the results of the Environmental Impact Assessment process.
HVAC Cables	The High Voltage Alternating Current cables which would bring electricity from the converter stations to the new Alverdiscott Substation Connection Development.
HVAC Cable Corridors	The proposed corridors (for each Bipole) within which the onshore High Voltage Alternating Current cables would be routed between the Converter Site and the Alverdiscott Substation Site.
HVDC Cables	The High Voltage Direct Current cables which would bring electricity to the UK converter stations from the Moroccan converter stations.
Hydrology	The study of the movement, distribution, and quality of water.
Landfall	The proposed area in which the offshore cables make landfall in the United Kingdom (come on shore) and the transitional area between the offshore cabling and the onshore cabling. This term applies to the entire landfall area at Cornborough Range, Devon, between Mean Low Water Springs and the transition joint bays inclusive of all construction works, including the offshore and onshore cable routes, and landfall compound(s).
Local Authority	A body empowered by law to exercise various statutory functions for a particular area of the United Kingdom. This includes County Councils, District Councils and County Borough Councils. The relevant Local Authorities for the Proposed Development are Devon County Council and Torridge District Council.
Local Planning Authority	The local government body (e.g., Borough Council, District Council, etc.) responsible for determining planning applications within a specific area.
Mean High Water Springs	The height of mean high water during spring tides in a year.
Onshore HVDC Cable Corridor	The proposed corridor within which the onshore High Voltage Direct Current cables would be located.
Onshore Infrastructure Area	The proposed infrastructure area within the Order Limits landward of Mean High Water Springs. The Onshore Infrastructure Area comprises the transition joint bays, onshore HVDC Cables, converter stations, HVAC Cables, highways improvements, utility diversions and associated temporary and permanent infrastructure including temporary compound areas and permanent accesses.
Order Limits	The area within which all offshore and onshore components of the Proposed Development are proposed to be located, including areas required on a temporary basis during construction (such as construction compounds).

Term	Meaning
Preliminary Environmental Information Report	A report that provides preliminary environmental information in accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. This is information that enables consultees to understand the likely significant environmental effects of a project, and which helps to inform consultation responses.
Proposed Development	The element of Xlinks' Morocco-UK Power Project within the UK. The Proposed Development covers all works required to construct and operate the offshore cables (from the UK Exclusive Economic Zone to Landfall), Landfall, onshore Direct Current and Alternating Current cables, converter stations, and highways improvements.
Study area	This is an area which is defined for each environmental topic which includes the Order Limits as well as potential spatial and temporal considerations of the impacts on relevant receptors. The study area for each topic is intended to cover the area within which an impact can be reasonably expected.
Xlinks' Morocco UK Power Project	The overall scheme from Morocco to the national grid, including all onshore and offshore elements of the transmission network and the generation site in Morocco (referred to as the 'Project').

Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
EA	Environment Agency
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EPR	Environmental Permitting Regulations
ES	Environmental Statement
HVAC	High Voltage Alternating Current
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
UK	United Kingdom

Units

Units	Meaning
km	Kilometre
m	Metre
m ³	Cubic metre

1 SURFACE WATER ABSTRACTION LICENCES, DISCHARGE CONSENTS AND POLLUTION INCIDENTS

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document forms Volume 2, Appendix 3.3: Surface Water Abstraction Licences, Discharge Consents and Pollution Incidents of the Environmental Statement (ES) prepared for the United Kingdom (UK) elements of Xlinks' Morocco-UK Power Project (the 'Project'). For ease of reference, the UK elements of the Project are referred to as the 'Proposed Development, which is the focus of the Environmental Statement (ES). The ES presents the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the Proposed Development.
- 1.1.2 This document provides the information on the following.
- Surface water abstraction licences which are a good indication of how the surface watercourses are utilised.
 - Pollution incidents where the quality of watercourses may have been affected by pollution.
 - Discharge consents which may affect the baseline quality of the receiving surface water.
- 1.1.3 The licences, consents and incidents listed above have been used to inform the baseline and assessment in Volume 2, Chapter 3: Hydrology and Flood Risk of the ES.

1.2 Methodology

Sources of Information

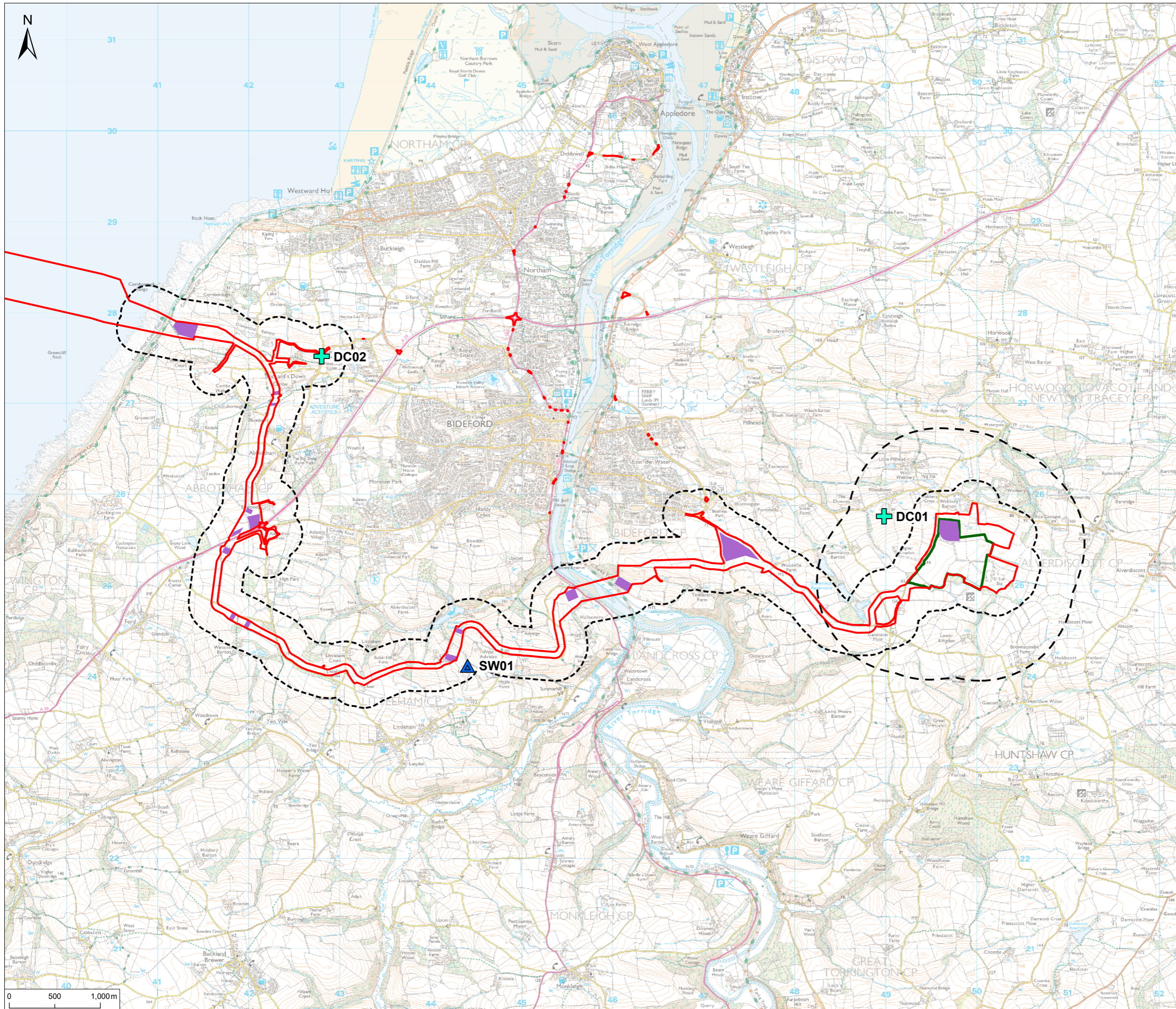
- 1.2.1 Details of the licences, consents and incidents have been obtained from a commercial data supplier (Groundsure Limited) and local planning authorities relevant to the Onshore Infrastructure Area (Torridge District Council and Devon County Council). The information is regulated by the Environment Agency (EA) and the local planning authorities.

Study Area

- 1.2.2 The elements of the study area relevant to this technical report are described below and shown within **Figure 1.1**.
- The area of land to be temporarily or permanently occupied during the construction, operation and maintenance and decommissioning of the Proposed Development.
 - Surface water receptors and flood risk receptors located within 1 km of the Converter Site.

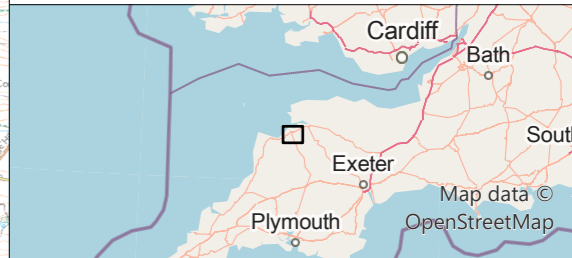
- Hydrology and flood risk receptors located within 250 m of the Proposed Development within the Onshore Infrastructure Area (including those parts of the Landfall situated landward of MHWS):
 - High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC) Cable Corridors;
 - Onshore High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) Cable Corridor;
 - Highways improvements; and
 - temporary construction facilities (such as haul roads and construction compounds).

1.2.3 The buffers are considered appropriate for data collection taking into account the likely zone of influence by hydrological receptors. The buffer has also been chosen to identify any existing receptors, assets or infrastructure that have the potential to be affected by temporary flood risk as a result of the Proposed Development.



Notes
 1. This plan is scaled at paper size A3. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to the correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

- Legend**
- Order Limits
 - Converter Site
 - Construction Compound
 - 250m Cable Route Buffer
 - 1km Converter Site Buffer
 - ▲ Surface Water Abstraction Licences
 - + Surface Water Discharge Consents



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 Title Surface Water Abstraction Licences, Discharge Consents and Pollution Incidents Study Area

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1.3 Desk Study

Surface Water Abstraction Licences

1.3.1 Surface water abstraction licences are required for abstraction rates greater than 20 m³ per day. There is one active surface water abstraction licence within the study area, listed within **Table 1.1** and presented within **Figure 1.1**.

Table 1.1: Surface water abstractions

ID	Abstraction ID	Licence Holder	Details	Source	Status
SW01	SW/050/0007/024	A C Withecombe & Son	General Farming & Domestic	Surface Water	Active

Pollution Incidents

1.3.2 Pollution incidents are classified by the EA into one of four categories using the common incident classification scheme. Since 2006, this data has only included Category 1 (major) and 2 (significant) pollution incidents. The different categories of pollution incidents are defined in **Table 1.2** below.

Table 1.2: Pollution incident categories

Pollution Incident Category	Description
Category 1	Major, serious, persistent or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property.
Category 2	Significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property.
Category 3	Minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property.
Category 4	Substantiated incident with no impact.

1.3.3 There are two significant pollution incidents relating to water identified within the study area. Pollution incidents are identified in **Table 1.3** and presented within **Figure 1.1**.

Table 1.3: Pollution incidents

ID	Incident Identification	Date	Pollution Category	Pollution type and description
PC01	1518673	26/04/2017	Category 2	Crude sewage
PC02	1646658	24/08/2018	Category 2	Oils and fuels – diesel

Discharge Consents

1.3.4 Licenced discharges to controlled waters cover discharges of treated or untreated effluent to controlled waters under the Water Resources Act 1991. There are 20 active discharge consents to surface waters (freshwater river, estuary and sea) within the study area. Consents are listed below in **Table 1.4** and presented within **Figure 1.1**.

XLINKS' MOROCCO – UK POWER PROJECT

Table 1.4: Discharge consents

ID	Consent ID	Address	Issue date	Details	Receiving waterbody	Status
DC01	NRA-SW-2324	Landivisiau Walk, Bideford, EX39 2BX	09/11/1990	Domestic property (single) (incl farm house)	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC02	203292	Ethelwynne brown close pumping station, East-The-Water, EX39 2DB	31/03/2005	South West Water Ltd Pumping Station on Sewerage Network	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC03	203292	Ethelwynne Brown Close pumping station, East-The-Water, EX39 2DB	31/03/2005	South West Water Ltd Pumping Station on Sewerage Network	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC04	NRA-SW-6556	Bidna Yard sewage treatment works, Hubbastone Road, EX39 1LZ	24/05/1994	Real Estate Activities/Buying/Selling/Renting	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC05	203291	Westcombe Lane combined sewer overflow, Bideford, EX39 2LQ	31/03/2005	South West Water Ltd Storm Tank/CSO on Sewerage Network	Kenwith stream	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC06	202669	Cornborough sewage treatment works, Bideford, EX39 5BG	31/03/2010	South West Water Ltd waste water treatment works/Sewage Treatment Works	Bideford Bay	Modified - (WRA 91 sched 10 - as amended by env act 1995)
DC07	NRA-SW-2326	Landivisiau Walk, Bideford, EX39 2BX	09/11/1990	Domestic property (single) (incl farm house)	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC08	200848	Petrol filling station forecourt, Kingsley Road, EX39 2LD	09/03/1999	Making of Coke and Refined Petroleum Products	Kenwith stream	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)

XLINKS' MOROCCO – UK POWER PROJECT

ID	Consent ID	Address	Issue date	Details	Receiving waterbody	Status
DC09	203122	Torrington street pumping station, East-The-Water, EX39 4DS	23/03/2004	South West Water Ltd Pumping Station on Sewerage Network	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC10	200452/PW/01	Marshford nurseries, Churchill Way, Bideford, EX39 1NS	16/08/2011	Domestic property (multiple) (incl farm houses)	Tributary of the River Torridge estuary	Varied under EPR 2010
DC11	200452/PW/01	Marshford nurseries, Churchill Way, Bideford, EX39 1NS	16/08/2011	Domestic property (multiple) (incl farm houses)	Tributary of the River Torridge	Varied under EPR 2010
DC12	EPRRB3697ET	Magnolia cottage, Abbotsham, EX39 5BD	08/06/2020	Domestic property (single) (incl farm house)	Kenwith stream	New issued under EPR 2010
DC13	203122	Torrington Street pumping station, East-The-Water, EX39 4DS	23/03/2004	South West Water Ltd Pumping Station on Sewerage Network	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC14	NRA-SW-2325	Landvisiau walk, Bideford, EX39 2BX	09/11/1990	Domestic property (single) (incl farm house)	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC15	SWWA 665	Appledore Shipyard, EX39 1NU	07/01/1986	Making of Other Transport Equip/Ships/Trains/Bikes	Tributary of the River Torridge estuary	New consent by application, granted by sec of state
DC16	NRA-SW-2327	Landvisiau walk, Bideford, EX39 2BX	09/11/1990	Domestic property (single) (incl farm house)	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC17	200703	Bidna Yard, Hubbastone, EX39 1LZ	30/05/2000	Mineral/Gravel Extraction/Quarrying	River Torridge estuary	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)

XLINKS' MOROCCO – UK POWER PROJECT

ID	Consent ID	Address	Issue date	Details	Receiving waterbody	Status
DC18	203649	Toilet block at Newquay Dock, Appledore, EX39 1LZ	28/02/2006	Making of Other Transport Equip/Ships/Trains/Bikes	River Torridge estuary	Modified - (WRA 91 sched 10 - as amended by env act 1995)
DC19	203120	Raleigh Hill combined sewer overflow, Kingsley Road, Bideford, EX39 3PJ	23/03/2004	South West Water Ltd Storm Tank/CSO on Sewerage Network	Kenwith Stream	New consent (WRA 91, s88 & sched 10 as amended by env act 1995)
DC20	EPRQB3797EH	Torridge Mount combined sewer overflow, Bideford, EX39 4EH	14/05/2020	South West Water Ltd Storm Tank/CSO on Sewerage Network	River Torridge estuary	New issued under EPR 2010