



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

South Coast DMAP Compliance Details

DCEE Marine Usage Licence
Application

2026

Prepared by the Department of
Climate, Energy and the Environment
gov.ie

Key Objectives of the SC-DMAP:

- **Renewable Energy Delivery:** Enable significant offshore wind capacity (5 GW by 2030) to meet national climate targets.

The site investigations surveys carried out will not deliver renewable energy capacity in themselves, but the provision of quality datasets is key to supporting the state's plan-led approach and informing associated auctions. The best available data is necessary to inform decision making, reduce risk and contribute to securing lower prices at the ORESS auction process, contributing to more stable energy prices for consumers in the long-term. The SI works are consistent with this objective because they create the technical and environmental evidence base needed to realise renewable energy delivery. The biological surveys will contribute to the planning process and aim to accelerate timelines and meet our renewables targets more quickly.

- **Plan-Led Development:** Create a coordinated, designated framework for offshore wind development in specific maritime areas.

The proposed survey works are located within and immediately adjacent to the three sites in the South Coast DMAP designated for fixed offshore wind development. By confining activities to this defined boundary, the project is fully consistent with this objective ensuring development can later proceed within designated maritime areas in a co-ordinated, plan-led manner. The development of ORE in Ireland is being delivered through a cross – governmental approach that ensures coordinated planning and sustainable use of the marine space.

- **Environmental Protection:** Balance ORE with marine biodiversity, habitats (like Natura 2000 sites), and water quality using an ecosystem-based approach.
- **Co-existence:** Facilitate harmony with existing marine activities, especially fishing, by minimizing impacts, ensuring ongoing engagement (Fisheries Liaison Officers), and creating mitigation strategies (Fisheries Management & Mitigation Strategy).

The SI works are temporary, localised, and designed to minimise interference with other maritime activities. Survey operations will be managed to reduce

disruption, and mitigation such as advance notification to mariners and engagement with local stakeholders through a Fisheries Liaison Officer will ensure activities are communicated clearly and carried out without harm. By being limited in scope and duration, the SI works support this objective by enabling co-existence with navigation, fisheries, and other marine users.

- **Economic Growth:** Support jobs, local businesses, and the maritime economy through sustainable development.

The SC-DMAP emphasises socio-economic benefits for coastal communities and regional supply chains. At this early stage, the SI works will contribute to local economies using service providers such as survey operators. This ensures consistency with this objective.

- **Spatial Certainty:** Provide clear guidance for developers, regulators, and stakeholders on where development can occur.

As this application concerns SI works rather than an ORE development, the specific requirement on application sequencing is not applicable. However, the proposed SI works are consistent with the principle ensuring high level data informs any subsequent application