



RWS INFORMATIE

Questions & Answers of Information meeting on 28 October 2024 of tender
"Vibro piling effects on harbour purpose" with reference number 31201201

6 November 2024

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Question 1	In a study Wageningen Research has indicated that vibro piling may not be a suitable method in itself, but that pile driving will always be necessary. Is research on this method still useful?
Answer	Yes, it is still considered to be useful, despite the uncertainty about standalone usage of this technique. In Germany at the Kaskasi wind farm this technique has already been applied as a pilot for six turbine foundations. The contracting authority wants to anticipate on developments and wants to know in advance which standards and requirements can be set for vibro piling or a similar technique. Further development of this technique is therefore not excluded.
Question 2	For approval of a new study, a project must first go through the CCD and the DEC, this process takes time and it is not realistic to have these approvals ready when registering for the Tender. How do we deal with this?
Answer	The approvals for a CCD and DEC license do not need to be ready when registering for the Tender, however the Contractor has to obtain the permits within a given realistic time frame once the tender is awarded. The contracting authority considers that 7 months is a realistic time to obtain the permits. If the permits are not obtained after the timeframe of 7 months after tender awarding, the contracting authority is allowed to terminate the contract.
Question 3	It will be difficult to determine the response curve in a pool with 2 animals, why was this choice made?
Answer	Correct, this study cannot be performed with two animals at the same time in the same pool, as interactions between them can influence the results. Therefore, to clarify, one animal at the time can perform the test for the studies. The second animal temporarily stays in another pool, or a screened-off part of the pool as long as the acoustic properties of the pool are not affected. It is possible to make use of different animals for this study at different times as long as the criteria required are met as mentioned in the tender documents.

Question 4	If there are no trained animals available, is it possible to use untrained animals for parts of the study?
Answer	No, to perform the research the Contractor must make use of a trained harbour porpoise with a species representative audiogram, to ensure comparability with previous behavioral response studies. A trained animal is considered a porpoise that can perform in a behavioral response study.