

MARA Licensing
Via email

MUL refs:
MUL240033, MUL230015, MUL240026,
MUL230037, MUL230038, MUL240048

29th October 2025

Re: Justification and clarification of Licensed Duration sought under proposed Maritime Usage Licences for Marine Surveys

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Dear MARA,

Uisce Éireann has a number of Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) applications for a variety of Non-Invasive Marine Survey activities for the MUL applications referenced above.

A 5-year licence term has been sought for these activities owing to the dynamic nature of the natural and procurement environment that Uisce Éireann is seeking to carry these activities in and to provide Uisce Éireann with a level of resilience to adapt project timelines with unexpected delays.

These challenges include but are not limited to:

- Undue weather conditions affecting ability to deploy/retrieve instruments particularly on exposed coasts;
- Supply chain constraints which may limit Uisce Éireann's ability to deliver concurrent marine surveys;
- Potential delays associated with procurement processes;
- Changes or reprofiling of funding allocations within Uisce Éireann's overall 5-year Revenue Control Period.

It is Uisce Éireann's intent to avail of a MUL as soon as is practicable following MARA Determination. However, given the variables and uncertainties associated with procuring and organising surveys Uisce Éireann deems it prudent to have a MUL licence in place for a 5-year Licence Duration. This will take account of any potential unforeseen delays, will reduce administrative burden on both Uisce Éireann and MARA, and will provide certainty to the delivery of complex critical infrastructure programmes.

Uisce Éireann note that potential Licence Duration periods were discussed with MARA staff during pre-application meetings in 2024 and it was agreed that 5 years represented an appropriate maximum licence duration without compromising the baseline assessments which support the AA screening process.

Uisce Éireann recognise that in terms of cumulative impact assessment MARA is required to consider the potential in-combination effects of the proposed activities occurring at any time within the proposed 5-year licenced period, and Uisce Éireann carry out an in-combination assessment as part of the associated documentation submitted with any MUL application.

In this context Uisce Éireann wish to reiterate that the licenced duration sought for these surveys is a 'window of consent' for the activities to take place, and not in any way indicative of the frequency or duration of the survey activities themselves.

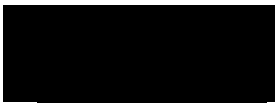
For clarity, while the proposed Licence Duration sought is 5 years, the actual durations of the respective survey activities is set out in application form and supporting Environmental assessments and is typically in the order of days/weeks.

On the basis of the above, 5-year MUL Licence Durations are sought for:

- MUL240033 - Strategic Modelling study of Galway and Clare
- MUL230015 - Strategic modelling study of South Cork
- MUL240026 - Strategic modelling study of South East Coast
- MUL230037 - Newport WWTP
- MUL230038 - Falcarragh Sewerage Scheme
- MUL240048 - Marine Studies Cork Harbour

If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

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Ronan Kane
Environmental Modelling Manager