

Department of Defence  
Defence Forces Headquarters  
McKee Barracks  
Dublin  
D07 A065  
(electronic copy)

By email only: [REDACTED]

Date: 10/09/2025

**Notice in accordance with section 117(6)(a) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021**

**Re: Department of Defence - Maritime Usage Licence Application Reference: MUL230029**

Dear [REDACTED]

I refer to the above referenced maritime usage licence application received by the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) on 14/05/2024 and the Natura Impact Statement (NIS) submitted on 03/09/2025.

For the purpose of the Appropriate Assessment, you are required to prepare a *revised* Natura Impact Statement in relation to the proposed maritime usage the subject of this licence application by addressing the following issues:

The Background and Project Description in the NIS refer to a Dumping at Sea permit application and quantities of dredged material (105,630m<sup>3</sup>) to be dumped at sea as part of that application. In order to provide clarity to the public as part of the public consultation, the Project Description of the NIS submitted to MARA should be specific to the MUL application. The Project Description should thus refer to the dredging and deposit of dredged material including the quantities of material applied for, as confirmed by the applicant on 22/07/2025.

Please revise the NIS and update the Project Description and any other relevant parts of the NIS as per the specifics of the MUL application. The in-combination assessment should include the details and specifics of all relevant dumping at sea applications.

In addition, with reference to the strict protection of species listed under Annex IV of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), can you please confirm if you are required to obtain a derogation licence from National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) under Regulation 54 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended.

The revised Natura Impact Statement must be submitted to MARA by **05/11/2025**.

**Where you fail to submit the Natura Impact Statement by this date (or any extension to this date permitted by MARA for good and sufficient reason), this maritime usage licence**

**application shall be deemed to be withdrawn in accordance with Section 117(8) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021.**

Please direct any queries to [licence@mara.gov.ie](mailto:licence@mara.gov.ie).

Yours faithfully,

Martina Monaghan  
Maritime Usage Licensing Team  
MARA