

Science Group Terms of Reference

The SeaGen Marine Current Turbine Project is undertaking an Environmental Monitoring Programme (EMP) to comply with the conditions of the Food and Environmental Protection Act (FEPA) 1985: Part II (as amended) Licence reference DU 115/05 issued by the Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) of the Department of Environment, Northern Ireland for the SeaGen project in Strangford Lough implemented by Marine Current Turbines (MCT) Ltd.

MCT recognise that the delivery of a sound and effective EMP is critical to the success of the SeaGen project and as such, has established a Science Group consisting of the core organisations responsible for the delivery of the EMP and regulation of the project.

The following table provides details of the SeaGen Science Group:

Person	Organisation	Role	Responsibility
David Erwin	Independent	Independent Chair	Chairing meetings
Phil Elliot Joe Breen	Environmental Heritage Service, Northern Ireland (EHS)	Government regulator	Ensure compliance with environmental legislation
Alistair Davison Andrew Finlay	Royal Haskoning	Project managers of Environmental monitoring	Ensure all monitoring is undertaken as planned and managed accordingly
David Ainsworth	Marine Current Turbine Ltd. (MCT)	Project Developers	Responsible for MCT project and guidance on project development and procedure
Ian Boyd Alice MacKay	Sea Mammal Research Unit, St. Andrews University (SMRU)	Marine mammal data collection and research	Scientific monitoring
Graham Savidge	Queens' University, Belfast (QUB) Portaferry Marine Laboratory	Primary project data collection and research	Scientific monitoring
John Anderson	Council for Nature Conservation and Countryside (CNCC)	Guidance and advice	Provide appropriate input and advice
Andrew Prior	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)	Renewable Advisor	Provide appropriate input and advice
Pat Boaden	Ulster Wildlife Trust (UWT)	Chair of UWT	Provide appropriate input and advice

The Monitoring is defined as the organisations which are together undertaking the scientific work for the Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP).

The following Terms of Reference have been written for the Science Group to ensure all members are working towards a common goal. In doing so a Mission Statement has been devised for the Science Group which should be used as the primary focus for all meetings:

“Members of the SeaGen Science Group share the common goal of safeguarding the environment of Strangford Lough from any potential significant environmental impact that might be caused by the SeaGen project; To identify, assess and manage accordingly any effects before they cause adverse impact; To provide scientific input through data collection, reporting, advice, and guidance to support the environmental monitoring program designed to ensure that the installation, operation and decommissioning of the SeaGen Marine Current Turbine operates in a way which is compatible with the conservation objectives of the Strangford Lough SAC and SPA.”

It is envisaged that the SeaGen Science Group will operate as follows:

- All members of the group will support the common goal of delivering a sound and effective environmental monitoring program that supports the SeaGen turbine installation, operation and decommissioning without causing adverse impact on the important environmental features of Strangford Lough.
- The science proposed for the monitoring programme requires some element of flexibility and adaptation throughout the monitoring process as new opportunities or issues arise. The key focus of the Science Group is to advise, assist and guide the implementation and evolution of the EMP. Any significant changes to the steer of the EMP will be reviewed and approved by the Science Group beforehand.
- If an issue exists where the Group cannot initially reach agreement the Group will make a concerted effort to reach agreement to attempt to reach a single view. If the Group cannot reach agreement the multiple views represented in the group will be passed on rather a majority view.
- The group will be chaired by Dr David Erwin, an independent, suitably qualified person representing wider interests outside the immediate developer group and their advisors.
- The group will meet approximately once every two months or on request. The frequency of meetings after 6 months of operation will be reviewed and approved by the Science Group.
- The group members will be copied in to all relevant communication and liaison in relation to the SeaGen monitoring outputs and programme.
- All meetings will be minuted for dissemination amongst the Science Group and only disseminated to wider stakeholders upon agreement of the whole Science Group.
- The group will be serviced by Royal Haskoning, effectively providing both project management and secretariat support, although this role could be filled by any other appropriate organisation or individual.
- It will be the responsibility of the Monitoring Organisations to provide written outputs for each item of the monitoring programme to Royal Haskoning (or the secretariat as

appropriate) at least two weeks prior to scientific working group meetings, and following reasonable request from EHS as required.

- Any additional members to the Science Group will be approved all members of the Science Group before permission is granted.