



The Planning Inspectorate  
Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

# REPORT on the IMPLICATIONS for EUROPEAN SITES Proposed Brechfa Forest Connection

An Examining Authority report prepared with the support  
of the Environmental Services Team

25 February 2016



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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## Background

- 1.1 Western Power Distribution (South Wales) plc (the applicant) has applied to the Secretary of State for a development consent order (DCO) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) for the proposed Brechfa Forest Connection (the proposed development). The Secretary of State has appointed an Examining Authority (ExA) to conduct an examination of the application, to report its findings and conclusions, and to make a recommendation to the Secretary of State as to the decision to be made on the application.
- 1.2 The relevant Secretary of State is the competent authority for the purposes of the Habitats Directive<sup>1</sup> and the Habitats Regulations<sup>2</sup> for applications submitted under the Planning Act 2008 regime (as amended). The findings and conclusions on nature conservation issues reported by the ExA will assist the Secretary of State in performing their duties under the Habitats Regulations.
- 1.3 This report compiles, documents and signposts information provided within the DCO application, and the information submitted throughout the examination by both the applicant and interested parties, up to and including the **18 February 2016** (Deadline 5) in relation to potential effects to European sites<sup>3</sup>. It is not a standalone document and should be read in conjunction with the examination documents referred to in this report.
- 1.4 It is issued to ensure that interested parties, including the statutory nature conservation body (SNCB) Natural Resources Wales (NRW), are formally consulted on Habitats Regulations matters. This process may be relied on by the Secretary of State for the purposes of Regulation 61(3) of the Habitats Regulations. Following consultation, the responses will be considered by the ExA in making their recommendation to the Secretary of State and made available to the Secretary of State along with this report. The Report on the Implications for European sites (RIES) is not revised following consultation.
- 1.5 The applicant has not identified any potential impacts on European sites in other EEA States<sup>4</sup>. Only UK European sites are addressed in this report.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (as codified) (the Habitats Directive).

<sup>2</sup> The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the Habitats Regulations).

<sup>3</sup> In this context, 'European sites' include: Sites of Community Importance (SCIs); Special Areas of Conservation (SACs); candidate SACs; Special Protection Areas (SPAs); possible SACs; potential SPAs; and Ramsar sites. For a full description of European sites see PINS Advice Note 10.

<sup>4</sup> European Economic Area (EEA) States.

### Potential undergrounding option

- 1.6 The applicant advised the ExA in a note dated 19 November 2015 **[AS-009]** that they intended to submit a change request during the course of the examination for an alternative to the DCO application, whereby the proposed overhead line between poles 84 and 86 would instead be placed underground. This would form an extension to the underground section already proposed in the draft DCO. The alternative responds to concerns raised by NRW and Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) regarding the landscape and visual effects of the proposed development in this location **[AS-009, REP1-019 and REP1-025]**. In Question HA2-04 of the ExA's second written questions **[PD-019]**, the applicant was requested when submitting this alternative, to confirm whether this change would affect the conclusions of the updated HRA Report **[REP3-037]**. The applicant confirmed in their response that any request would be accompanied by a statement addressing this point **[REP4-027]**.
- 1.7 The applicant had not yet submitted the change request as of Deadline 5 (18 February 2016) and thus the alternative has not been considered within this RIES.

### Documents used to inform this RIES

- 1.8 The applicant provided a 'Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) No Significant Effects Report (NSER)' (the HRA report) **[APP-053]** with the DCO application, together with screening matrices. Figure 2 (otter survey results) to the HRA report was noted to be missing from the application documents and following a request from the ExA in the first written questions **[PD-011]**, the applicant provided the missing figures **[REP1-079]**. The applicant concluded within their HRA report that there would be no likely significant effects on all European sites screened into the assessment.
- 1.9 In response to the ExA's questions and representations made by interested parties during the examination, the applicant provided a updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** at Deadline 3 (17 December 2015) (hereafter referred to as the 'updated HRA report'). The updated HRA report considers the same European sites as the HRA report submitted with the application **[APP-053]**, but includes reference to the use of a temporary bridge across a tributary of the Afon Gwili in the event that the load bearing limit of an existing bridge is insufficient and it includes further projects in the in-combination assessment (the redevelopment of the United Counties Showground Site and some residential development). The updated HRA report did not include Figure 2 (otter survey results) and so Figure 2 remains as provided in response to the ExA's first written questions **[REP1-079]**. An addendum to the updated HRA report (the HRA addendum) **[REP5-037]** was provided by the applicant at Deadline 5

to identify where the mitigation relied on in the updated HRA report has been secured in the draft DCO submitted for Deadline 5 [**REP5-023** and **REP5-024**].

1.10 A list of documents reviewed to inform the RIES and the accompanying examination library references is provided in Annex 2.

## Structure of this RIES

1.11 The remainder of this report is as follows:

- **Section 2** identifies the European sites that have been considered within the DCO application and during the examination period, up to and including the 18 February 2016 (Deadline 5). It summarises the HRA matters discussed in the examination.
- **Section 3** describes the HRA matters that emerged during the examination. It also summarises the outcome of the screening assessment in the examination.
- **Annex 1** provides a link to the screening matrices submitted by the applicant at Deadline 3 (updated HRA report Annex B) [**REP3-037**] for those European sites and qualifying features for which the applicant's conclusions were not disputed by any interested parties.
- **Annex 2** comprises a list of documents reviewed to produce the RIES.

## 2.0 OVERVIEW

### European sites considered

- 2.1 The applicant confirmed in response to Question HA01 of the ExA's first written questions **[PD-011]** that the proposed development is not connected with or necessary to the management for nature conservation of any of the European sites considered within the HRA **[REP1-028]**.
- 2.2 The applicant's HRA report **[APP-053]** and updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** both identify the following two European sites and their qualifying features for inclusion within the assessment:

**Table 2.1: European sites screened into the HRA by the applicant**

Name of European site	Qualifying features
Afon Twyi/River Towy SAC	Twaite shad
	Otter
	Sea lamprey
	Brook lamprey
	River lamprey
	Allis shad
	Bullhead
Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd/ Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time
	Estuaries
	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide
	Large shallow inlets and bays
	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand
	Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae</i> )
	Twaite shad
	Sea lamprey
	River lamprey
	Allis shad
	Otter



- 2.3 Paragraph 1.2.1 of the HRA report **[APP-053]** confirms that these European sites were screened into the assessment due to their proximity and hydrological linkages to the proposed development. The European sites screened into the HRA remain unchanged in the updated HRA report **[REP3-037]**.
- 2.4 Correspondence from NRW dated 26 May 2015 confirming that it is only these two European sites which need to be considered in the HRA is provided in Annex A of the HRA report **[APP-053]**. NRW confirmed in their response to Question HA02 of the ExA's first written questions **[PD-011]** that the applicant has considered all of the relevant qualifying features for the European sites screened into their HRA **[REP1-019]**.
- 2.5 CCC also confirmed at paragraph 6.3.1 of their Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with the applicant that the Afon Twyi/River Towy SAC and Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd/Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC are the only European sites which need to be considered in the HRA **[REP1-082]**.

### Summary of the applicant's HRA assessment

- 2.6 The applicant concludes in both their HRA report **[APP-053]** and updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** that there would be no likely significant effects on either the Afon Twyi/River Towy SAC or the Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd/Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC.
- 2.7 Annex 1 to the RIES provides a link to the screening matrices produced by the applicant (Annex B of the updated HRA report) **[REP3-037]** for the European sites and their qualifying features, which the applicant screened into their assessment.
- 2.8 As a result of the conclusion that there are no likely significant effects on any European sites, the applicant has not undertaken an assessment of adverse effects on the integrity of the European sites. The applicant has, however, provided the conservation objectives for the two European sites in Annex D and E of the updated HRA report, should these be required **[REP3-037]**.

### HRA matters during the examination

- 2.9 Matters considered during the examination in respect of the applicant's HRA are described in detail in Section 3 of the RIES. The matters included:
- Use of a temporary bridge and whether this has been assessed in the applicant's HRA;
  - Proposed mitigation measures and how these are secured; and

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- The identification of all relevant projects and plans in the applicant's in-combination assessment.

## 3.0 LIKELY SIGNIFICANT EFFECTS (SCREENING STAGE)

### HRA matters during the examination

3.1 This section of the RIES provides a summary of the HRA matters considered during the examination.

#### Temporary Bridge

3.2 Requirement 18 of the draft DCO submitted by the applicant as part of the DCO application **[APP-039]** indicated that a temporary bridge would be required as part of the development. The temporary bridge was not identified in the Schedule of Works in the draft DCO **[APP-039]** or in ES Chapter 2 (Project Description) **[APP-057]**. A project description was not provided in the HRA report **[APP-053]** or updated HRA report **[REP3-037]**. Therefore, it was therefore unclear to the ExA whether a temporary bridge was proposed as part of the development and whether the construction and operation of this bridge would have an effect on any European sites.

3.3 In response to Question HA04 of the ExA's first written questions **[PD-011]**, the applicant clarified that one temporary bridge may be required, should the load bearing limit of the existing bridge be deemed insufficient **[REP1-028]**. The applicant described that the bridge would be used to cross a tributary of the Afon Gwili, to the west of the area identified for underground cabling, approximately 80m west of the tributary's confluence with the Afon Gwili [the Gwili is a tributary flowing into the Afon Twyi/River Towy SAC] **[REP1-028]**. The applicant amended Schedule 1 of the draft DCO submitted with the application at Deadline 2 to include the temporary bridge as Work No 2(xiii) **[REP2-026 and REP2-027]**. In response to Question HA2-01 of the ExA's second written questions **[PD-019]**, the applicant provided, at Deadline 4, a further plan to identify the location of the temporary bridge **[REP4-029]** and also stated that the location of the temporary bridge was also identified on Section B Works Plan (15/WPD/018 sheet 1 of 2) **[APP-008]**. The applicant submitted a further revised plan to identify the location of the temporary bridge at Deadline 5 **[REP5-032]**.

3.4 The applicant provided an updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** at Deadline 3 to include an assessment of the temporary bridge. A brief description of the temporary bridge was provided in paragraph 1.3.12 of the updated HRA report **[REP3-037]**. However, it remained unclear what the potential effects on European sites would be as a result of the construction and operation of the temporary bridge, and how these had been assessed as part of the HRA. In response to Question HA2-02 of the ExA's second

written questions **[PD-019]**, the applicant confirmed that the temporary bridge had been assessed and would not result in any likely significant effects on any European sites **[REP4-027]**. The applicant also considered that the pollution prevention measures detailed in the updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** and the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) **[REP4-026]** would manage the risk of pollution into the Afon Gwili and therefore, there would be no likely significant effects on any European sites as a result of the construction and operation of a temporary bridge **[REP3-037 and REP4-027]**. In addition, the applicant clarified that the approach to detailed construction would be agreed in advance with NRW (response to Question HA2-03 of the ExA's second written questions **[REP4-027]**). The applicant confirmed at Deadline 5 that the need to agree the detailed bridge design and the associated mitigation measures in the CEMP are secured by Requirements 19 (Temporary Bridge) and 21 (CEMP) of the draft DCO **[REP5-023 and REP5-024]** which also ensures that CCC are to approve the detailed Work Plans based on Schedule 2, Part 10 of 15/WPD/18.

- 3.5 NRW confirmed in response to Question HA2-03 of the ExA's second written questions that the mitigation measures described in the updated HRA report would satisfactorily mitigate potential effects as a result of the temporary bridge and no further mitigation is required **[REP4-004]**. NRW also confirmed in response to Question HA2-06 of the ExA's second written questions **[REP4-004]** that they agree with the conclusion of no likely significant effects in the updated HRA report **[REP3-037]**.

### **Mitigation measures**

- 3.6 The updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** provides a description of the mitigation measures that are being relied on to reach the conclusion of no likely significant effects on any European sites. The applicant's addendum to the updated HRA report **[REP5-037]** submitted at Deadline 5, confirmed how each mitigation measure, relied on to reach the conclusion of no likely significant effects on European sites, is secured in the most recent draft DCO **[REP5-023 and REP5-024]**. A number of these mitigation measures were the subject of discussion during the examination of the proposed development as described below.

#### *Frac-out Contingency Plan*

- 3.7 A Frac-out Contingency Plan was proposed as part of a suite of mitigation measures to prevent and deal with accidental spillages at the Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) site (paragraph 1.3.27, updated HRA report **[REP3-037]**). The preparation and implementation of the Frac-out Contingency Plan was secured in Requirement 23 of the draft DCO submitted with the application **[APP-039]**. In Question EIA26 of the ExA's first written questions **[PD-011]**, the applicant was requested to

provide further information on the measures that would be included in the Frac-out Contingency Plan. In response, the applicant provided an outline Frac-out Contingency Plan **[REP1-076]** and updated their draft DCO at Deadline 2 **[REP2-026 and REP2-027]** to include reference to the Frac-out Contingency Plan and the outline plan.

3.8 Question HA06 of the ExA's first written questions **[PD-011]** was directed to NRW and CCC and queried whether they require sight of the Frac-out Contingency Plan now, to satisfy themselves that there would be no significant effect on the European sites. NRW confirmed that whilst they welcome the outline Frac-out Contingency Plan provided by the applicant and the commitment to developing a detailed plan at a later stage, they consider this measure is 'additional mitigation' and is not integral to the HRA **[REP1-019]**. CCC provided a response on the matter of the Frac-out Contingency Plan in their Local Impact Report (LIR) **[REP1-025]**. CCC state in their LIR that providing the avoidance and mitigation measures, including proposed pollution and control measures and monitoring as detailed in the CEMP and the production of a Frac-Out Contingency Plan, are secured via a written requirement in the DCO, the Council are in agreement with the assessment on Afon Tywi/River Towy SAC **[REP1-025]**.

3.9 The Frac-Out Contingency Plan is secured by Requirement 24 of the most recent draft DCO **[REP5-023 and REP5-024]**.

*Timings to avoid fish migration*

3.10 The updated HRA report includes timing restrictions for the use of HDD under the Afon Tywi/River Towy SAC to avoid disturbance to twaite shad during sensitive periods in its life cycle (paragraph 1.3.13) **[REP3-037]**. Twaite shad are a qualifying feature of the Afon Tywi/River Towy SAC and also the Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd/Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC, located further downstream **[REP3-037]**. In response to Question HA08 of the ExA's first written questions **[PD-011]**, NRW confirmed that they are satisfied with the proposed timing restrictions for the HDD works as specified in Requirement 8(2) of the draft DCO **[REP4-024 and REP4-025]** **[REP1-019]**. With the exception of a correction to amend a drafting error, this Requirement (8) remains unchanged in the most recent draft DCO **[REP5-023 and REP5-024]**.

*Pre-construction surveys for otters*

3.11 In respect of otter, which is a qualifying feature of the two European sites, paragraph 1.3.17 of the updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** confirms that pre-construction otter surveys would be carried out at the proposed HDD crossing points and at all survey locations shown in Figure 2 **[REP1-079]**. Surveys undertaken in 2014, as presented on Figure 2, recorded evidence of otters in the form of otter spraints and footprints on the Afon

Tywi/River Towy and its tributaries (in Works No 2), although no confirmed holts or resting places were found **[REP3-037]**. A disused otter couch was also identified within the Nant Morlais woodland (in Works No 1) during the surveys **[REP3-037]**.

- 3.12 The draft DCO submitted with the DCO application **[APP-039]** did not include a Requirement which secured the pre-construction surveys for otters. In addition, there were conflicting statements between ES Chapters 10 (Ecology) **[APP-065]** and 20 (Environmental Management) **[APP-075]** and the HRA report **[APP-053]** and the outline CEMP **[APP-127]** submitted with the DCO application with regard to the scope of the pre-construction otter surveys. The ES Chapters **[APP-065]** and **[APP-075]** specified that pre-construction surveys would only be undertaken if works are not started within two years of the original surveys. The outline CEMP **[APP-127]** and the HRA report **[APP-053]** did not imply that such a caveat would apply to the need for pre-construction surveys.
- 3.13 The ExA queried the absence of a DCO Requirement relating to pre-construction otter surveys and the timing of these in Question HA09 of the first written questions **[PD-011]**. The applicant responded to confirm that the pre-construction otter surveys would be carried out regardless of the time delay between the original otter surveys and the commencement of development **[REP1-028]**. The applicant inserted a new Requirement (28) into the revised version of the draft DCO submitted for Deadline 2 **[REP2-026]** and **[REP2-027]** to secure the need for the applicant to undertake pre-construction otter surveys. The Requirement was amended further at Deadline 3 (and also renumbered as Requirement 29) **[REP3-048]** and **[REP3-049]** to include the need for the relevant planning authority to consult with NRW before discharging the Requirement; however, it limited the pre-construction otter surveys to Works No 2.
- 3.14 Following these amendments, the ExA queried with the applicant (question DCO2-11 of the second written questions **[PD-019]**) whether they intended to undertake pre-construction otter surveys at the locations described in the updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** and as shown on Figure 2 to the report **[REP1-079]**, as this was not included in Requirement 29 of the draft DCO. The ExA also queried the wording of DCO Requirement 29 in its current form and how it ensured consultation with NRW.
- 3.15 The applicant confirmed in response to Question DCO2-011 **[REP4-027]** that the pre-construction otter surveys would only be undertaken in the following locations:
- Work No 1: Nant Morlais woodland (only if works do not commence within two years of the previous survey as specified in paragraph 10.9.40 of the ES **[APP-065]**); and

- Work No 2 (Afon Tywi/River Towy and Afon Tywi/River Towy floodplain) in connection with HDD and trenching works near to watercourses.
- 3.16 The applicant amended the wording of Requirement 29 in the draft DCO submitted at Deadline 4 to clarify the locations of the pre-construction otter surveys [**REP4-024** and **REP4-025**]. In addition, the applicant amended the wording of draft DCO Requirement 29 [**REP4-024** and **REP4-025**] to confirm that the mitigation proposals would be '*agreed where necessary with Natural Resources Wales*'. The ExA queried the need of the phrase 'where necessary' in the DCO hearing held on 11 February 2016 [**REP5-034**]. The most recent draft DCO has removed the words 'where necessary' from the Requirement [**REP5-023** and **REP5-024**].
- 3.17 NRW confirmed in response to Question EIA18 of the ExA's first written question [**PD-011**] that they are satisfied with the applicant's proposed approach to the mitigation of impacts on otters [**REP1-019**]. This position was reiterated at the DCO Hearing on Environmental Matters (8 December 2015) [**REP3-043**] and in response to Question DCO2-011 of the ExA's second written questions [**REP4-004**].

*Water Management Plan*

- 3.18 The updated HRA report [**REP3-037**] describes the mitigation measures that would be adopted to prevent adverse effects on water quality which may affect the European sites. These mitigation measures would be delivered through the CEMP, as secured by Requirement 21 of the most recent draft DCO [**REP5-023** and **REP5-024**]. The outline CEMP [**REP4-026**] includes a Water Management Plan which sets out details of the proposed water sampling strategy, which would be conducted during the construction of the proposed development to identify any change in water quality that may have arisen as a result of the development.
- 3.19 The Water Management Plan (outline CEMP Annex 3 [**REP4-026**]) does not describe the actions that would be taken to protect European sites should the water sampling indicate a decline in water quality. The applicant described the actions that would be taken in their response to Question HA2-05 of the ExA's second written questions [**REP4-027**]. The applicant confirmed that the mitigation measures would accord with an established Western Power Distribution Pollution Prevention Policy. A copy of this policy was provided by the applicant in their Deadline 4 response [**REP4-034**]. The HRA addendum [**REP5-037**] confirms that the need to comply with the relevant pollution prevention measures is set out in the CEMP [**REP4-026**].
- 3.20 NRW confirmed that should the water sampling identify a decline in water quality, they would liaise with the applicant to agree any remedial measures required [**REP4-004**]. Requirement 21 (CEMP) of the draft

DCO [**REP5-023** and **REP5-024**] states that the relevant planning authority must consult NRW before approving the final CEMP, which includes the Water Management Plan as Annex 3.

### **In-combination assessment**

3.21 The applicant considers potential in-combination effects within Section 1.4 of the HRA report [**APP-053**]. The following projects have been included in the in-combination assessment carried out by the applicant (CCC planning application references, as included in the HRA report and updated HRA report, have been included in brackets, where relevant; for ease of identification and to assist, further detail concerning the location of the planning applications, as obtained from CCC's planning application webpage<sup>5</sup>, is included in square brackets):

- Gravel extraction [at Llwynjack, Llandovery] (Refs E/10637 and E/22876);
- Llandeilo School (Ref E/27510);
- West of Carmarthen Link Road: [link road from travellers rest junction of the A40 to the junction of College Road/Pentremeurig Road, Carmarthen] (Ref W/23866);
- Carmarthen West development: [residential development for c.250 residential dwellings at land to the north of Old St Clears Road (B4312), south of Pentremeurig Road and west of Carmarthen known as Pentremeurig Farm South, and residential development for 110 dwellings at land off Llysonnen Road, Llangynog, Carmarthen SA31 3RS] (Refs W/27776 and W/30286);
- Brechfa Forest West Wind Farm (DCO application, granted); and
- Llandeilo Bypass (within Welsh Government's National Transport Plan).

3.22 Two additional projects were highlighted by CCC with their SoCG with the applicant [**REP1-082**]. The additional projects included:

- Redevelopment of United Counties Showground Site [for a caravan and motorhome sales yard, associated sales office and vehicle repairs/servicing facilities and ancillary works] (Ref W/32185); and
- An outline application for 19 residential dwellings [at Caebanc, Penlanffos Road, Carmarthen, SA31 2EZ] (Ref W/32424).

3.23 The updated HRA report [**REP3-037**], provided by the applicant at Deadline 3, updated the in-combination assessment to include the redevelopment of the United Counties Showground Site and the 19 residential dwellings at Carmarthen, in addition to those previously considered in the HRA report [**APP-053**].

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<sup>5</sup> <http://online.carmarthenshire.gov.uk/eaccessv2/search-reference.aspx>



- 3.24 NRW confirmed in their Deadline 3 response **[REP3-008]** that they agree with the information provided in the updated HRA report **[REP3-037]** and with the conclusion that the proposed development alone and in combination with other plans or projects would have no likely significant effects on any European sites. This position is reiterated in NRW's response to Question HA2-06 of the ExA's second written questions **[REP4-004]**.

### Summary of the HRA outcome during the examination

- 3.25 The applicant's HRA, as detailed in both the HRA report **[APP-053]** and the updated HRA report **[REP3-037]**, concluded that the proposed development would have no likely significant effects, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, on the qualifying features of the following European sites:
- Afon Tywi/River Towy SAC; and
  - Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd/Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries SAC.
- 3.26 The applicant's conclusion of no likely significant effects has not been disputed by any interested party, including NRW, during the course of the examination. NRW confirmed that all relevant European sites and qualifying features have been identified and assessed by the applicant (**[REP1-019]** and **[APP-053]**). NRW have also repeatedly confirmed during the course of the examination that they agree with the applicant's conclusion that there are no likely significant effects on any European site as a result of the proposed development either alone or in combination with other plans and projects **[REP1-019, REP2-036, REP3-008, and REP4-004]**.
- 3.27 CCC confirmed at Deadline 4 that they consider NRW to be the most appropriate body to consider the applicant's HRA and therefore, they have no comments to make on the updated HRA report **[REP4-014]**.

## **ANNEX 1: SCREENING MATRICES PRODUCED BY THE APPLICANT**

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The Screening Matrices were provided by the applicant for Deadline 3 (17 December 2015) (Annex B of the updated HRA Report) **[REP3-037]** and are available at the following link:

[http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/EN020016/Events/Deadline%203%20-%202017-12-2015/BFC\\_Vol\\_05.4A\\_Habitat%20Regulations%20Assessment%20-%20NSER.pdf](http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/EN020016/Events/Deadline%203%20-%202017-12-2015/BFC_Vol_05.4A_Habitat%20Regulations%20Assessment%20-%20NSER.pdf)

The applicant's Screening Matrices have not been amended by the ExA.

## **ANNEX 2: LIST OF DOCUMENTS REVIEWED TO PRODUCE THE RIES**

## Document List

### Application Documents

- Draft Development Consent Order **[APP-039]**
- Habitat Regulations Assessment: No Significant Effects Report **[APP-053]**
- Environmental Statement Chapter 2 Project Description **[APP-057]**
- Environmental Statement Chapter 10 Ecology **[APP-065]**
- Environmental Statement Chapter 20 Environmental Management **[APP-075]**
- Construction Environmental Management Plan **[APP-127]**

### Relevant Representations:

- Natural Resources Wales: Relevant Representation **[RR-021]**
- Carmarthenshire County Council: Relevant Representation **[RR-022]**

### Deadline 1 (9 November 2015):

- Natural Resources Wales: Response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions **[REP1-019]**
- Carmarthenshire County Council: Local Impact Report **[REP1-025]**
- Carmarthenshire County Council: Written Representation **[REP1-013]**
- Carmarthenshire County Council: Response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions **[REP1-014]**
- Applicant: Response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions **[REP1-028]**
- Applicant: DCO03 Appendix 1 Mitigation Table **[REP1-060]**
- Applicant: EIA26 Appendix 1 Outline Frac-out Contingency Plan **[REP1-076]**
- Applicant: HA11 Appendix 1 HRA Figure 2 Otter Figures **[REP1-079]**
- Applicant: Statement of Common Ground with Carmarthenshire County Council **[REP1-082]**

### Deadline 2 (24 November 2015):

- Carmarthenshire County Council: Written Representation **[REP2-008]**
- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order (track changed) **[REP2-026]**
- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order **[REP2-027]**

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- Applicant: Comments on Responses to Examining Authority's First Written Questions **[REP2-033]**
- Applicant: Statement of Common Ground with Natural Resources Wales **[REP2-036]**

**Deadline 3 (17 December 2015):**

- Natural Resources Wales: Response in relation to the Updated Habitat Regulations Assessment No Significant Effects Report **[REP3-008]**
- Applicant: Updated Habitat Regulations Assessment No Significant Effects Report **[REP3-037]**
- Applicant: CEMP – Habitat Management Plan **[REP3-039]**
- Applicant: Response to Issue Specific Hearing on Environmental Matters (8 December 2015) **[REP3-043]**
- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order (clean) **[REP3-048]**
- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order (track changed) **[REP3-049]**

**Deadline 3 (late submissions)**

- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order, validated in SI template (clean) **[REP3-052]**
- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order (track changed), validated in SI format **[REP3-053]**

**Deadline 4 (1 February 2016):**

- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order (clean) **[REP4-024]**
- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order (track changed) **[REP4-025]**
- Applicant: Construction Environmental Management Plan **[REP4-026]**
- Applicant: Response to the Examining Authority's Second Written Questions **[REP4-027]**
- Applicant: Plan showing location of temporary bridge **[REP4-029]**
- Applicant: WPD Company Directive on Pollution Prevention **[REP4-034]**
- Applicant: Mitigation Table **[REP4-046]**
- Carmarthenshire County Council: Response to the Examining Authority's Second Written Questions **[REP4-014]**
- Natural Resources Wales: Response to the Examining Authority's Second Written Questions **[REP4-004]**

**Deadline 5 (18 February 2016):**

- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order (clean) **[REP5-023]**
- Applicant: Draft Development Consent Order (track changed) **[REP5-024]**
- Applicant: Mitigation Table **[REP5-029]**
- Applicant: Plan showing location of temporary bridge **[REP5-032]**
- Applicant: Written Submissions following the Issue Specific Hearing on the DCO held on Thursday 11 February 2016 **[REP5-034]**
- Applicant: HRA NSER Addendum – location in DCO where mitigation is secured **[REP5-037]**
- Natural Resources Wales: Correspondence with applicant **[REP5-004]**

**Other Documents**

- Examining Authority's First Written Questions **[PD-011]**
- Examining Authority's Second Written Questions **[PD-019]**
- Applicant: Note regarding proposal for alternative southern extension to underground section as scheme variation **[AS-009]**