

Attachment 3.1

Consistency with National Marine Planning Framework

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1 Introduction

This attachment sets out how the proposed material amendment is consistent with the objectives and policies of the National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF), in response to Question 3.1 of the Material Amendment Application Form.

The NMPF is Ireland's overarching marine spatial plan. It brings together all marine-based human activities for the first time and sets out the Government's vision, objectives, and planning policies for the sustainable use of the maritime area. The NMPF does not replace or remove existing regulatory regimes or legislative requirements governing marine activities; rather, it provides the overarching framework within which they continue to operate.

In MARA's Report on MUL240036 dated 09/07/2026, MARA notes that the proposal to undertake marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation [in the SC-DMAP] is consistent with the policies of the NMPF, and that the proposed activities will contribute to NMPF policy in all three groupings of overarching marine planning policies: Environmental, Economic and Social.

2 Consistency with NMPF

EirGrid previously carried out an assessment of consistency with the NMPF in Section 4.3.2.1 of the [Assessment of Impacts on the Maritime Usage \(AIMU\)](#) Report, which was submitted to MARA as part of the application for MUL240036.

In relation to the amendment of Condition 32, there is no change to the previous assessment of consistency against the relevant policies and objectives of the NMPF. Condition 32 is overly restrictive and does not reflect current best available evidence. As such, if the proposed amendment is approved it will reduce the risk of delays to the carrying out of the surveys and assist with achieving the objectives in the NMPF, whilst aligning with best available evidence for mitigating in-combination effects.