Compliance with the Water Framework Directive (WFD)

The key objectives of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) are set out in Article 4 of the Directive. It requires Member States to use their River Basin Management Plans and Programmes of Measures to protect and, where necessary, restore water bodies in order to reach good status, and to prevent deterioration. Thereby ensuring good qualitative and quantitative health, *i.e*. on reducing and removing pollution and ensuring that there is enough water to support wildlife at the same time as human needs.

This proposed project is supported by Support Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment (SISAA) and Supporting Information for Screening for EIA (SISEIA). The SISAA did not identify any adverse effects on water quality within the receiving environment.

The SISEIA also assessed the implications of the project on the potential for effects on water quality within the receiving environment. It concluded that, based on the scale and scope of the proposed project no impact on the any receiving waterbody will occur.

Standard mitigation measures will be implemented during all SI activities, including the use of appropriate pollution prevention controls, adherence to best practice for marine sampling, and careful management of sediments during intrusive works. These measures will ensure that there is no deterioration in water body status, in compliance with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive.

Furthermore, the SI works are being undertaken to inform the design and development of coastal erosion and flood protection measures at Rosslare Strand. In the long term, these measures are expected to contribute positively to the resilience of the coastal environment, helping to manage erosion processes and reduce flood risk, thereby supporting the protection of coastal water bodies.

Overall, the proposed project is compliant with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive, as it will not result in deterioration of water body status and will support sustainable coastal management in the study area.