

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday 27 May 2026 19:35
To: MARA Licence
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Formal Submission Ref: MUL240011

Categories: Paula

CAUTION: This eMail originated from outside your organisation and the BTS Managed Desktop service. Do not click on any links or open any attachments unless you recognise the sender or are expecting the email and know that the content is safe. If you are in any doubt, please contact the OGCIO IT Service Desk.

Sir,

I wish to make a formal submission in strong objection to the proposed application Ref: MUL240011 concerning site investigations for a proposed deep water port development off the Bremore/Gormanston coastline, on the following grounds.

1. The impact on an Area of Natural Beauty and Public Amenity The Bremore-Gormanston coastline is an unspoiled and scenic stretch of the Irish east coast. The construction of a large-scale port would fundamentally transform this landscape into an industrial zone, causing permanent visual, noise and environmental degradation.
2. The Risk to Marine Water Quality and Pollution. A deep water port would introduce risks including oil spills, ballast discharge, chemical pollution, and sediment disturbance from dredging, all of which threaten marine ecosystems and water quality.
3. Destruction of Habitats and Biodiversity. The area supports sensitive coastal and marine habitats, as well as bird and marine species protected under Irish and EU Law. Development would cause habitat loss and ecological disruption.
4. Unsuitable Location. The Requirement for extensive dredging. The proposed site is not naturally deep water and would require continuous dredging, causing long-term and irreversible environmental harm.
5. Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Sensitivity. The Bremore area has significant archaeological potential, including offshore features, which could be irreversibly damaged by construction.
6. The Bremore coastal landscape consists of considerable archaeological significance, including:
 - A prehistoric passage tomb cemetery protected under National Monuments legislation
 - Evidence of medieval settlement, agriculture in the surrounding area
 - Recorded archaeological features including enclosures, field systems and historic coastal infrastructure
7. Coastal Processes and Erosion Risks. Port infrastructure could alter coastal currents and sediment transport, potentially increasing erosion along nearby beaches.
8. Limited economic benefit vs Environmental Costs. Modern Ports offer limited long-term employment, while potential harm to tourism and fisheries could outweigh any economic benefits.
9. Availability of Less Harmful Alternatives. Existing ports could be expanded instead of developing a new port in a sensitive location.
10. It is insufficient to permit the site investigations on the premise that they do not guarantee a future development as the damage the exploratory investigations will cause would have done

all this damage in advance of any further potential violation of the area should a development progress.

Conclusion:

The proposed development poses a significant threat to the environment and its communities and offers limited benefits. It is inappropriate for this location and therefore I would urge MARA to consider all the above points and reject the grant of a licence to investigate this potential location.

Yours sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.