

Planning Officer's Report – LDCA NOVEMBER 2019

APPLICATION	2019/61 – Proposed Installation of a New Scientific Stilling Well
PERMISSION SOUGHT	Permission in Full
REGISTERED	27 th July 2021
APPLICANT	Jeffry P Pugh
PARCEL	-
SIZE	-
LAND OWNER	Crown Estates
LOCALITY	New Wharf at Rupert's Bay
ZONE	Coastal Zone
CONSERVATION AREA	None
CURRENT USE	Vacant
PUBLICITY	The application was advertised as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Sentinel Newspaper on 29th July 2021▪ A site notice displayed in accordance with Regulations.
EXPIRY	12 th August 2021
REPRESENTATIONS	-
DECISION ROUTE	Delegated / LDCA / EXCO

A. CONSULTATION FEEDBACK

1. Water Division	No Objection
2. Sewage Division	No Objection
3. Energy Division	No Objection
4. Fire & Rescue	No Response
5. Roads Section	No Objection
6. Property Division	No Response
7. Environmental Management	No Objection
8. Public Health	No Response

9. Agriculture & Natural Resources	No Response
10. St Helena Police Services	Not Consulted
11. Aerodrome Safe Guarding	Not Consulted
12. Sustainable Development	No Objection
13. National Trust	No Response

B. PLANNING OFFICER'S APPRAISAL

LOCALITY & ZONING

The location for this proposed development is at new Wharf in Rupert's Bay. This area is within the Coastal Zone and has no conservation area restrictions.

Diagram 1: Locality



THE PROPOSAL

The proposed installation of Tide Gauge and GPS station on the new Break Water (Wharf) at Rupert's Bay aims to record Sea Level and Land Movement Information, which can be used by scientists to help determine if and how Climate Change is effecting the oceans in the South Atlantic and in particular Sea Levels.

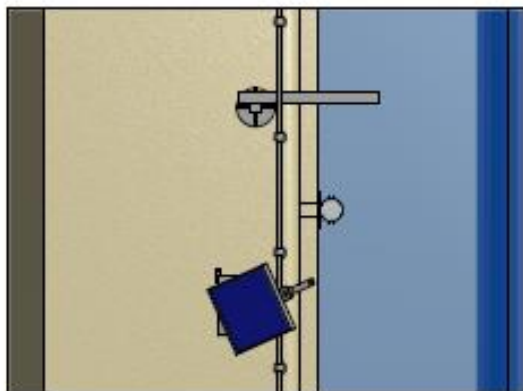
The installation also consists of a GNSS system mounted behind the main tide gauge and is used for measuring land movement. The gauge is currently logging data internally, but it is envisaged in the future that a WiFi connection be used to relay the data back base. The setting up of this is still ongoing.

Diagram 1: Site Location



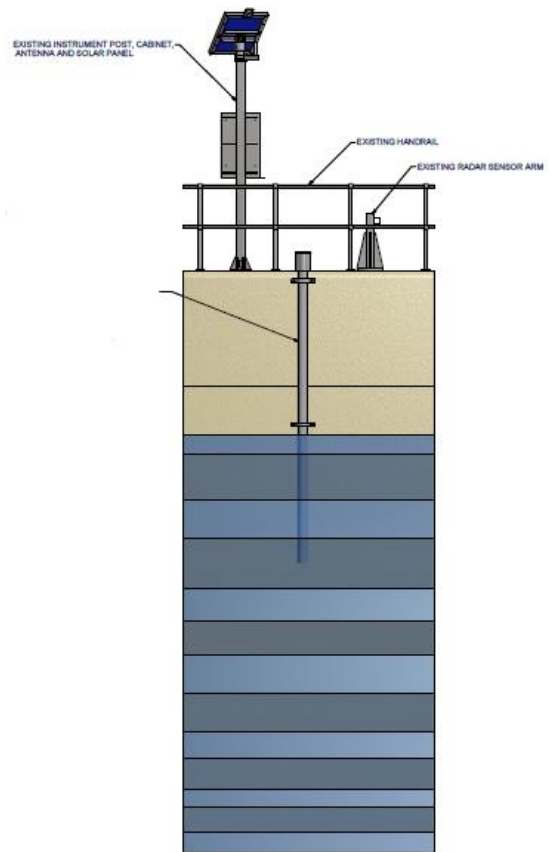
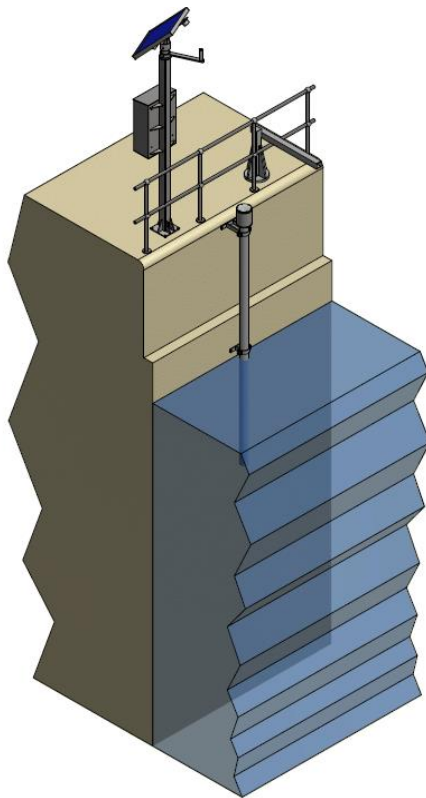
Actual location of the installation is on the south west corner of the New Wharf. There are currently number of these installation in both James's Bay and Rupert's Bay. The Tide gauge consists of single metal stanchion with a long arm, to which a radar sensor is attached. The electronics cabinet and battery are housed in two steel boxes attached to the main upright.

Diagram 3: Details Location of Guage



The gauge is a standalone system, using only solar power to transmit sea level data back every 15 minutes via the Meteosat constellation of satellites. The installation also has separate radar arm, allowing the sensor to be positioned over slightly deeper water. The new Stilling Well will be installed between the radar arm and the main stanchion, thereby removing the potential to disrupt ongoing port operations. Once the new equipment and incorporated into the existing satellite transmission and will therefore not require additional connection equipment.

Diagram 4: Details of Guage



It is the intention of the applicant to remove the old installations once the new stilling well equipment and sensors, have been installed at Rupert's Bay.

STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The stakeholder have been consulted in respect of the proposed development and adverse response has been received. The Harbour Master was consulted prior to the submission of the application and he has no issues with the proposed development or the location as it is unlikely to impact the existing and future operation of the Wharf.

The Marine Conservation Section has requested that the information collated should be shared with the Service to enable the enable better marine conservation and management.

REPRESENTATION

No representation has been received on the wider public consultation

POLICY CONSIDERATION

The proposed development is assessed against the LDCP Policies set out below:

- Coastal Zone Primary Policy CZ1

There are no issues arising from the policy assessment as the nature of this area and use as a Wharf has created new a environmental condition and physical appearance and the proposed use does adverse impact the area.

PLANNING OFFICER ASSESSMENT

The application has is to support scientists in their global effort to determining how Climate Change affects the oceans in the South Atlantic and in particular the effects of changes in Sea Levels that is of wider benefit including the Island

The assessment in respect of the location, siting, scale and type of equipment is regarded necessary in order to ensure that it provides the Socio-Economic benefits to the Island and the wider scientific studies on the changing sea level and the impact of climate change globally.

C. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

As this development application is with 50m of the sea, in accordance with Govern-in-Council directive of April 2014, this application need to be referred to the Governor-in-Council for decision. The Authority is requested to make observation and to support the **RECOMMENDATION** as set out. The views of the Authority will be reported to the Governor-in-Council. :