

MARA

An tÚdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuirí
Maritime Area Regulatory Authority

Maritime Usage Licence (MUL)

General Application (Form MUL1)





Important information:

Applicants are strongly advised to read the "[Guidance Note for Applicants applying for a Maritime Usage Licence](#)" before completing this application.

The application form and supporting documentation, including confirmation of payment of fee, must be submitted to licence@mara.gov.ie.

Complete this form electronically using the free text and tick boxes provided, free text boxes will expand as required. Responses should, in so far as is possible, clearly and concisely address the information requested. Where appropriate, supporting documentation may be submitted for assessment, providing that any information relevant to the application is clearly referenced in the application form.

Before completing this form, the declaration and consent at the end of the application form should be read.

Application Fee:

An application fee of EUR €2,000 applies for each Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) application.

This requirement is detailed in legislation:

Section 117(1) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 and Maritime Area Usage (Licence Fees) Regulations 2023, SI No 402/2003.

The application fee must be paid by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA). MARA Bank Details are provided upon request by email to licence@mara.gov.ie

Proof of application fee payment /confirmation of funds transfer must be provided with the application documentation.

Should the Maritime Usage Licensing application screen out for Appropriate Assessment, a refund of EUR €1,000 applies.

Privacy Policy

MARA may require applicants to provide certain personal data in order to carry out its legislative and administrative functions. MARA will treat all personal data that an applicant provides in accordance with MARA's obligations under data protection legislation, including the Data Protection Act 2018 and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). A Privacy Statement explaining how MARA, as the Data Controller, will process the personal data the applicant provides, how that information will be used and what rights the applicant may exercise in relation to its personal data, is available in this link: [Privacy Policy - MARA - The Maritime Regulator](#).

Freedom of InformationNot applicableaccess to Information on the Environment

MARA is a public body for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, as amended (the "FOI Act") and is also subject to the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007-2018 (the "AIE Regulations") and MARA may be required to disclose information and records provided by the applicant in response to a request made under the FOI Act and/or the AIE Regulations, subject to applicable exemptions. Where the applicant considers that any information supplied to MARA is commercially sensitive, confidential or otherwise exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act or the AIE Regulations, the applicant must clearly identify such information at the time. Notwithstanding this, the final decision on disclosure rests with MARA, in accordance with the applicable legislation. The applicant must, upon reasonable request and within a reasonable timeframe, provide all necessary assistance and cooperation to MARA in connection with any request for information made under the FOI Act and/or AIE Regulations.

Confidential/Commercially Sensitive Information

Applicants are asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in their application to MARA is commercially sensitive and/or confidential. The applicant should clearly identify and separate the specific sections of their application containing such information. The applicant should specify the reasons for its confidentiality/sensitivity with regard to the FOI Act and/or AIE Regulations.



Form MUL1 – Application for a Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) for an activity listed in Schedule 7 of the MAP Act

Part 1 Activity in Schedule 7 and relevant section of the MAP Act

1.1 Part 1 Activity in Schedule 7, for which this MUL application is made.

Tick Maritime Usage applicable to the purpose of the MUL. The Applicant should refer to the MUL Guidance Note for Applicants before completing this section.	
1. Dredging (including dredging involving the use of a device to remove any material, whether or not suspended in water, from one part of the seabed to another part of the seabed) other than— (a) dredging carried out to create a new harbour, berth or waterway, or to deepen existing facilities in order to allow access for larger ships, or (b) dredging ancillary to development authorised under the Act of 2000, whether or not it involves the removal of any material from the sea or seabed.	☐
2. Marine environmental surveys for the purposes of scientific discovery or research.	☐
3. Marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation or in support of an application under Part XXI of the Act of 2000.	☒
4. The installation or placement of navigational markers or aids to navigation, or both, not undertaken or authorised by the Commissioners of Irish Lights.	☐
5. The installation of non-permanent platforms, pontoons or slipways.	☒
6. The deposit of any substance or object, either in the sea or on or under the seabed, from— (a) a vehicle, vessel (including a craft capable of travelling on, in or under water, whether or not self-propelled), boat, aircraft or marine structure (other than a pipeline), (b) a container floating in the sea, or (c) a structure on land constructed or adapted wholly or mainly for the purpose of depositing solids in the sea.	☒
7. The use of a vehicle, vessel (including a craft capable of travelling on, in or under water, whether or not self-propelled), boat, aircraft, marine structure (other than a pipeline) or floating container to remove any substance or object from the seabed.	☒
8. The use of explosives not related to development authorised under the Act of 2000 and not requiring authorisation under any other enactment.	☐
9. The maintenance of any cable, pipeline, oil, gas or carbon storage facility structure that does not require an authorisation (whether the authorisation takes the form of the grant of a licence, consent, approval or any other type of authorisation) under any other enactment in order to be undertaken.	☐
10. The harvesting, disturbance or removal of seaweed, whether growing or rooted on the seabed, or deposited in or washed up thereon by the action of any one or more than one of the following: (a) tides; (b) winds; (c) waves.	☐
11. The deposit, construction or removal of any mooring not requiring authorisation under any other enactment.	☐
12. (a) The removal of beach material from, or the disturbance of beach material in, the maritime area otherwise than in the course of the ordinary or reasonable recreational enjoyment of the maritime area. 12 (b) In this paragraph, "beach material" means sand, clay, gravel, shingle, stones, rocks, mineral substances, seashells, coral and maerl and any flora, in or on the surface of the seabed or suspended in the water of the maritime area, and includes outcrops of rock or any other mineral substance above the surface of the seabed.	☒
13. The laying or installation of telecommunications cables or ducting by or between coastal States where such cables or ducting pass through the exclusive economic zone (as construed in accordance with the Act of 2021) or the continental shelf but do not land in the State.	☐
14. A maritime usage specified, for the purposes of this paragraph, in regulations made under section 113(2)."	☐



Select activity type from the list below:

Dredging/Deposits	☐
Energy Infrastructure	☐
ORE Development	☐
Ports	☐
Research	☐
Seaweed	☐
State Infrastructure (Water/Sewage)	☐
State Infrastructure (Other)	☒
Telecoms	☐
Tourism & Recreation	☐

- 1.2 Select the relevant section(s) of the MAP Act under which this MUL application is made. If more than one section applies, then select all applicable sections.

Section 117 application for a new Schedule 7 usage	☒
Section 129 application to amend an existing foreshore authorisation or continue to occupy that part of the maritime area after the expiration of the authorisation	☐
Section 130 application for an existing unauthorised maritime usage	☐

- 1.3 Provide below details when MUL application is made under Section 129 of the MAP Act.

- A. Confirm that you are transitioning from an existing foreshore authorisation to a MUL to continue the previously consented maritime usage, or to amend an existing authorisation.

Yes ☐ No ☒

- B. If yes, provide the following details.

- i. Foreshore authorisation reference number.

NOT APPLICABLE

- ii. Date of Issue.

NOT APPLICABLE

- iii. Expiration date.



NOT APPLICABLE

- iv. Description of Authorised Usage.

NOT APPLICABLE

- v. Reason for transition from foreshore authorisation to MUL.

NOT APPLICABLE

- vi. Confirm that you have attached a copy of the existing foreshore authorisation including foreshore consent map in this MUL application as Attachment 1.3. **NOT APPLICABLE**

Yes ☐ No ☒

1.4 Provide below details when MUL application is made under Section 130 of the MAP Act.

- A. Confirm that you are applying for a MUL for an existing unauthorised maritime usage.

Yes ☐ No ☒

- B. If yes, provide the following details.

- i. Description of existing unauthorised maritime usage.

NOT APPLICABLE

- ii. Location of unauthorised maritime usage.

NOT APPLICABLE

- iii. Date of commencement of unauthorised maritime usage.



NOT APPLICABLE

Part 2 Applicant Details

2.1 Applicant Details

The name and address should be of the legal or natural person that is to be the MUL Holder. This information would be recorded on the MUL.	
Name of Applicant	National Roads Authority (operating as Transport Infrastructure Ireland)
Company/Organisation (if Applicable)	National Roads Authority (operating as Transport Infrastructure Ireland)
Applicant Address: Where a legal person would be the Holder of the MUL, these details must be as currently listed in the Companies Registration Office. Where a non-profit entity, which is a registered charity, would be the Holder of the MUL, these details must be as currently listed in the Register of Charitable Organisations.	
Address line 1	Parkgate Business Centre
Address line 2	Parkgate Street
Address line 3	
City/Town	Dublin 8
Eircode	D08 DK10
Applicant Email Address	Info@metrolink.ie cc ruth.treacy@tii.ie , yvonne.dalton@tii.ie and John.O'Connor@tii.ie
If the Applicant is a legal person, Company Registration Office Number. A copy of the Certificate of Incorporation (certified copy provided by CRO) and a list of Directors must be provided as Attachment 2.1.	NOT APPLICABLE
If the Applicant is a non-profit entity, which is a registered charity, the Registered Charity Number	NOT APPLICABLE

Attachment 2.1 included (if required).

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

2.2 Authorised Contact Person for MUL Application.

The Authorised Contact Person for the MUL Application will be the person that MARA will contact in relation to any aspect of the MUL application. The Authorised Contact Person can be a person within the Applicant Organisation or a person (agent) nominated by the Applicant



Authorised Contact Name	Ruth Treacy
Authorised Contact Position	Head of Environment (MetroLink)
Email	ruth.treacy@tii.ie
Telephone	+ 353 45 810 200

- 2.3 If MARA provided a statutory declaration under Section 115 of the MAP Act as to whether or not a MUL was required for the proposed usage, provide the reference number associated with that declaration.

NOT APPLICABLE

2.4 Existing Foreshore Authorisation

- A. Provide the reference number and title of any existing Foreshore Authorisations you may hold, or have a current application for, within, or otherwise in the vicinity of the proposed Maritime Usage, which you do not wish to transition (refer to 1.3 for Foreshore Authorisations you wish to transition).

NOT APPLICABLE

- B. Do you intend to surrender any existing foreshore consent(s) (Lease/Licence) for any maritime usage other than that granted by the foreshore authorisation?

Yes ☐ No ☒

- C. If yes, provide description of the existing foreshore consent(s) authorised usage. If necessary, provide additional information as Attachment 2.4.

NOT APPLICABLE

- D. Attachment 2.4 included.

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

2.5 Other authorisations or consents

- A. Provide the reference number, a brief description and the status (e.g. application made or authorisation/consent granted) of any other authorisations or consents in the footprint, or otherwise in the



vicinity of the proposed Maritime Usage area, held by the applicant.

If necessary, provide additional information as Attachment 2.5.

An Coimisiún Pleanála (previously An Bord Pleanála) has granted approval for the Railway Order ("RO") for the MetroLink project pursuant to Section 43 (2) (a) of the Transport (Railway Infrastructure) Act 2001. The RO authorises Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to carry out railway works and all works necessary to enable the construction, operation, maintenance and improvement of the metro, including the construction of a fully segregated and automated metro, mostly underground, from Estuary through Swords, Dublin Airport, Ballymun, Glasnevin and City Centre to Charlemont. Details for the wider Metrolink Project are available on the dedicated project website: <https://www.metrolink.ie/> and details of the Railway Order are available on the dedicated Railway Order website: <https://www.metrolinkro.ie/>

This MUL Application is for site investigation works that are required to collect geotechnical data from the subsurface of the bed of the River Liffey to inform the detailed design of the section of the MetroLink Project alignment located under the River Liffey.

Specific stakeholder engagement commitments with various bodies (including National Parks & Wildlife Service and Inland Fisheries Ireland) are set out under the terms of the RO and will be implemented, where relevant.

Communication with the National Monuments Service will be undertaken by and through the MetroLink Project Archaeologists. Metrolink has agreed a Code of Practice for Archaeology (2017) with the Minister of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. The MetroLink Archaeologist and Conservation Architect will comply with the Code of Practice and will liaise with the TII Project Archaeologist in relation to all archaeological requirements.

A Dive licence (section 3(5)) supplemented by an Excavation licence (section 26) for archaeological monitoring of the geotechnical works will be sought from the National Monuments Services in compliance with the RO commitments.

Note that the permission required for any road closures on the quay will be sought from Dublin City Council prior to works. The Metrolink Project Team are engaged in ongoing consultation with Dublin City Council in relation to the proposed geotechnical investigation which is the subject of this MUL Application.

B. Attachment 2.5 included.

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐



Part 3 Details of Maritime Usage

3.1 Maritime Usage

- A. Provide a brief description of proposed Maritime Usage.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 3.1.

The Proposed Project comprises a geotechnical site investigation of the subsurface within the River Liffey between the Rosie Hackett Bridge and Butt Bridge. The geotechnical site investigation will consist of drilling three (3 No.) boreholes and associated sampling and testing. Full recovery of the boreholes is proposed. It is proposed that boreholes will be drilled to depths of between approximately 25 m and 30 m below the riverbed.

A figure showing the indicative locations of the boreholes is presented in Attachment 3.1.

The investigation will be carried out from a floating jack-up barge positioned within the river channel. All equipment that will be used for the drilling work will be placed on a barge. All drilling works will be through the river into underlying sediment and rock.

River access will be via the section of Burgh Quay located between the Rosie Hackett Bridge and Butt Bridge. Burgh Quay is located on the south bank of the River Liffey and adjacent to regional roads R105/R138.

Further information is provided in Attachment 3.1

- B. Attachment 3.1 included.

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

3.2 Describe the purpose of the proposed Maritime Usage, with reference to the classes of usage in Schedule 7 of the MAP Act.

The overall purpose of the application is marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation (Schedule 7(3)).

The following other Schedule 7 usages are included as ancillary to the site investigation:

7(5) The installation of non-permanent platforms, pontoons or slipways.

7(6). The deposit of any substance or object, either in the sea or on or under the seabed, from—

7(6)(a) a vehicle, vessel (including a craft capable of travelling on, in or under water, whether or not self-propelled), boat, aircraft or marine structure (other than a pipeline),

7(6)(b) a container floating in the sea, or

7(6)(c) a structure on land constructed or adapted wholly or mainly for the purpose of depositing solids in the sea.

7(7) The use of a vehicle, vessel (including a craft capable of travelling on, in or under water, whether or not self-propelled), boat, aircraft, marine structure (other than a pipeline) or floating container to remove any substance or object from the seabed.

12 (a) The removal of beach material from, or the disturbance of beach material in, the maritime area otherwise than in the course of the ordinary or reasonable recreational enjoyment of the maritime area.



12 (b) In this paragraph, “beach material” means sand, clay, gravel, shingle, stones, rocks, mineral substances, seashells, coral and maerl and any flora, in or on the surface of the seabed or suspended in the water of the maritime area, and includes outcrops of rock or any other mineral substance above the surface of the seabed.

The nature, scale and location of the proposed site investigation is set out in the provided response to Section 3.1 of this form.

The purpose of the proposed site investigation is to inform the detailed design of the Dublin Metrolink Project (see the response provided to Section 3.7B of this form for further detail).

3.3 Duration

- A. Indicate the overall MUL duration requested. Indicate the duration of any individual activities included in the overall activity. Give reasons for the proposed durations. Indicate any seasonal, vessel or other schedule constraints.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 3.3.

The full programme of works for the site investigation (i.e. mobilisation, construction comprising drilling and core recovery activities, and demobilisation) is predicted to take approximately 10 to 21 days, subject to favourable weather and site conditions. It is predicted that drilling works would be carried out in 7 days. Details for the indicative programme of works are provided in Attachment 3.1.

Potential constraints include any requirements from Dublin City Council (DCC) with regards to traffic management at Burgh Quay and any associated quay access constraints. It is anticipated that any such requirements will be a condition of a traffic management permit(s) to be sought from DCC under the appropriate process. The Dublin Metrolink Project team have commenced ongoing consultation with DCC regarding the proposed site investigation works.

Potential constraints include any requirements from National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) and Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) with regards to seasonal and/or schedule constraints associated with the timing of in-river works. Potential seasonal constraints include migratory fish such as Atlantic salmon, Sea trout, and Lamprey (juvenile fish on their seaward run and adult fish returning from the sea to spawn) that have to pass through the Liffey Estuary /Dublin Harbour to reach the sea or return to their spawning grounds. Dublin Metrolink Team will consult with National Parks & Wildlife Service, and Inland Fisheries Ireland, to ensure that the proposed works are implemented in an ecologically sound and sustainable way. The Dublin Metrolink Project team have notified National Parks & Wildlife Service and Inland Fisheries Ireland of the site investigation works proposed in this application, and that they form the basis of an application for a MUL submitted to MARA.

Potential constraints include any requirements from National Monuments Service (NMS) with regards to vessel constraints associated with mobilisation, micro-siting of the drilling location, and demobilisation. It is anticipated that any such requirements will be a condition of the Dive licence (section 3) sought from NMS under the appropriate process.

Specific stakeholder engagement commitments with various bodies (including NPWS and IFI) are set out under the terms of the RO and will be implemented, where relevant (see response to ‘Details of Other Authorisation(s)’ provided in section 2.5 of this form).

Communication with the National Monuments Service will be undertaken by and through the MetroLink Project Archaeologists. Metrolink has agreed a Code of Practice for Archaeology (2017) with the Minister



of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. The MetroLink Archaeologist and Conservation Architect will comply with the Code of Practice and will liaise with the TII Project Archaeologist in relation to all archaeological requirements.

Given that potential constraints above, the **Applicant is seeking a licence that is valid for the proposed site investigation to be carried out within a 2 year period from the date of issue of the licence to allow for weather and seasonality constraints, and potential third-party permission constraints.**

- B. Attachment 3.3 included.

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

3.4 Describe the area of proposed Maritime Usage

- A. State the total size of the Maritime Area (in m², ha or km², as appropriate), which is the subject of the application.

Approximately 7,543 m²

- B. Attach map, titled 'Proposed MUL Map' and GIS Shapefiles outlining the proposed Maritime Area(s). If the application relates to more than one area, each area should be labelled on the accompanying maps/drawings and its area provided. The map(s)/drawing(s) should be included as Attachment 3.4. List the attached map/drawing number(s) and map/drawing name(s) in the space below.

Map(s)/GIS Shapefiles must comply with 'MARA Technical Mapping Guidance Notes for MAC/MUL Applications in the Maritime Area under the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (MAPA)'.

Drawing number: Figure 1; Drawing name: Proposed MUL Map is provided in Attachment 3.4.

(GIS files provided in Attachment 3.4).

- C. Attachment 3.4 included.

Yes ☒ No ☐

3.5 Describe the location of proposed Maritime Usage

- A. Provide the distance in kilometres and direction of the main body of the proposed Maritime Usage area from the shore at its closest point.

The waterbody is 0 m from the shore (i.e. quay walls bounding the north and south sides of the River Liffey) at its closest point. The works are located at the section of the River Liffey located between Rosie Hackett Bridge and Butt Bridge.

- B. Attach map(s)/drawing(s) showing the location of the proposed Maritime Usage. The attached map/drawing number(s) and map/drawing name(s) should also be listed in the space below. The map(s)/drawing(s) should



be included as Attachment 3.5.

Map(s)/GIS Shapefiles must comply with 'MARA Technical Mapping Guidance Notes for MAC/MUL Applications in the Maritime Area under the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (MAPA)'.

Drawing number: Figure 2; Drawing name: Location of the Proposed Maritime Usage is provided in Attachment 3.5.

(GIS files have been provided in Attachment 3.4).

C. Attachment 3.5 included.

Yes ☒ No ☐

3.6 Ownership

A. Is any part of the Maritime Area within the proposed site in private ownership?

Yes ☐ No ☒

B. If yes, indicate on a drawing/map the area concerned in relation to the proposed maritime usage area and provide a letter confirming that the Applicant has obtained all necessary consents from the relevant owner(s).

C. Is the Applicant aware of any actual or claimed legal rights or interests held by third parties in the proposed site that may be affected by the proposed Maritime Activity?

Yes ☐ No ☒

D. If yes, indicate on a drawing/map the area concerned in relation to the proposed maritime usage area and provide a letter confirming that the Applicant has obtained all necessary consents from the relevant owner(s) of such legal rights or interests.

E. The letter(s) and drawing(s)/map(s) referred to in B and D above should be included as Attachment 3.6. List the attached letters, map/drawing number(s) and map/drawing name(s) in the space below.

Not applicable.

F. Attachment 3.6 included.

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

3.7 Planning permission and/or other authorisation(s)

A. Does the proposed Usage require planning permission and/or other authorisation(s), or is it ancillary to or part of a proposed development which requires planning permission and/or other authorisation(s)?

Yes ☒ No ☐



- B. If yes, what is the status of the planning and/or other authorisation(s)? If applicable, provide a brief description of the proposed development, to which the proposed Maritime Usage is ancillary.

Provide the file reference number(s) and link(s) to the websites where information on the planning and/or other authorisation application(s) and/or planning permission/ authorisation(s) can be obtained.

An Coimisiún Pleanála (previously An Bord Pleanála) has granted approval for the Railway Order ("RO") for the MetroLink project pursuant to Section 43 (2) (a) of the Transport (Railway Infrastructure) Act 2001. The RO authorises Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to carry out railway works and all works necessary to enable the construction, operation, maintenance and improvement of the metro, including the construction of a fully segregated and automated metro, mostly underground, from Estuary through Swords, Dublin Airport, Ballymun, Glasnevin and City Centre to Charlemont. Details for the wider MetroLink Project are available on the dedicated project website: <https://www.metrolink.ie/> and details of the Railway Order are available on the dedicated Railway Order website: <https://www.metrolinkro.ie/>

This MUL Application is for site investigation works that are required to collect geotechnical data from the subsurface of the bed of the River Liffey to inform the detailed design of the section of the MetroLink Project alignment located under the River Liffey.

Specific stakeholder engagement commitments with various bodies (including National Parks & Wildlife Service and Inland Fisheries Ireland) are set out under the terms of the RO and will be implemented, where relevant.

Communication with the National Monuments Service will be undertaken by and through the MetroLink Project Archaeologists. Metrolink has agreed a Code of Practice for Archaeology (2017) with the Minister of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs. The MetroLink Archaeologist and Conservation Architect will comply with the Code of Practice and will liaise with the TII Project Archaeologist in relation to all archaeological requirements.

A Dive licence (section 3(5)) supplemented by an Excavation licence (section 26) for archaeological monitoring of the geotechnical works will be sought from the National Monuments Services in compliance with the RO commitments.

Note that the permission required for any road closures on the quay will be sought from Dublin City Council prior to works. The Metrolink Project Team are engaged in ongoing consultation with Dublin City Council in relation to the proposed geotechnical investigation which is the subject of this MUL Application.



Part 4 Marine Planning and Environmental Considerations

National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF)

1.1 NMPF Objectives

- A. Describe how the proposed Maritime Usage is consistent with the objectives of the NMPF. Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the objectives of the NMPF. This information should be provided as Attachment 4.1.

- B. Attachment 4.1 included.

Yes ☒ No ☐

1.2 Designated Marine Area Plan

- A. Is the proposed Maritime Usage located in an area for which a Designated Marine Area Plan has been published?

Yes ☐ No ☒

- B. If yes, indicate if the proposed Usage is consistent with the Designated Marine Area Plan. Additional information can be provided as Attachment 4.2.

Not Applicable

- C. Attachment 4.2 included.

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Habitats and Birds Directives

1.3 Report for Appropriate Assessment Screening

- A. Is the proposed Maritime Usage directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site?

Yes ☐ No ☒

- B. If not, provide an Appropriate Assessment screening report to provide sufficient information for MARA to undertake screening to determine if an Appropriate Assessment is required of the implications of the proposed Maritime Usage alone, or in combination with other plans or projects, for any relevant European site, in view of the site's conservation objectives.



If the Applicant has already determined that it is likely that an Appropriate Assessment will be required and have prepared an NIS, it may be submitted.

The Appropriate Assessment screening report and/or NIS must be prepared by a suitably qualified person, and a summary of the person's qualifications and experience must be included in the report/NIS.

The Appropriate Assessment screening report and/or NIS should be provided as Attachment 4.3.

Attachment 4.3 included.

Yes ☒ No ☐

1.4 Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species

- A. Do species listed in Annex IV of the Habitats Directive occur in the zone of influence of the proposed Maritime Usage?

Yes ☒ No ☐

- B. If yes, the Applicant should provide an assessment of the risk posed to such species by the proposed Maritime Usage. The Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species report must be prepared by a suitably qualified person, and a summary of the person's qualifications and experience must be included in the report.

The Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species report should be provided as Attachment 4.4.

Attachment 4.4 included.

Yes ☒ No ☐

Water Framework Directive

- 1.5 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive. This information should be provided as Attachment 4.5.

Attachment 4.5 included.

Yes ☒ No ☐

Marine Strategy Framework Directive

- 1.6 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the objectives of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Ireland's Marine Strategy under the Directive. This information should be provided as Attachment 4.6.

Attachment 4.6 included.

Yes ☒ No ☐



Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive

1.7 EIA Screening

- A. With reference to Parts 1 and 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations, S.I. 600 of 2001, as amended confirm that the activity:

- i. Is not of a class listed, where no quantity, area or other limit is specified in that Part, or
- ii. Does not either equal or exceed, any relevant quantity, area or other limit specified for a class listed in that Part.

Yes – is not of a class/does not equal or exceed a threshold	☒
No – is of a class/equals or exceeds a threshold	☐

- B. If yes, confirm if the activity is of a class listed in Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations, S.I. 600 of 2001, as amended, but does not equal or exceed the relevant quantity.

Yes ☐	No ☒
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- C. If yes to '4.7 B', provide the information for EIA screening specified in Schedule 7A of the Planning and Development Regulations, S.I. 600 of 2001, as amended. The information specified in Schedule 7A should be provided as Attachment 4.7.

Attachment 4.7 included.

Yes ☐	No ☐	Not Applicable ☒
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UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act

- 1.8 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the Irish State's obligations under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 4.8.

The proposed geotechnical investigation comprises temporary works that will be carried out entirely within a section of transitional water in the River Liffey. The proposed marine usage is therefore not considered to be inconsistent with the Irish State's obligations under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act.
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Attachment 4.8 included.



Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

Climate Action and Low Carbon Act of 2015, as amended

- 1.9 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with achieving the National Climate Objective, as defined in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Act of 2015, as amended.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 4.9.

The proposed Maritime Usage comprises a temporary geotechnical investigation within the River Liffey involving the drilling of three boreholes and recovery of core samples. The works are of short duration (less than 21 days), are temporary in nature, and will not result in any permanent infrastructure or long-term operational greenhouse gas emissions.

The investigations are required to inform the design and delivery of MetroLink enabling works and will provide essential ground condition data to support safe, efficient and sustainable project development. The information obtained will facilitate optimisation of design, construction methodologies and material usage, thereby reducing construction risks, minimising resource consumption and avoiding unnecessary future works.

The proposed investigations will be undertaken using appropriate plant, vessels and equipment for the minimum duration necessary to complete the works. Given the limited scale and duration of the activities, any greenhouse gas emissions associated with the works will be temporary, localised and minor.

MetroLink forms part of Ireland's sustainable transport infrastructure and is intended to support a long-term shift towards lower-carbon public transport. The proposed geotechnical investigations are an essential preliminary element in the development of that infrastructure and will assist in the delivery of a project that supports national climate, transport and sustainability objectives.

Having regard to the temporary nature of the proposed works, their limited emissions profile, and their role in facilitating sustainable public transport infrastructure, the proposed Maritime Usage is considered consistent with the National Climate Objective under Section 3 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, as amended, namely the pursuit of a climate-resilient, biodiversity-rich, environmentally sustainable and climate-neutral economy by no later than 2050.

Attachment 4.9 included.

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 – 2030

- 1.10 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 – 2030.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 4.10.

The proposed marine usage is consistent with the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023–2030.



The proposed site investigation works incorporate embedded environmental safeguards and operational control measures aligned with national biodiversity objectives, including pollution prevention, sediment control, noise attenuation, and visual disturbance minimisation. These measures are detailed in the combined Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and Natura Impact Statement (see Attachment 4.3), which was prepared in accordance with Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive and relevant NPWS guidance.

While the Stage 1 Appropriate Assessment Screening concluded that likely significant effects were unlikely, the project team adopted a precautionary approach and proceeded to Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment (NIS) to ensure all reasonable scientific doubt was removed. The NIS confirms that, with operational control measures, the project will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site in view of its conservation objectives.

Attachment 4.10 included.

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

National or European Strategic or Policy Objectives

- 1.11 Provide any additional relevant information with regard to the overall purpose of the proposed maritime usage, with reference to, e.g. National or European strategic or policy objectives and national targets, and strategic research objectives.

Additional information can be included as Attachment 4.11.

The overall purpose of the proposed maritime usage is geotechnical site investigation required to collect data that will be used to inform the detail design of the Dublin Metrolink project.
The National Development Plan (NDP) 2021-2030 specifically lists MetroLink as one of its strategic investment priorities and it is fully aligned with the Climate Action Plan 2021 and other major strategic plans.

Attachment 4.11 included.

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐



Declaration and Consent

I declare that all information provided with this application, including this completed form and all attachments confirmed as included in the application checklist, is correct at the time of submission and that I will notify MARA of any changes to this information that may arise during the application process. MARA may, by notice in writing given to the applicant, require the applicant to provide in the specified form, by affidavit or otherwise, such additional information in relation to any matter to which the application relates as MARA reasonably considers necessary to assist it to determine the application.

By submitting this application form, I agree that certain details provided may be published on MARA's website and that the information provided in this form will be processed and retained by MARA and may be shared with bodies appropriate to assessing aspects of this application in furtherance of consideration of the granting of a MUL in accordance with the MAP Act.

This consent relates to this application and to any further information provided by me, or on my behalf, for the purposes of this application.

Name of Signatory:

John O'Connor

Position held:

MetroLink Survey and Monitoring Project Manager

Date:

29/07/2026

Signed for and on behalf of the applicant:

John O'Connor



Application Checklist

Complete the below application checklist

Section No.	Document	Required	Submitted
Application Form			
Part 1	Activity in Schedule 7	Yes	☒
Part 2	Applicant Details	Yes	☒
Part 3	Details of Maritime Usage	Yes	☒
Part 4	Marine Planning and Environmental Considerations	Yes	☒
Declaration and Consent	Signed Declaration and Consent	Yes	☒
Application Checklist	Application Checklist	Yes	☒
Supporting Documentation			
1.3	Attachment 1.3 – Existing Foreshore Authorisation(s) wish to transition	Yes (if applicable)	☐
2.1	Attachment 2.1 – List of Directors	Yes (if applicable)	☐
2.4	Attachment 2.4 – Details of Foreshore Authorisation(s)	Yes (if applicable)	☐
2.5	Attachment 2.5 – Details of Other Authorisation(s)	Yes (if applicable)	☐
3.1	Attachment 3.1 – Proposed Maritime Usage	Yes (if applicable)	☒
3.3	Attachment 3.3 – MUL Duration	Yes (if applicable)	☐
3.4	Attachment 3.4 – MUL Map and GIS Shapefiles	Yes	☒
3.5	Attachment 3.5 – Other Maps and Drawings	Yes	☒
3.6	Attachment 3.6 – Private Ownership Details	Yes (if applicable)	☐
4.1	Attachment 4.1 – Compliance with Objectives of NMPF	Yes	☒
4.2	Attachment 4.2 – Designated Marine Area Plan Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	☐
4.3	Attachment 4.3 – Appropriate Assessment Screening Report	Yes	☒
4.3	Attachment 4.3 – NIS	Yes (if applicable)	☒
4.4	Attachment 4.4 – Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species report	Yes	☒
4.5	Attachment 4.5 – Compliance with Objectives of the Water Framework Directive	Yes	☒
4.6	Attachment 4.6 – Compliance with Objectives of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive	Yes	☒
4.7	Attachment 4.7 – Information for EIA screening	Yes (if applicable)	☐
4.8	Attachment 4.8 – UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act	Yes (if applicable)	☐



Compliance Details			
4.9	Attachment 4.9 – National Climate Objective Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	☐
4.10	Attachment 4.10 – National Biodiversity Action Plan Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	☐
4.11	Attachment 4.11 – National or European strategic or policy objectives Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	☐
0.0	Confirmation of Payment of Fee	Yes	☒

Please return completed applications, by email, to: licence@mara.gov.ie