Section 117(5)(a) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021

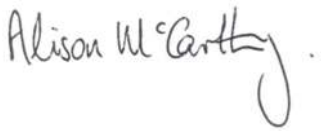
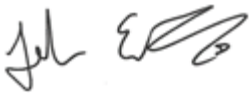
Screening of Maritime Usage Licence application, in accordance with Section 117(5)(a), to determine whether Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required, having regard to Schedules 5 and 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended.

Maritime Usage Licence Application Number:	MUL260051
Application received:	20/07/2026
Name of Applicant:	Oriel Windfarm Limited
Type of Proposed Maritime Usage with reference to Schedule 7 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021:	3. Marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation or in support of an application under Part XXI of the Act of 2000.
Brief Description of Proposed Maritime Usage:	Marine site investigations (geophysical, geotechnical, environmental and metocean) in the proposed offshore Oriel Windfarm area and cable corridor to investigate the stability of the seabed sediments to inform the detailed design of foundations, wind turbines and the offshore substation and the detailed routeing of cables.

Part A - Consideration of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended

Question 1: Is the proposed maritime usage a project of a type listed in Schedule 5 Part 1, of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended?	
☐ **Yes**	EIA is required. Application should be returned to applicant in accordance with Section 117(5)(b) of Maritime Area Planning Act 2021.
☒ **No**	proceed to Question 2.
Question 2: Is the proposed maritime usage a project of a type listed in Schedule 5 Part 2, of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended and does it meet/exceed the referenced thresholds?	
☐ **Yes**	EIA is required. Application should be returned to applicant in accordance with Section 117(5)(b) of Maritime Area Planning Act 2021.
☐ **No**	Usage is listed in Schedule 5 Part 2 but is sub-threshold. Proceed to Part B.
☒ **No**	Usage is not listed in Schedule 5 Part 2. No requirement to proceed to Part B. Proceed to EIA Screening Conclusion.

EIA Screening Conclusion

It is concluded that, having had regard to Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, in the context of the above referenced maritime usage licence application, that the proposed maritime usage does not fall within any of the project categories listed in Schedule 5 and therefore does not require an EIA or further EIA Screening consideration under Schedule 7.	
Signature of Recommending Marine Advisor:  Dr. Alison McCarthy	Date: 17/11/2026
Signature of Decision Maker:  John Evans, Director of Maritime Usage Licensing	Date: 23/11/2026

Part B Consideration of Schedule 7 to the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, as amended.

Characteristics, location and the types & characteristics of the potential impacts of the proposed maritime usage comprising a project:

not applicable