

Notice of request for more information

The Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016

NNB Generation Company (SZC) Ltd (Companies House reference: [09284825](#))

90 Whitfield Street
London
England
W1T 4EZ

Application reference: EPR/CB3997AD/A001 (Sizewell C water discharge activities permit application)

The Environment Agency, in exercise of its powers under paragraph 4 of Part 1 of Schedule 5 of the above Regulations, requires you to provide the information detailed in the attached schedule. The information is required in order to determine your application for a permit duly made on 26/06/2020.

Send the information to the e-mail addresses (and upload it to the EA Sharefile site) specified below by 24/05/2021. If we do not receive this information by the date specified then we may treat your application as having been withdrawn or it may be refused. If this happens you may lose your application fee.

E-mail addresses (please note there is a 10MB file size limit for e-mails):

- 1.) [REDACTED]
- 2.) PSC-waterquality@environment-agency.gov.uk

EA Sharefile site for uploading application and supporting information documents for application EPR/CD3997AD:

- [https://ea.sharefile.com/\[REDACTED\]](https://ea.sharefile.com/[REDACTED])
This is a specific folder titled 'Sch 5 [No.4] response', and has been created for you to upload the additional information response documents.

Postal address (not currently in use due to COVID-19 situation):
Environment Agency, National Permitting Service (Water Quality), Richard Fairclough House,
Knutsford Road, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 1HT

Name	Date
[REDACTED]	23 April 2021

Authorised on behalf of the Environment Agency

Notes

These notes do not form part of this notice .

Please note that we charge £1,200 where we have to send a third or subsequent information notice in relation to the same issue. We consider this to be the first notice on the issues covered in this notice.

The notes that appear after information requests in the attached schedule do not form part of the notice. The notes are intended to assist you in providing a full response to the information requests.

Schedule

Background to information requests 1(a) and 1(b)

The following two information requests 1(a) and 1(b) relate to the SZB impingement data that was provided in response to the Sizewell C (SZC) Schedule 5 notice [No 1]. The purpose of the information being requested is to allow us to complete our audit of the Sizewell B (SZB) impingement estimate. In general, information requests 1(a) and 1(b) stem from the different way that species / categories are named between files. Specific clarification is therefore sought on points 1.) and 2.) listed below via information requests 1(a) and 1(b):

1.) How species / category names used in 'Species lookup info for bootstrap outputs - numbers.csv', 'TR339 Comb Data Pisces and Cefas - Weights 5 for R.csv' and 'TR339 Simplified Comb Data Pisces and Cefas_w_blenny.csv', relate to those used in 'TR339 Data comp WB Cefas 2014-2017.xlsx' and 'SZ CIMP 2009_2012 Pisces SW comp SS MASTER.xlsx'.

Information request 1(a)

Please provide a table to set out and clearly explain how the species / category names used in the above files relate to each other. This information request relates to all species of fish and invertebrates, and all categories of weed and trash. Therefore, please ensure your response includes these.

2.) It appears that certain species may have been grouped together and presented as a single species in 'TR339 Simplified Comb Data Pisces and Cefas_w_blenny.csv', for example: 'PFX' appears in 'TR339 Data comp WB Cefas 2014-2017.xlsx', but not in 'TR339 Simplified Comb Data Pisces and Cefas_w_blenny.csv'.

Information request 1(b)

Please provide written explanation to confirm exactly which species have been grouped together, should this information not be apparent from the response provided to information request 1. This information request relates to all species of fish and invertebrates, and all categories of weed and trash. Therefore, please ensure your response includes these.

Background to information request 2

Information request 2 relates to SZC low velocity side entry (LVSE) factor calculation as per report 'SPP099 Predicted Performance of the SZC LVSE Intakes v4.docx' that was provided in response to Schedule 5 [No 1]. The purpose of this information request is to allow us to arrive at our own estimate of SZC LVSE factor.

Information request 2

Please provide a drawing showing the design of each of the SZB intake heads, and confirm their orientation as situated on the sea bed. This is to allow the orientation to the tidal current of each of the eight faces of each of the two intake heads to be determined.

Background to information request 3

This information request is regarding SZB impingement, and the number of pumps operating during Cefas surveys of SZB (2014-2017).

In 'SPP111 Sizewell C impingement predictions corrected for Sizewell B raising factors and cooling water flow rates', 04/03/2021, it states in section 2.2.2 'Pump corrections during Cefas years (2014-2017)' "All data during the Cefas sampling years was raised based on the number of operational pumps."

This statement appears to contradict the information provided in 'TR339 Data comp WB Cefas 2014-2017.xlsx'. This spreadsheet contains a tab named 'raised no_wt by screens', described in 'Notes' tab of the same file as 'each sample (weight or number) is raised to full capacity - 4 screens based on the number of screens in operation during the sample.'

Further in tab 'raised no_wt by screens', the data is titled as 'Weight raised to 4 screens in operation', and is based on a function of form:

- ='raised no_wt by time'!B14*(4/'raised no_wt by time'!B\$6)
- And in tab 'raised no_wt by time' row 6 is described as 'fldGearAdditional2'

In the e-mail 'Queries regarding Schedule 5 notice [No. 1] response: SZC op WDA permit a pp (EPR/CB3997AD/A001) part 1' (dated 19/11/2020) from Emma Wells (EDF) 'fldGearAdditional2' is stated to be the 'Number of operational drum screens'. A check of number of pumps given in SPP111 and to number of screens in 'TR339 Data comp WB Cefas 2014-2017.xlsx' shows the figures match except for:

Survey Date	fldGearAdditional2	NumberPumps
15/06/2017	3	4
26/07/2017	3	4
02/07/2017	3	4

The difference found for these dates is explained in SPP111 section 2.2.2 of SPP111 as "On each of these occasions, the station was operating at full capacity (4 pumps) whereas the data was erroneously raised based on incorrect recording of 3 operational pumps."

Information request 3

Please clarify the disagreement between SPP111 and 'TR339 Data comp WB Cefas 2014-2017.xlsx', stating whether the number of pumps or number of screens has been used, and if the later providing the number of pumps in operation for each survey.

Background to information request 4

This information request is in regard to comparison of frequency of overflowing bulk samples between Cefas and Pisces surveys

There are 128 Pisces surveys and 77 Cefas surveys, 205 in total.

- Of the Pisces surveys 27 are reported to have overflowing bulk samples (SPP111), an overflow rate of 21% (27/128)
- Of the Cefas surveys 55 are reported to have overflowing bulk samples (TR339), an overflow rate of 71% (55/77)

Information request 4

Please explain how the bulk sample overflow rate varies so markedly between the two sets of surveys (Pisces to Cefas), given that both contractors employed substantially the same survey methodology?

Information request 5

The following information request is related to the data that was provided in response to the Sizewell C (SZC) Schedule 5 notice [No 2], information request 10(a) to 10(f).

In the Sizewell C DCO changes document, additional baseline tern survey work has been submitted. The additional ecology baseline survey report (November 2020) included within Part 2 issue is as follows:

- Tern Survey Report 2020 (SZC Bk6, 6.13, EN010012-002584)

The above report is available from the PINS website at the following web-link:

- https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010012/EN010012-002584-SZC_Bk6_6.13_Additional_Ecology_Baseline_Survey_Reports_Nov_2020_Part2_of_2.pdf

Please submit a copy of the latest version of the above Tern Survey Report 2020 for submission into the SZC WDA permit determination (as a copy of the report is required to progress with the determination of the HRA for the operational SZC WDA application).

END OF DOCUMENT