

TC: 101599528

Revision 01

Sizewell C Marine Technical Forum: Quarterly Meeting [No9]

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Level:	Marine Technical Forum
Date:	2 nd September 2025
Location:	Microsoft Teams
Chair:	Peter Barham; Independent Chair (PB)
Attendees:	Stephen Roast; SZC Ltd (SR) Ben Hughes; SZC Ltd (BH) Molly Boulton; SZC Ltd (MB) Tony Dolphin; Cefas for SZC Ltd (TD) Lucy Goodman; ESC (LG) Chris Finbow; ESC (CF) Ethan Lakeman; MMO (EL) Jordana Chell; MMO (JC) Laura Calvert; MMO (LC) Simon Barlow; EA (SB) Ayden Hassan; EA (AH) Sean Mahoney; NE (SM) Polly Mills; NE (PM)
Apologies:	Tracey Champney; MMO (TC)

Meeting Note

Discussion Item	Comments	By when
1	<u>Welcome and Introductions</u>	
1.01	PB welcomed and introduced everybody, drawing special attention to Jordana Chell (MMO) as a newcomer to the MTF.	
2	<u>Safety Message</u> <i>Stand up for Safety Month: In what circumstances might you address environmentally unsafe behaviour?</i>	
3	<u>Project Update</u>	
3.01	SR provided an update on the current status of the project and matters arising:	
3.02	Having had Government confirm a £14.2billion investment in SZC project on 10 th June, the full Financial Investment Decision (FID) was confirmed on 22 July 22. The investment breakdown is confirmed as: UK Government (44.9%), La Caisse (20%), Centrica (15%), EDF (12.5%) and Amber Infrastructure Ltd (7.6%).	
3.03	A few items remain to be confirmed/signed-off but anticipation is that Financial Close will be made in October.	

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3.04	Together Against Sizewell C (TASC) have sought permission for a Judicial Review of a letter from the Secretary of State that refused to revoke or amend the DCO decision based on flood defences. Decision (on whether to grant permission for JR) will be made following an aural hearing (likely December).	
3.05	DCO Requirement 19 variation submitted 8 th August (discussed further at Section 5).	
3.06	In terms of marine works specifically, the project is gearing up to commence works on the marine elements of the Combined Drainage Outfall (CDO) and desalination plant intake/outfall with all pre-commencement Conditions approved or pending, with the exception of the Vessel Management Plan (VMP) (discussed further at Section 6). Start of marine construction of the Temporary Marine Bulk Import Facility (TMBIF) has been delayed to January 2026	
4	Minutes from Last Meeting	
4.01	SR confirmed that all actions from the previous meeting had been closed and there were no open Actions from previous meetings.	
5	Sea Defences Update	
5.01	SR reminded MTF members that a re-design of the Temporary Sea Defence (TSD) was required for the southern section to meet Sizewell B (SZB) safety requirements, to include (1) an increase in height of the sheet pile wall to 10m ODN; and (b) potential for rock armour on the seaward side (to be confirmed subject to baseline design).	
5.02	SR stated that a variation to Requirement 19, seeking approval of only the increase in crest height to 10m ODN for the southern section, has been submitted to ESC (08 August 2025).	
5.03	SR confirmed that a further variation would be made once the need for rock armour, and delivery/installation method, has been confirmed.	
5.04	SR confirmed that the Coastal Processes Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (CPMMP) has not been updated to reflect this design change because the TSD is significantly landward of the highest tides and no coastal geomorphology impacts are expected. However, the existing monitoring arrangements with monthly drone flights would detect any changes in sediment distribution.	
5.05	TD provided update on the baseline monitoring for the CPMMP including current status of the beach in front of SZC.	
5.06	TD explained that the CPMMP, for construction, largely focusses on bathymetric change from dredging and any potential impacts from the Beach Landing Facility (BLF) and Temporary Marine Bulk Import Facility (TMBIF), whereas monitoring during operations focussed on beach volumes of the Soft Coastal Defence Feature (SCDF) with recharge where/when necessary.	
5.07	TD explained that the northern end of the beach has shown a relative increase in erosion over the last few years, detected by the CPMMP drone flights, and that while not explicitly stated within the CPMMP SZC might wish to supplement the dune volume with additional sediment. TD explained that, on the basis of work detailed in the CPMMP, the area from approximately just south of the TMBIF to the northern SZC site boundary would benefit from additional material.	

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5.07	SR stated that the project was looking into this, but nothing was planned as yet. SR confirmed that if "recharge" was performed it would be entirely above the MHWS mark (and therefore would have no Marine Licencing implications) but would require a Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP). SR also confirmed that, as per the final SCDF, any material used would be "site-won" if possible and of the same modal particle size.	
5.08	Action 1: SZC to engage with MTF early if recharge is taken forward.	Ongoing
5.09	SB highlighted that, if the project was planning any activities that required a FRAP, the flood risk resource currently dedicated to the SZC project by the EA expires within the next 12 months after which timelines would likely lengthen.	
5.10	TD concluded the session by confirming that 3 baseline reports were being finalised for submission to the MTF and that once dredging works etc commence the required "notification" reports will also be issued.	
5.11	SR noted that the submission of reports required for the CPMMP was straightforward for the DML because they are simply uploaded to the Marine Case Management System (MCMS) and asked LG what the process should be for submission of the equivalent reports under Requirement 12 (by email, online, etc).	
5.12	Action 2: LG to feedback to SZC the process by which CPMMP reports should be submitted to ESC. Post meeting note – completed (10/09/25): LG confirmed that CPMMP reports should be sent directly to relevant MTF delegates, as well as the Energy Projects Team inbox. The latter will also be copied into subsequent feedback, iterations and communications. Once agreed by all MTF members, the final version of the reports will made available on the ESC Governance website.	30/09/25
6	DML and DCO Returns	
6.01	BH summarised the DML Conditions and DCO Requirement submissions that had been made in 2025 and confirmed their status:	
6.02	Variation Request for the DML to reflect changes in design at the TMBIF (pile layout and head arrangement) is with MMO for determination. BH stated that the request documentation has been updated to reflect a need for flexibility regarding desalination plant intake head dimensions.	
6.03	DML Condition 7: Programme of Works (#3) approved, next submission January 2025	
6.04	DML Condition 15: Marine Environmental Monitoring Plan (MEMP) was submitted to MMO on 04 July. Following minor post-submission consultation comments, the MEMP will be updated and resubmitted. Post-meeting note: Updated MEMP (Rev. 2.0) was submitted to the MMO on 08 September.	
6.05	DML Condition 36: TMBIF construction method statement is to be re-submitted to address minor post-submission consultation comments.	
6.06	DML Condition 28: Vessel Management Plan (VMP) was issued for pre-submission consultation with MMO and NE. BH outlined concerns raised by NE related to winter vessel movements in 2025-26. An exercise is being undertaken by the SZC delivery team and subcontractors to refine vessel	

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	numbers to an acceptable level. Simultaneously, a shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment exercise is being undertaken to reflect the revised numbers. BH explained that refined numbers will be presented for discussion with NE with a view to agreeing a route forward for submission of the VMP.	
7	Other Marine Licences	
7.01	BH provided an overview of the other (non-DML) licence applications currently in progress:	
7.02	A marine licence application has been submitted for intertidal investigation of 2no potential Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) targets in the TMBIF pile footprint. Works are anticipated for September-October. BH explained that the licence covers investigation only; if consequent clearance of UXO is required this would be deferred by the MMO to relevant authorities, as appropriate (ESC, Ministry of Defence, HM Coastguard)	
7.03	A marine licence application has been submitted for a small, temporary crew transfer pontoon to be installed within the Port of Lowestoft. The purpose of the pontoon is to provide safer access for embarking/disembarking crew transfer vessels bound for the SZC marine works site. BH confirmed that use of the pontoon would not be permitted in the winter months (November to March, inclusive) until the VMP (DML Condition 28) has been approved.	
8	Harbour Update	
7.01	MB provided an update on arrangements within the SZC Harbour Area. MB explained that harbour limits had been deliberately chosen along defined lines of longitude and latitude and needed to include the area where the cooling water intake and outfall tunnels will be constructed. MB explained that, following consultation with local beach-users, the SZC Harbour Authority has designated the southern extents of the harbour area as a recreational and fishing area on the basis that the SZC project will not be using or sailing through that area such that impact of the harbour on other sea-users is minimised.	
9	Members Update	
9.01	MMO: LC reiterated that Tracey Champney is the Senior Case Manager for nuclear and the SZC project and that Jordana Chell has joined the SZC team as a Case Officer. EL has been promoted to Case Manager and part of his time will remain on SZC.	
9.03	EA: SB stated that at an organisational level the EA is reacting to the Corry and Cunliffe reviews, as well as the Nuclear Regulatory Taskforce reviews, but confirmed that resources for the SZC project remain stable.	
9.04	ESC: LG confirmed that Martyn Fulcher has replaced Philp Ridley as Head of Energy Planning and Coastal Management at ESC. LG confirmed that ESC had reviewed the Requirement 19 submission material and was broadly happy with the content but highlighted that the consultation period was still open.	

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	LG stated that there are several other large projects and proposals local to SZC that ESC is involved with, including the National Grid "Sealink" landfall to the south of Thorpeness and EA2 cable landfall north of Thorpeness.	
9.05	NE: SM explained that there had been some personnel/role changes in the wider SZC Project team but confirmed that the marine resource remained the same, with PM remaining the marine technical lead. SM explained that his role was changing slightly as he was now also working on other NSIPs but additional resource will be provided by way of Tamsin Atley.	
9.06	ACTION 3: SR to offer Tamsin the "induction" to marine elements of the SZC project. Post-meeting note: Completed (04/09/25)	30/09/25
10	Summing up and Confirmation of Actions	
10.01	PB summed up and confirmed the Actions.	
10.02	SR confirmed the date of the next meeting would have been 02 December 2025.	
10.03	Action 4: SR to provide 12-month look ahead for likely "technical" meetings as well as Quarterly "update" meetings.	10/10/25
11	RNIP and Meeting Close	
11.01	SR ran through the RNIP feedback form. EL and SB confirmed that the RNIP as completed on-screen by SR was accepted and could be submitted directly to RIO.	

Actions Summary

Minute Ref	Actions	Who	By when
MTF020925.01	SZC to engage with MTF early if recharge is taken forward	SZC	On-going
MTF020925.02	LG to feedback to SZC the process by which CPMMP reports should be submitted Post-meeting - Completed (10/09/25)	ESC	30/09/25
MTF020925.03	SR to offer Tamsin the "induction" to marine elements of the SZC project Post-meeting Note - Completed (04/09/25)	SZC	30/09/25
MTF020925.04	SR to provide 12-month look-ahead for technical likely "technical" meetings as well as Quarterly "update" meetings	SZC	10/10/25