



SFPA Observations on Marine Usage Licence Applications

Applicant Name & Area:	Application No:
Port of Waterford Company	LIC230013
Application Category	
☐ Shellfish Aquaculture Licence ☐ Renewal of Shellfish Aquaculture Licence ☐ Fin Fish Aquaculture Licence ☐ Renewal of Fin Fish Aquaculture Licence ☒ Foreshore Licence	☐ Dumping at Sea ☐ Water discharge ☒ Harbour Developments ☐ Marine Renewables ☒ Cables/ Fiber Optics/ Site investigations

Sea Fisheries Protection Officer Observations
1. Possible impacts, if any, on existing wild fisheries in the area, with an emphasis on the possible implications for the SFPA in conducting official controls and possible non-compliance issues that could arise. This project comprises of site feasibility studies/investigations to extend the pier in Bellview. Coring and drilling onsite to the extent of Drilling ca. ten (10No.) boreholes ca. 200mm in diameter, drilling ca. ten (10No.) coreholes ca. 200m in diameter; and associated sampling and testing. There is expected to be a local noise impact over the course of 3 week period when project does commence, however, the SFPA advises this project avoid commencement between (Nov-Jan) which is a crucial period for spawning stocks of commercially important species that come in the estuary to spawn. Schools of spawning stocks of Sprat, Herring, Cod and Turbot typically move up and down the estuary on tidal patterns during this time. Planktonic eggs remain in the estuary thereafter for a period of their larval development before moving out to sea. The project should avoid this time frame to reduce the likelihood of impact of noise disruption preventing these stocks from fully utilizing this habitat with an associated negative impact on stock recruitment. Therefore, I advise that THIS PROJECT COMMENCE AFTER 31/1/2026
2. Possible impacts, if any, on adjacent or nearby shellfish production areas adjacent, including possible implications for the SFPA in conducting official controls and possible non-compliance issues that could arise. The potential associated impacts may have a negligible effect on adjacent shellfish production areas.



3. *Possible impacts, if any, on seafood safety, with an emphasis on the implications for the SFPA in conducting official controls and possible non-compliance issues that could arise.*

It is not considered that this project will have any impact on seafood safety in the local environment.

Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority

Dunmore East

Date:

5/11/25