

EIA PERMIT

What is an EIA?

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a management tool used to assess and identify the environmental, social and economic impacts of a project prior to granting an EIA permit.

What is an EIA Permit?

An EIA Permit is the environmental permission granted to applicants for any form of development or projects that is likely to cause significant impact.

Why do I need an EIA Permit?

The EIA permit is required for any activities that may have significant environmental impact.

What are examples of activities that require an EIA Consent?

This is specified in Tier 3 of Fact Sheet #2;

- Water Reticulation System instalment
- Stream Development – relating to rock revetments, gabions and diversion
- All dredging
- Foreshore Development and Protection (Gabions, rock revetments and Groynes and Coastal Protection Units)
- Filling of Wetlands
- Excavation of sloping land
- Introduction of new species or biocontrol
- Tourism and Commercial Development
- Motu Development
- Manufacturing Industries
- Construction of an airport, airstrip or helicopter pad
- Construction of a harbour, port, jetty, slipway, dock, wharf, pier or bridge
- Mining
- Construction of a dam, reservoir, artificial lake, hydro-electric scheme, or large-scale irrigation projects
- Large-scale alternative energy production
- Commercial logging or a saw milling operation
- Reclamation of the sea, foreshore, streams or creeks
- Waste management facilities, or treatment, including storage, disposal and transfers
- Trans-boundary movement of waste or pollution

Who can prepare an EIA Report and what documents are included?

An EIA Report can be prepared by any qualified technical expert or engineers based on the type and nature of the project.

Some of the documents may include:

- Block map to identify location and area
- Site map for actual site of the project
- Site plan for exact locations and distances of all activities and buildings
- Waste treatment and sanitation system plan
- Water and power supply proof
- Proof of public consultations with nearby communities to the project site
- Environment Management Plan

Who grants an EIA Permit?

Island Environment Authority (IEA) or the National Environment Council (NEC).

What is the process to obtaining an EIA Permit?

Refer Table on Page 2.

What is the Fee for an EIA Permit?

Private or Individuals: \$500 per application

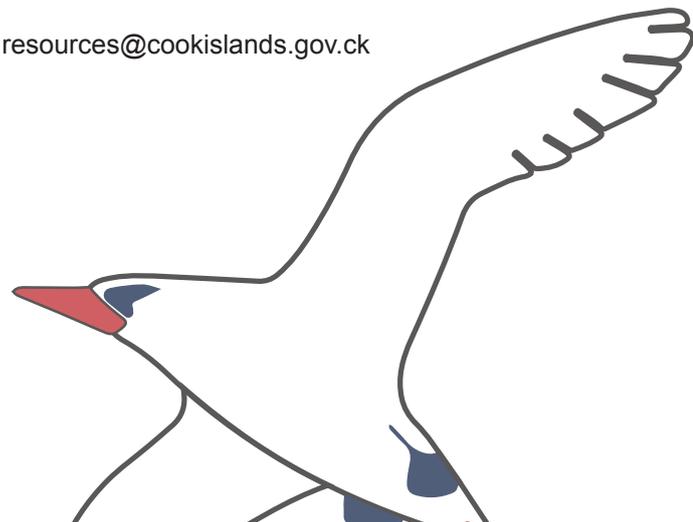
Commercial: \$1,000 per application

National Environment Council Approval: \$3,000

Who can I contact to get more information?

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 resources@cookislands.gov.ck





	1. APPLICATION	2. ASSESSMENT	3. APPROVAL	4. APPEAL
A	Applicant to complete and submit ESD Form.	NES to review and provide input to the Applicant. NES to notify Applicant to proceed to the Consultation Stage.	NES to submit Revised EIA Report to the Island Environment Authority (IEA) or National Environment Council (NEC).	Applicant may submit an appeal to the Minister of Environment.
Timeline	Applicant to submit	10 to 20 working days	Notice to EIA - 10 working days. Notice to NEC - 7 working days	10 working Days (14 days) from receiving notification
B	NES to review and conduct onsite inspection.	NES to advertise EIA Report for public consultation. Applicant to conduct public consultations.	IEA (Permitting Authority) to assess Revised EIA Report and supporting documents. EIA grants, defer or declines Permit.	Minister to review and provide a decision in writing to the applicant and informs the IEA or NEC.
C	If Permit required, NES to notify applicant and issue a Terms of Reference for the EIA.	NES to review submissions and notify the applicant.	NES to prepare and notify Applicant. If approved, applicant can carry out work. If deferred refer to 1D. If declined refer to 4A.	
Timeline	5 working days	5 working days	2 working days	
D	Applicant to submit EIA Report and pay application fee.	Applicant to review submissions and submit Revised EIA Report.		
Timeline	Applicant to submit	Applicant to submit		
E		NES to prepare Revised EIA Report and Permitting Authority Memorandum.		
Timeline		2 working days		