



Maritime Area Regulatory Authority
2nd Floor, Menapia House,
Drinagh Business Park, Drinagh,
Wexford, Y35RF29.

22 July 2025

Re: Maritime Usage Licence Application for ECRIPP from Dublin to Wicklow
Your Ref: MUL240023
Our Ref: 25/108

Dear Sir/Madam,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and interpretation and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability.

With reference to your email received on the 10 July 2025, concerning the Maritime Usage Licence Application for ECRIPP from Dublin to Wicklow, we recommend using our various data sets when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes for developments, plans and policies. For more detailed information on how to access this data please access 'Data and Maps' [Data & Maps \(gsi.ie\)](#) on our 'Geoscience for planning' webpage. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly (please refer to each individual dataset's metadata for correct attribution).

For specific data available for Environmental Assessment and Planning topics please follow this link [[Data by Environmental Assessment and Planning Topic \(gsi.ie\)](#)], where you will find our data arranged by environmental assessment topic as illustrated below:

Land and soils <i>Soil</i> - Subsoils (Quaternary Geology) - Tellus Geochemistry - Geotechnical <i>Geology</i> - Bedrock - Geophysics - Bedrock & Quaternary 3D	Water <i>Groundwater</i> - Aquifers GW vulnerability, GWPSs (GWPPs) <i>Surface water</i> - Tellus Geochemistry <i>Estuarine & marine waters</i> - Marine and coastal <i>Flooding</i> - GWClimate - Karst	Climate Change <i>Carbon accounting / Carbon balance</i> - Geothermal - Carbon capture and storage <i>Climate change trends</i> - National coastal change assessment
Cultural Heritage <i>Archaeology</i> - Cherish <i>Underwater Archaeology</i> - Shipwrecks	Material Assets <i>Built Services</i> - Natural resources (Minerals & Aggregates) - Active quarries	The Landscape <i>Landscape Appearance & Character</i> - Physiographic units <i>Historical landscapes</i> - Historic mines
Other Relevant Data		
<i>Natural (Geo) hazards</i> - Landslide Susceptibility Mapping - Groundwater flooding - Coastal vulnerability - Subsidence - Radon	<i>Natural heritage</i> - Geoheritage (County Geological Sites) - Dimension Stone/Stone Built Ireland	



Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage), to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGSs), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include additional sites that may also be of national importance, but which were not selected as the very best examples for NHA designation. All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS. CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audits for Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and Co Wicklow were both carried out in 2014. The full report details can be found [here](#) and [here](#). **Our records show that there are CGSs at sections along the ECRIPP coastal rail line corridor:**

- [Blackrock Breccia](#)
- [Dalkey Island](#)
- [White Rock, Killiney](#)
- [Killiney Bay](#)
- [Bray Head](#)
- [Greystones Beach](#)
- [Greystones \(Appinite\)](#)
- [Wicklow-Greystones Coast](#)

We would ask that the proposed surveys, including the geophysical and geotechnical investigations, be mindful of the County Geological Sites and that they should be assessed as constraints. Ideally, the sites should not be damaged or integrity impacted or reduced in any manner due to the proposed survey techniques. However, this is not always possible, and in this situation appropriate mitigation measures should be put in place to minimize or mitigate potential impacts. Please contact Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@gsi.ie) for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.

Other Comments

Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be redacted for confidentiality and added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at <mailto:GeologicalMappingInfo@gsi.ie>.

If we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geoheritage and Planning Programme
Geological Survey Ireland

Trish Smullen
Geologist
Geoheritage and Planning Programme
Geological Survey Ireland

The publicly available data referenced/presented here, should in no way be construed as Geological Survey Ireland support for or objection to the proposed development or plan. The data are made freely available to all and can be used as



independent scientific data in assessments, plans or policies. It should be noted that in many cases these data are a baseline or starting point for further site-specific assessments.