

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday 26 May 2026 22:23
To: MARA Licence
Subject: Maritime Usage Licence Application MUL240011

Categories: Paula

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a submission regarding the Maritime Usage Licence application submitted by Bremore Ireland Port Designated Activity Company (BIPDAC), reference MUL240011, and the associated Natura Impact Statement.

I object to the granting of this licence due to concerns regarding both the immediate impacts of the proposed marine survey and site investigation works and the wider implications of the proposed Bremore Port development for which these works are intended.

While this application relates to marine environmental surveys and site investigations, these activities are clearly preparatory works connected to a proposed large-scale commercial port development with potentially profound and long-term impacts on the marine and coastal environment, nearby communities, fisheries, coastal amenity, biodiversity, and climate objectives.

I request that MARA fully consider the broader context and cumulative implications of the proposed port development when assessing this application.

My concerns include the following:

1. Risks to protected habitats and species

The proposed surveys and associated future port development have the potential to adversely affect protected marine habitats and species, including marine mammals, seabirds, migratory fish species, and benthic ecosystems. Underwater noise, disturbance, sediment displacement, and habitat degradation may have significant ecological consequences.

2. Concerns regarding the Natura Impact Statement

I request that MARA critically assess whether the Natura Impact Statement adequately addresses:

- cumulative and in-combination effects;
- seasonal ecological sensitivities;
- underwater acoustic impacts;
- impacts on nearby Natura 2000 sites;
- and the potential long-term implications associated with a major commercial port at Bremore.

Any scientific uncertainty should be approached in accordance with the precautionary principle.

3. Cumulative and long-term impacts of the proposed Bremore Port

The proposed port represents a potentially transformative industrialisation of the coastline in this area. The Bremore - Gormanston coastline is undisturbed and archeologically wealthy. Bremore Port will destroy one of the few beaches on the Meath coastline, and the rich historical landscape and heritage that lies along it. The environmental assessment of enabling survey works should not be artificially separated from the likely impacts of the wider project they are intended to facilitate.

The proposed development raises serious concerns regarding:

- increased shipping traffic;
- dredging and sediment disturbance;
- coastal erosion and hydrodynamic change;
- impacts on fisheries and marine ecology;
- visual and amenity impacts;
- air, noise, and light pollution;
- and increased greenhouse gas emissions associated with major port infrastructure and shipping activity.

4. Climate and sustainability concerns

At a time when Ireland is legally committed to reducing emissions and protecting biodiversity, it is essential that public authorities rigorously assess whether major new fossil fuel-dependent infrastructure projects are compatible with national climate obligations and marine conservation objectives.

5. Public interest and transparency

Given the scale and potential significance of the proposed Bremore Port development, there is a strong public interest in ensuring full transparency, robust environmental scrutiny, and meaningful public participation at every stage of the process.

In conclusion, I respectfully request that MARA refuse the licence application.

Regards,

