

**From:** [REDACTED]  
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**Categories:** Paula

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

1. **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. **Risks 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 – Requirement for Extensive Dredging** The site is not naturally deep water and would require continuous dredging, causing long-term environmental harm and raising concerns about suitability.
5. **Archaeological and Cultural Heritage Sensitivity** The Bremore area has significant archaeological potential, including offshore features, which could be irreversibly damaged by construction. 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
6. **Coastal Processes and Erosion Risks**  
Port infrastructure could alter coastal currents and sediment transport, potentially increasing erosion along nearby beaches.
7. **Limited Economic Benefit vs Environmental Cost** Modern ports offer limited long-term employment, while potential harm to tourism and fisheries could outweigh any economic benefits.

8. Availability of Less Harmful Alternatives Existing ports could be expanded instead of developing a new port in a sensitive coastal location.

#### Conclusion

The proposed development poses a significant threat to the environment and offers limited benefit. It is inappropriate for this location and therefore I would urge MARA to consider all the above points in its deliberations.