Leeanne Doyle (MARA)

From: [redacted]
Sent:
To: MARA Licence
Subject: Personal Objection to Licence Application MUL260006 – Liscannor Bay Site Investigations

Categories: Filed to eDocs

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Dear Sir or Madam,

As a resident of Kilshanny who regularly visits and cherishes Liscannor Bay, I am writing to submit my strong objection to the granting of survey licence MUL260006. While I agree that Lahinch and Ennistymon desperately need a modern wastewater solution, this specific proposal and survey plan pose unacceptable risks to our environment, safety, and local culture.

Liscannor Bay is a vital part of my daily life. I am a dedicated surfer who regularly surfs the wave at Cregg, a frequent beach-goer, and a nature lover. My objections to the proposed marine surveys are focused on the following critical points:

- **Impact on Surfing and Public Beach Access:** The proposed works—which include up to 20 boreholes, a heavy jack-up platform, and 4-meter-deep trial pits dug by excavators right on Cregg Beach—will directly disrupt the local surfing and beach-going community. The application fails to outline any plan for public access or safety. Closing off the shore or restricting access to the wave at Cregg without community agreement is completely unacceptable.
- **Unresolved Water Quality & Health Risks:** Clare County Council has already made it clear that the existing Lahinch plant floods so often it cannot provide adequate treatment. However, they also warned that "secondary treatment" will not guarantee the protection of water quality or human health. As someone who is in the water constantly, I am deeply concerned that MARA's public file shows no adequate answers to these health risks.
- **Inadequate Protection of Local Wildlife:** The Natura Impact Statement falls completely short of protecting our marine life. It ignores 2025 seal survey records and schedules invasive acoustic sound surveys during the grey seal breeding and moulting season. Furthermore, the single-sentence dismissal of the protected narrow-mouthed whorl snail at Lahinch is unscientific, and the surveys threaten the fragile honeycomb worm (*Sabellaria alveolata*) reef discovered by locals at Cregg—a habitat protected under Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive.
- **Threat to Archaeological Heritage:** The applicant's own records acknowledge two Bronze Age ring barrows just 140 meters east of the Cregg survey site. Heavy machinery and deep excavation work so close to these ancient structures risk causing irreversible damage to our local heritage.

We need the right plant, built to the highest possible standard, in a location justified by robust scientific evidence.

I ask MARA to refuse licence MUL260006 and to ensure that any future determination transparently addresses how the voices of local water users, residents, and the County Council are being taken into account. Our bay, our health, and our natural environment must be put first.

Yours faithfully,

