

Paula O'Toole (MARA)
Maritime Area Regulatory Authority,
2nd Floor, Menapia House,
Drinagh Business Park,
Drinagh,
Wexford,
Y35RF29

6th February 2026
By Email

Re: Response to Request for Additional Information: Helvick Head Offshore Wind Designated Activity Company Maritime Usage Licence Application
Reference: MUL250019

A Chara,

Following on from your email (dated January 30th, 2026) please find enclosed our response in relation to the following-

In order to enable MARA to undertake a complete assessment of the proposed activities ('marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation or in support of an application under Part XXI of the Act of 2000') details are required of the 'Fish and Shellfish Surveys' referred to in Section 2.4.4 of the Schedule of Works.

Fish and Shellfish Surveys (Section 2.4.4)- Fish and Shellfish Surveys, if required, will be limited to water samples (e.g. using a 5L collection bottle or comparable), taken during the benthic survey which will be analysed for environmental DNA (eDNA). The eDNA results will detect and identify species presence by analysing genetic material shed into the environment. These will confirm species presence (positive) or lack of detection (negative). This will provide information regarding fish species and families that are or have been present within a short time of the water samples being taken.

Furthermore, outputs from the benthic grab sampling surveys will be used where appropriate to inform spawning habitat suitability assessments for demersal spawning fish.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'ED', written over a horizontal line.

Emma Delaney
Environmental Consenting Project Manager
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