

EIA Questionnaire.

Form 1

(Pre-Screening)

Maritime usage licence number: LIC230001

Proposed development: NORTH IRISH SEA ARRAY WINDFARM LTD, SITE INVESTIGATIONS OFF THE COAST OF COUNTIES DUBLIN, MEATH AND LOUTH

Question 1: Is the proposed development included in Annex I and above the specified threshold of the Directive (Schedule 5 to the P&D Regs)?

- If Yes: EIA is mandatory.
- If No, proceed to Q2.

Answer:

No

Question 2: Is the proposed development included in Annex II and above the specified threshold of the Directive (Schedule 5 to the P&D Regs)?

- If Yes: EIA is mandatory.
- If No, proceed to Q3.

Answer:

No

Question 3: Is the proposed development of a type/class included in Annex I or II of the Directive (Schedule 5 to the P&D Regs) but below the threshold specified?

- If Yes, proceed to Form 2.
- If No, no EIA required. Proceed to Q4.

Answer:

No

Question 4: Despite Q's 1 to 3 above returning negative answers, has the applicant submitted an EIAR?

- If Yes, process the application as an EIA case
- If No; No EIAR required

Answer:

No

Comments:

While boreholes are being undertaken as part of the proposed works they are shallow in nature (as per the European Commission Guidance Document *Interpretation of definitions of project categories of annex I and II of the EIA Directive (2015)*) these boreholes are under general thresholds beyond which drilling is considered deep) and are therefore exempt under Annex II, 2.d of the EIA Directive and Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended.

Based on a preliminary examination of the nature, size, duration and location of these works there is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment.

EIA is not required.

The project is subject to Screening for Appropriate Assessment.



Mary Hegarty, Marine Advisor Environment
21st February 2024