



# SFPA Observations on Marine Usage Licence Applications

<b>Applicant Name &amp; Area:</b> Allod Energy Ltd	<b>Application No:</b> MUL 240005
<b>Application Category</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish Aquaculture Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal of Shellfish Aquaculture Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Fin Fish Aquaculture Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal of Fin Fish Aquaculture Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Foreshore Licence	<input type="checkbox"/> Dumping at Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Water discharge <input type="checkbox"/> Harbour Developments <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Renewables <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cables/ Fiber Optics/ Site investigations

<b>Sea Fisheries Protection Officer Observations</b>
<p>1. <i>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.</i></p> <p>Marine Usage Licence, MUL, application MMUL240005 by Allod Energy Ltd is for a geophysical site investigation of the seabed located in an area some 65km South of Seven Heads to assess the extent and internal character of halite rock beneath the seabed for potential subsea hydrogen storage.</p> <p>The maritime licence area covers 1481 km<sup>2</sup> and is approximately 39km x 39km with depths ranging from 70m – 120m.</p> <p>The proposed survey will involve a towed 15m x 15m array of 25 small airguns. The sound returning from the seafloor will be recorded by a series of hydrophones encased in streamers which are towed behind the airgun array. These streamers are up to 8km in length.</p> <p>In addition to airguns, sub bottom profiling boomers, pingers and sparkers will be used to identify different strata encountered in the shallow sediments.</p> <p>Multibeam Echo sounders will be used for collecting of topographical data of the seabed.</p> <p>Allod Energy have applied for a 7-year MUL however, excluding operational downtime due to unforeseen circumstances, the survey duration is estimated to take 20 days.</p> <p>The Marine Usage Licence Area is an area extensively used by the fishing industry year-round for both crustacean and demersal fisheries.</p>

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It is believed by SFPA that such survey activities will negatively impact on existing fisheries as the identified means of conducting the Geophysical surveys could significantly disrupt the existing crustacean fisheries and commercially important fish species through exposure to underwater noise and from such benthic disturbances either through boomers and chirpers used for sub bottom profiling.

**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.**

Nil.

Marine Usage Licence, application MUL240005 by Allod Energy Ltd is for a geophysical site investigation of the seabed located in an area some 65km South of Seven Heads to assess the extent and internal character of halite rock beneath the seabed for potential subsea hydrogen storage

There are no Live Bivalve Mollusc production areas Classified in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 for the commercial harvesting of shellfish for human consumption adjacent or close by MUL area 240005

Consequentially, it is believed by SFPA, that Marine Usage Licence 240005 will not have an impact on shellfish growing areas, as no such shellfish growing areas are in existence within the MUL application Area

**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.**

Nil.

Marine Usage Licence, application MUL240005 by Allod Energy Ltd is for a geophysical site investigation of the seabed located in an area some 65km South of Seven Heads to assess the extent and internal character of halite rock beneath the seabed for potential subsea hydrogen storage.

There are no Live Bivalve Mollusc production areas Classified in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/627 for the commercial harvesting of shellfish for human consumption adjacent or close by MUL area 240005.

Consequentially, it is believed by SFPA, that MUL application 240005 and its associated geophysical survey works will not have an impact on seafood safety.

**Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority**

**Clonakilty Port**

**Date:**

29 Jan 2026