

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday 6 October 2025 17:39
To: MARA Licence
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Request for further information - LIC230013

Categories: Saved to eDocs, Joanne

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Dear Joanne and Paula,

We write in response to your letter dated 12th September 2025 requesting additional information in support of the referenced application.

We wish to confirm that we do not consider that there will be a need to apply for a derogation under Regulation 54 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended, for the limited geotechnical intrusive works proposed.

As set out in the Annex IV Risk Assessment Report prepared by Malone O'Regan Environmental ('MORE') and submitted in support of the licence application, the assessment concluded that "the proposed works will not give rise to significant effects on Annex IV species or other marine mammals within the vicinity of the Site, and its considered that a derogation licence would not be required for the proposed works". The findings of this assessment underpin our current position.

The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) also submitted as part of the application includes a comprehensive suite of mitigation measures designed to protect marine mammals, otter, and fish throughout the drilling works.

Furthermore, the contractor's method statement will be reviewed in detail to confirm the finalised construction approach and to ensure all required mitigation measures have been included in compliance with all relevant regulatory requirements.

Nevertheless, in line with best practice and as a precautionary measure, a pre-construction survey will be undertaken to confirm baseline conditions in advance of any intrusive investigation works commencing. In the event that this updated survey identifies any change in the baseline conditions regarding Annex IV species, then the NPWS will be consulted.

We would like to confirm that we remain satisfied that the proposed investigative works, as currently designed and subject to the mitigation outlined, will not require a derogation licence. However, we also wish to confirm our commitment to consult with the NPWS should any new evidence or circumstances arise that would necessitate such consultation.

We trust that this response addresses the query that you have raised and will enable MARA to progress with this application in a timely manner.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Director

[REDACTED]



Malone O'Regan Consulting Engineers

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From: MARA Licence <licence@mara.gov.ie>
Sent: Monday 6 October 2025 16:29