

TC: 101316018  
Revision 01

## Sizewell C Marine Technical Forum: Quarterly Meeting [No4]

### NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Level:	Marine Technical Forum
Date:	13th June 2024
Location:	Microsoft Teams
Chair:	Peter Barham; Independent Chair (PB)
Attendees:	<p>Stephen Roast; SZC Ltd (SR)</p> <p>Ben Hughes; SZC Ltd (BH)</p> <p>Andrew Griffith; Cefas for SZC Ltd (AG)</p> <p>Lucy Goodman; ESC (LG)</p> <p>Chris Finbow; ESC (CF)</p> <p>Ethan Lakeman; MMO (EL)</p> <p>Amy Trakos; MMO (AT)</p> <p>Laura Calvert; MMO (LC)</p> <p>Ayden Hassan; EA (AH)</p> <p>Simon Barlow; EA (SB)</p> <p>Sean Mahoney; NE (SM)</p>
Apologies:	<p>Polly Mills; NE</p> <p>Vanessa Gouldsmith; NE</p>

### Meeting Note

Discussion Item	Comments	By when
1	<p><b><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></b></p> <p>PB welcomed and introduced everybody.</p> <p>PB also thanked MTF members for accommodating a late change of date for the meeting at his request.</p>	
2	<p><b><u>Safety Message</u></b></p> <p><i>Coastal Habitats: Do you know your machair from your mudflats?</i></p>	
3	<p><b><u>Project Update</u></b></p> <p>SR provided an update on the current status of the project and matters arising:</p>	
3.01	The project is still working hard to confirm the financial investment arrangements and currently working on due diligence with potential investors. The project was working confidently towards getting a Final Investment Decision (FID) in July but this will now be delayed due to the General Election being called for 6 <sup>th</sup> July	
3.02	The Nuclear Site Licence (NSL) was issued to Sizewell C by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) on 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024. This is a big milestone for the company.	
3.03	Site clearance and construction continues at the Sizewell C site but there remains no DML related marine activities in 2024 (see also Discussion Item 6)	

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<b>4</b>	<b>Minutes from Last Meeting</b>	
4.01	SR confirmed that all actions from the previous meeting had been closed apart from MTF210324.03 and MTF210324.04	
4.02	SM confirmed Natural England would welcome a meeting to cover the background to the project ( <b>Action MTF210324.03</b> )	12/07/24 (for date)
4.03	SR confirmed he will chase a response to his internal query regarding scour assessment for the revised TMO discharge ( <b>Action MTF210324.03</b> )  <b>Post-meeting note:</b> information delayed but provided to MTF members by email 02/07/24 Awaiting feedback from EA that information was sufficient	21/06/24
<b>5</b>	<b>DML and DCO Returns</b>	
5.01	SR summarised the DML Condition and DCO Requirement submissions that had been made in 2023 and confirmed their status:	
5.03	DCO Requirement 12 (Coastal Processes Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (Terrestrial); CPMMP) has been approved by ESC (see also Discussion Item 5.06).	
5.04	DCO Requirement 19 (Marine Infrastructure) has been approved by ESC. (see also Discussion Item 5.06).	
5.05	SR confirmed the latest position with the potential Judicial Review (JR) (pre-action protocol letter) from TASC. SZC Ltd sent a letter to TASC declaring its position that ESC acted wholly within its powers to discharge Requirement 19 and that it would defend any such claim vigorously. The SZC Ltd response also declared that, due to a likely redesign of the temporary sea defence tie-in with the Sizewell B sea-defence, an updated version of the sea defence report will be submitted in the summer. TASC has decided to withhold any further action until it has reviewed the revised report.  LG confirmed that was ESC's understanding also.	
	DML Condition 14 (CPMMP (Marine)) was submitted 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2023. MMO is preparing responses to representations made by Together Against Sizewell C (TASC) prior to approval.  LC confirmed that MMO was not planning to discharge DML Condition 14 until the potential for JR had been addressed.	
5.08	SR summarised the DML Condition Returns that were expected to be made in 2024. These timescales are largely unchanged from the previous meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Condition 7: Programme of Works (21 June 2024)</li> <li>• Condition 16: Marine Archaeological WSI (Quarter 3 2024; pre-application)</li> <li>• Condition 17: Fisheries Liaison &amp; Coexistence Plan (pre-application submitted 5<sup>th</sup> June)</li> <li>• Condition 35: Aids to Navigation Management Plan (Quarter 3 2024; pre-application)</li> <li>• Condition 15: Marine Environmental Management Plan (Quarter 4 2024; tbc)</li> <li>• Condition 32: Dredging Details (Quarter 4 2024; tbc)</li> <li>• Condition 46: Desalination Plant Construction Method Statement (Quarter 4 2024; tbc)</li> </ul>	

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5.09	SR asked MTF members for thoughts on how (or whether) pre-application discussions could be brought to the MTF efficiently. <b>Action 1:</b> SR to discuss internally within SZC Ltd on pre-application arrangements	12/07/24
<b>6</b>	<b>Other Marine Licences</b>	
6.01	BH provided an overview of the other (non-DML) licence applications currently in progress.	
6.02	A licence variation request for SZC's existing geotechnical investigation (GI) licence was submitted to the MMO on April 26 2024 to include 2024 GI works.	
6.03	Consultation on the variation request is currently open and MMO are seeking comments as soon as possible from NE, EA and ESC (and other statutory stakeholders not present at the MTF).	
6.04	A UXO ALARP clearance survey was undertaken in April/May for the 2024 GI and a clearance certificate issued. GI works are anticipated to run from July 2024 to October 2024 (weather permitting) via jack-up vessel.	
6.05	A marine licence application will be submitted for UXO clearance within the marine footprint of project works, with first clearances anticipated in (likely) 2025. The application will be submitted Q4 2024.	
6.06	UXO clearance will be screened in for EIA by agreement and a scoping request will be submitted end of June / beginning of July 2024.	
<b>7</b>	<b>Members updates</b>	
7.01	<b>MMO:</b> LC confirmed that the statutory consultation period for MLA/2019/00029/6 had commenced with Environment Agency, Natural England and East Suffolk Council, as well as other usual stakeholders (e.g. Historic England; the Eastern Inshore Fisheries Conservation Agency; Maritime and Coastguard Agency, etc) on 12 June. LC confirmed the consultation will run for 28 days but requested MTF members respond, earlier if they can, to facilitate SZC Ltd's programme. LG confirmed that ESC would defer to NE and MMO's ecology specialists for response on this proposal as it outside of ESC's jurisdiction.	
7.02	<b>EA:</b> SB stated the Water Discharge Activity permit application for the Temporary Marine Outfall would soon be "Duly Made" and reiterated the need for a comment from SZC on potential scour from the discharge. See retained <b>Action MTF210324.03</b> <b>Post-meeting note:</b> information delayed but provided to MTF members by email 02/07/24 Awaiting feedback from EA that information was sufficient	21/06/24
7.05	<b>ESC:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ESC will now hold regular 'SZC Internal Governance Meetings'; organised by Emma Devereux, Energy Projects Coordinator, for sharing updates and discussion of key issues.</li> <li>ESC awaits re-submission of Requirements 12 &amp; 19, expected in August/September.</li> <li>TASC have dropped the JR case against ESC for now, but we anticipate a resurgence.</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LG stated that ESC was in discussions with SZC Ltd about the potential need for a flood defence scheme at Benacre to ameliorate the risk of flooding of the A12 affecting transport links to site. SR confirmed those discussions were on-going internally.</li> <li>DCO consultation period for SeaLink begins 08/07/24 for cable landfall likely between Thorpeness and Aldeburgh.</li> <li>ESC has been in consultation with other NSIPs; Five Estuaries and LionLink, about wind turbine array extensions and cable landfalls.</li> <li>ESC attended the SSUG beach walk and meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May. Headlines were that the beach showed relative stability, albeit growth in front of SZB and loss at northern (tank traps) end. A seemingly 'quiet winter' experienced at Sizewell, yet morphological change elsewhere on Norfolk &amp; Suffolk coast has been highly dynamic.</li> </ul>	
7.06	<p><b>NE:</b></p> <p>SM confirmed that Vanessa Gouldsmith had changed roles within NE and would not routinely attend the MTF. SM confirmed that VG would still be available for specialist advice (as, indeed, Adam Chambers still is).</p> <p>SM stated that he and Polly Mills are now NE's representatives on the MTF.</p> <p>SM reiterated that Natural England would welcome a meeting to cover the background to the project (<b>Action MTF210324.04</b>)</p>	12/07/24 (for date)
7.08	<p><b>EIFCA:</b></p> <p>No update on availability of technical resource from EIFCA to support the MTF.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Summing up and Confirmation of Actions</b>	
8.01	PB summed up and confirmed the Actions	
8.02	SR confirmed the date of the next meeting is 03 September 2024	
<b>9</b>	RNIP and meeting close	
9.01	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
MTF210324.03	SR to check what assessments had been made in relation to the potential for scour arising from the TMO discharge <b>Post meeting:</b> Provided by email 02/07/24	SR	21/06/24
MTF210324.04	SR to arrange a background to the project session with NE if required.	SR	12/07/24
MTF130624.01	SR to feedback to MTF members proposed arrangements for pre-application discussions	SR	12/07/24

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**Appendix:** Draft DML Returns Programme for 2024

Number	Description	Pre-App?	Pre-App Date
7	Programme of Works	No	21 June 2024
16	Marine Archaeological WSI	Historic England	Quarter 3 2024
17	Fisheries Liaison & Coexistence Plan	EIFCA	05 June 2024
35	Aids to Navigation Management Plan	Trinity House	Quarter 3 2024
15	Marine Environmental Management Plan	MTF	Quarter 4 2024
32	Dredging Details	MTF	Quarter 4 2024
46	Desalination Plant Construction Method Statement	MTF	Quarter 4 2024