

Maritime Usage Licence – “Minded To” Determine Case Worker Report	
To	John Evans, MUL Director
From	Paula O’Toole, Licensing Caseworker
Reviewed by	Joanne Staunton, Licensing Caseworker
Date	04/02/2026
Maritime Usage Licence Application:	
Applicant Name	Gas Networks Ireland
Applicant Address	Gasworks Road, Cork, Co. Cork, T12 RX96, Ireland
Application Received	28/07/2025
MUL Reference Number	MUL250010
Decision sought	Approval sought for issuance of notice to the Applicant in accordance with Section 119(6)(b) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021, to inform that: The Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) is minded to GRANT a Maritime Usage Licence in respect of their application and the reasons why MARA is so minded.
Description of works	To conduct marine Site Investigations (SI) and environmental surveys. The objective of the activities/works is to provide high quality baseline data that can contribute to a reliable basis for site selection and any subsequent design, Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Appropriate Assessment for the Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve Project, should a site be taken forward to the planning/consenting stage.
Term of Licence	5 Years from the MUL Commencement Date
Schedule 7 activity	7(3) Marine environmental survey (site investigation)
Documents submitted with application	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maritime Usage Map & GIS Shape files <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Maps & Drawings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Assessment Screening Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species Report <input type="checkbox"/> Compliance with Objectives of National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF) <input type="checkbox"/> Compliance with Objectives of Water Framework Directive (WFD) <input type="checkbox"/> Compliance with Objectives of Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natura Impact Statement (NIS) Report <input type="checkbox"/> Other: AIMU, SISAA
Section 117(3) notice issued: Request for Additional Information -RAI	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not required

Assessment, Research & Data (ARD) Assessment:	
Screening for EIA: Section 117(5)(a)	<input type="checkbox"/> Screening for EIA: NOT REQUIRED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screening for EIA: REQUIRED Date of Report: 07/10/2025 Signed by Dr. Ciar O Toole on 30/09/2025 Approved by John Evans on 07/10/2025
Screening for Appropriate Assessment: Regulation 42 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Screened IN <input type="checkbox"/> Screened OUT Date of AA Screening Report & Determination: 28/10/2025 Signed by Dr. Ciar O Toole on 28/10/2025 Approved by John Evans on 28/10/2025
If SCREENED IN: Was NIS/updated NIS requested in accordance with Section 117(6)(a)?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: New NIS requested <input type="checkbox"/> YES: Updated NIS requested <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO: Not Required
AA Screening Report and Determination published on MARA website:	Date: 28/10/2025
Public Consultation – relevant where SCREENED IN	
Date of public consultation: Section 117(6)(b)	Date starts: 12/11/2025 Date ends: 15/12/2025
Local Newspaper Name	The Clare Champion, The Limerick Leader
Local Newspaper Publication Date	14/11/2025 & 15/11/2025 respectively
National Newspaper Name	The Irish Times
National Newspaper Publication Date	12/11/2025
Date public consultation published on MARA website	12/11/2025
Submissions from public received?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: Number received 2 <input type="checkbox"/> NO

Referral to Public Bodies:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Parks and Wildlife Service <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marine Institute <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bord Iascaigh Mhara <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sea Fisheries Protection Authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Inland Fisheries Ireland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Protection Agency <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner for Irish Lights <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Transport - Marine Survey Office <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National Monuments Service and Dept. of Housing, Local Government & Heritage <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geological Survey of Ireland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety Authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Climate, Energy & the Environment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Local Authority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Port Company <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	
Date of Referral to Public Bodies	14/10/2025
Observations from Public Bodies received?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: Number received 9 <input type="checkbox"/> NO
Appropriate Assessment Determination (relevant where SCREENED IN)	
AA Report & Determination	Date of final report: 04/02/2026 Signed by Micheal Mac Monagail on 04/02/2026 Approved by John Evans on 04/02/2026
ARD MUL Assessment Report:	
Final ARD MUL Assessment Report <i>includes environmental & engineering reports</i>	Date of final report: 04/02/2026 Signed by Micheal Mac Monagail on 06/02/2026
Public Submissions taken into account in Final ARD MUL Assessment Report:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A
Public Bodies Responses taken into account in Final ARD MUL Assessment Report:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Minded to Determination of Licence Application:	
Case Worker Recommendation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GRANT <input type="checkbox"/> PART GRANT <input type="checkbox"/> REFUSE
Period Specified to Applicant for submission of supplementary material in relation to the reasons for conditions: Section 119(6)(b)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 21 days <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

Signed by (Caseworker) **Joanne Staunton**

Date **05/02/2026**

Annex 1 – List of Accompanying Documents:	
Screening for AA Report & Determination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Appropriate Assessment Report and Determination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ARD MUL Assessment Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed Licence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed Minded to Notice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>