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Antwerpen,
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By email only: mmorenoda@gmail.com

24/04/2026

Request for Additional Information: Section 117(3) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021

Maritime Usage Licence Application Reference: MUL230036

Dear Applicant,

I refer to the above referenced maritime usage licence application received by the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA).

MARA considers that it requires additional information as set out below in order to determine the licence application.

- 1) The “*Map observation*” document and GIS shapefile submitted with the application detail the location of the proposed maritime usage. Upon review of same, it is noted that this does not correspond with the location of the *SS Ohio* as recorded on the Wreck Inventory of Ireland Database and as mapped on the National Monuments Service Wreck Viewer¹.

Provide confirmation, including complete details of any investigations, specific visual proof, documents and historical records, which support the conclusion that the target wreck corresponds to the *SS Ohio*.

¹ [National Monuments Service: Wreck Viewer](#)

address:

Antúdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuirí / Maritime Area Regulatory Authority
2^ú hUrlár, Teach Menapia, Páirc Ghnó Dhraighní Draighneach Loch
Garman, Y35RF29.
2nd Floor, Menapia House, Drinagh Business Park, Drinagh, Wexford,
Y35RF29.

email:

licence@mara.gov.ie

website:

www.maritimeregulator.ie

- 2) With reference to *Heritage Assets Policy 1* of the *National Marine Planning Framework*, clarify if the proposed maritime usage will involve any harm to the wreck of the *SS Ohio*. If any harm is anticipated, provide details of measures to avoid, minimise, or mitigate against any such harm. These details can be provided within the response to the request detailed in Point 5(a) below.
- 3) Provide a revised *Supporting Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment Screening (SISAA) Report* to provide sufficient detailed information for MARA to undertake screening to determine if an Appropriate Assessment is required for the proposed maritime usage either alone, or in combination with other plans or projects, for any relevant European site, in view of the site's conservation objectives. Please note:
 - a. The SISAA must be prepared in line with current Irish and EU guidance.
 - b. The SISAA must be prepared by a suitably qualified person, and a summary of the person's qualifications and experience must be included in the report.
- 4) MARA acknowledges the submission by the applicant of an updated Annex IV Risk Assessment Report on 23/04/2026. MARA's [Guidance Note for Applicants applying for a Maritime Usage Licence \(MUL\)](#) states: "*The Annex IV Risk Assessment Report must be prepared by a suitably qualified person, and a summary of the person's qualifications and experience must be included in the report.*" Please provide these details as they have not been included in the Annex IV Risk Assessment Report as submitted.
- 5) With reference to Section 121 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 and as detailed in MARA's [Guidance Note for Applicants applying for a Maritime Usage Licence \(MUL\)](#), submit statements providing detailed consideration and reasoned

conclusions in relation to the consistency of the proposed maritime usage with the following:

- a. The National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF)
- b. The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC
- c. The Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC
- d. The EIA Directive (2014/52/EU) (having regard to Schedules 5 and 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001)
- e. The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act, 2021
- f. The National Climate Objective, as defined in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Act of 2015, as amended
- g. The 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 – 2030
- h. Provide any additional relevant information with regard to the overall purpose of the proposed maritime usage, with reference to, e.g. National or European strategic or policy objectives and national targets, and strategic research objectives.

The additional information above is required to allow MARA to assess the proposed maritime usage under the requirements of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021, as amended.

Where the requested additional information is not provided and within the time period specified below, MARA may proceed to make a determination in the absence of the requested additional information in accordance with Section 119(1) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021.

Please refer to MARA's [Guidance Note for Applicants applying for a Maritime Usage Licence \(MUL\)](#) when providing the information requested.

The requested information should be submitted to MARA within **6 weeks** of the date of this notice, i.e by **05/06/2026**, in order for MARA to assess the licence application.

Please direct any queries to licence@mara.gov.ie.

Yours faithfully,

Paula O'Toole
Maritime Usage Licensing Team
MARA