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 Information/Access 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.

N/A

ii. Date of Issue.

N/A

iii. Expiration date.

N/A

iv. Description of Authorised Usage.

N/A

v. Reason for transition from foreshore authorisation to MUL.

N/A

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.

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.

N/A

ii. Location of unauthorised maritime usage.

N/A

iii. Date of commencement of unauthorised maritime usage.

N/A

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	Department of Defence
Company/Organisation (if Applicable)	
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	Department of Defence Head Office
Address line 2	Station Road
Address line 3	Newbridge
City/Town	Co. Kildare
Eircode	W12 AD93
Applicant Email Address	kevin.mbyrne@defenceforces.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.	N/A
If the Applicant is a non-profit entity, which is a registered charity, the Registered Charity Number	N/A

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	Paul Chadwick
Authorised Contact Position	Business Unit Director at Tetra Tech Ireland Limited

Email	paul.chadwick@tetratech.com
Telephone	+353 (0)1 488 2900

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.

N/A

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).

N/A

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.

N/A

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.

In December 2025, the Department of Defence (the Applicant) was granted an MUL for the maintenance dredging of the entrance channel and the southern part of the Graving Dock which is adjacent to the site for the proposed works (Reference Number: MUL230029). The deposition of dredged material occurs at an established deposit site situated 8 km southeast of Roches Point outside of Cork Harbour. The activities undertaken as part of the MUL (MUL230029) are required to allow safe navigation of naval vessels into the naval base by restoring and maintaining charted depths.

The Applicant was granted a Dumping at Sea (DAS) permit by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on 29/10/2025 under the Dumping at Sea Act 1996 as amended (permit ref. no S0005-03) for loading of dredged material at the naval base and dumping the material at the offshore deposit (or dump) site. An appropriate assessment was undertaken by the EPA as part of that permitting process. The permitted loading areas under the EPA permit include the entrance to the naval base as well as the naval basin. The naval basin was subject to maintenance dredging in 2010 and 2017 under previous authorisations from the EPA (ref. no. S0005-02) and the Foreshore Division of the then Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (Foreshore licence ref. FS006564).

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.

Haulbowline Island is currently in state ownership (Department of Defence (DoD)) and has undergone extensive industrial, maritime, and defence related use for more than 200 years. The island is circa 35 hectares (45 hectares including the central quay) and the area which will be assessed as part of this MUL is described as follows:

- The central west part of the island was formerly occupied by the Irish Steelworks Factory (ISPAT), whose operations commenced in 1938 and ran until cessation in 2001 (circa 8.78 hectares).

The MUL Areas are located on reclaimed land, four areas are considered in this assessment and these are:

- Area A: 1,972.64 m^2 (southwest of the ISPAT area)
- Area B: 18,924.98 m^2 (southeast of the ISPAT area)
- Area C: 2,140.96 m^2 (north of ISPAT area)
- Area D: 606 m^2 (north of ISPAT area)

The DoD has identified the strategic need to develop the former ISPAT site to support the naval base to the west and the naval dockyard to the east. To facilitate the design of this development site investigations (SI) are required on the former ISPAT site. In order to provide a reliable basis for design and development, and to support the construction phase of the project, the following SI works are required:

- Up to 20 No. trial pits - proposed equipment 22-tonne tracked mechanical excavator;
- Up to 6 No. boreholes incl SPT- proposed equipment Geobor S rotary core drilling; and
- Land-based geophysical surveys - Ground Penetrating Radar.

All works are located below the ungeneralised High Water Mark (HWM) but in reality, all of SI works will take place on made ground, which has been reclaimed. No SI works will be undertaken within the marine environment.

Proposed SI locations are subject to minor refinement. Similarly, a proposed borehole location may be moved due to the presence of obstructions/refusals, i.e., where a subsurface object (large boulder), prevents the advancement of the borehole. In such circumstances, the borehole will be moved to another nearby location (as close as practical to the original point) and re-drilled. The proposed SI works are detailed in **Attachment 3.1** and include contingencies to for follow up investigations that may be undertaken at refined locations.
Further details on the scope of investigations and surveys to be undertaken under the licence are contained in the Project Description report submitted with this application and are shown on the plans and drawings referred to in **Section 3.5** of this application form. Indicative timings of the SI works are set out in **Section 3.3** of this application form.

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.

Below are the activities in Schedule 7, for which this MUL application is made: Marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation or in support of an application under Part XXI of the Act of 2000.

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.

While the MUL application is for a five-year period, the works are anticipated to be undertaken using a phased delivery, as follows: • Initial investigations in 2027 (circa 3 months duration) to support preliminary design of the capping system, roads and drainage systems; • Follow up investigations (circa 2 months duration) later in 2027 to support the detailed design of the capping system, roads and drainage systems; and, • Further follow up investigations at key locations to support the detailed design of structures (circa 2-4 months) in 2028-2031.

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 m^2, ha or km^2, as appropriate), which is the subject of the application.

Total MUL Area = 23,460 m^2 (2.35 ha)

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)'.

Proposed Licence Area Map - Drawing Ref: IE001330-TTI-AP-XX-DR-Z-0013.S0.P01 Proposed MUL Map

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 main body of the proposed maritime area is within Cork Harbour directly adjacent the shoreline (i.e. 0 km), however it should be noted that while proposed works will occur below the ungeneralised HWM, all works will take place upon reclaimed land and thus no interactions between SI works and the marine environment will occur.

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)'.

Proposed SI locations - IE001330-TTI-00-XX-DR-G_AP0019.S0.P01
Invasive species within ISPAT site map- IE001330-TTI-00-XX-DR-G_AP0015.S0.P01
European site map- IE001330-TTI-00-XX-DR-G_AP0014.S0.P01

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.

Attachment 3.6 includes a map (IE001330-TTI-AP-XX-DR-Z-0020.S0.P01_Att_3.6_Proposed MUL within Land Registry Boundary) showing the area within the ownership of the Department of Defence (the entire island) in relation to the proposed maritime usage area. Also included is a letter confirming that the Applicant (Department of Defence) has obtained all necessary consents from the relevant owner (also the Department of Defence).

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 to 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.

N/A

Part 4 Marine Planning and Environmental Considerations

National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF)

4.1 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 ☐

4.2 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.

N/A

C. Attachment 4.2 included.

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not Applicable ☒

Habitats and Birds Directives

4.3 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 ☐

4.4 Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species

A. Is there potential for Annex IV species to be impacted by 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, in accordance with national guidance. 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 ☐

C. Are you required to apply for a derogation licence under Regulation 54 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended?

Yes ☐	No ☒

If yes, provide NPWS application reference number or derogation number:

N/A

Water Framework Directive

4.5 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

4.6 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

4.7 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 ☒

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 ☒

UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act

4.8 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.

Ireland has a requirement to meet international and national standards in the management of maritime activities within its waters. As a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and under the national Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2021, Ireland has legal obligations to manage its marine

resources in a sustainable manner.

The UNCLOS defines the standards of international maritime law, protecting peaceful use of the oceans and sustainable management of natural resources. Enacted in 1994, the UNCLOS gives jurisdiction to coastal nations within their maritime areas. The UNCLOS has been further expanded upon through addition of the following frameworks:

- Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea – Part XI of the UNCLOS addresses the exploration and exploitation of benthic marine areas beyond the jurisdiction of national maritime boundaries.
- Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks (UN Fish Stocks Agreement) – addresses the long-term sustainable management and protection of fish stocks, particularly those which are highly migratory and/ or are exploited by more than one nation.
- Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement). Further information on the BBNJ Agreement is provided below – a legally binding framework for sustainable management of marine biodiversity beyond national maritime boundaries.

Although the proposed SI works will be carried out below the ungeneralised high water mark, they will not take place within the marine environment. Therefore, the proposed SI works do not interfere with Ireland's legal obligations under UNCLOS.

The Maritime Jurisdiction Act (2021) expands upon previous legislation regarding the governance of Ireland's maritime jurisdiction and gives effect to provisions of the above mentioned UNCLOS. The Act consolidates Ireland's maritime boundaries through regulations including but not limited to the governance of territorial sea, international waters and state sovereignty. It also provides provisions on the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the Continental Shelf, outlining Ireland's jurisdiction in these areas. The Act provides a legal framework to meet UNCLOS obligations regarding sustainable management and protection of the marine environment and resources during maritime activities.

As the proposed SI works will take place on Haulbowline Island within Cork Harbour adjacent to the Celtic Sea, the Irish state maintains full jurisdiction. The SI works will align with the Maritime Jurisdiction Act (2021).

Attachment 4.8 included.

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

Climate Action and Low Carbon Act of 2015, as amended

4.9 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 Climate Action and Low Carbon Act 2015, as amended in 2021, supports Ireland's goal to achieve a 'national climate objective' (which receives a statutory basis under this Act) through creation of a Net Zero economy and climate neutrality by 2050. This framework establishes legally binding commitments in order to meet national and international climate objectives. The Act places emphasis on a statutory 'national climate

objective' to achieve climate neutral economy that is underpinned by environmentally sustainable practices and rich national biodiversity.
Although the proposed SI works do not reduce emissions directly, the proposed SI works are consistent with the national climate objective as they enable the actions required under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act through:

- Providing for the sustainable reuse and regeneration of a previously developed brownfield site, reducing the need for greenfield development and incorporating measures to reduce operational and embodied greenhouse-gas emissions.
- Supporting carbon budgets and sector targets – enabling the development of ports and harbours offshore wind renewable energy along the south coast will reduce emissions in the electricity sector so it can meet legally binding limits and stay within its emissions ceiling; and
- Providing evidence for decision-making – SI works will supply scientific data required for compliant planning and regulatory approvals.

Attachment 4.9 included.

Yes ☐ No ☒ Not Applicable ☐

4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 – 2030

4.10 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.

Developed with the support of an interdisciplinary Biodiversity Working Group and the Biodiversity Forum, Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan (2023-2030) aims to address the biodiversity crisis in Ireland through a 'whole government and whole society' approach. Building upon previous iterations of the Plan and emerging data and trends relating to the biodiversity emergency, the current plan sets out five Objectives:

1. Adopt a Whole-of-Government, Whole-of-Society Approach to Biodiversity
2. Meet Urgent Conservation and Restoration Needs
3. Secure Nature's Contribution to People
4. Enhance the Evidence Base for Action on Biodiversity
5. Strengthen Ireland's Contribution to International Biodiversity Initiatives

The proposed SI works comprise of land-based investigation surveys below the ungeneralised HWM to develop the former ISPAT site to support the naval base to the west and the naval dockyard to the east on Haulbowline Island.
By repurposing the ISPAT site to support DoD activities is consistent with the NBAP as the re-use of an existing area where works were previously conducted avoids new impacts on natural habitats and has the potential to incorporate biodiversity protection, restoration, invasive species management. As the ISPAT site does not overlap any SAC/SPA therefore no protected habitats or mammals will be impacted by the proposed SI works. There is potential for ex-situ impacts on SCI bird species due to the nearby Cork Harbour SPA but as discussed in the SISAA report (ref: IE001330-TT-EN-XX-RP-Z-0006), any potential impacts were screened out given the nature, scale and location of the SI works within an already busy and industrialised area.

Attachment 4.10 included.

Yes ☐	No ☒	Not Applicable ☐

National or European Strategic or Policy Objectives

4.11 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 proposed SI works support a range of national, regional and local strategic policy objectives by enabling the regeneration of land areas to support critical infrastructure development, port development and maritime services and defence goals and

National Frameworks:

- Project Ireland 2040: The repurposing of the ISPAT area contributes to national infrastructure delivery, regional economic development and improved international connectivity
- National Marine Planning Framework (2021): the re-development of the ISPAT area will support the efficient reuse of strategic infrastructure, improve regional connectivity and support employment through trade and energy links;
- Programme for Government (2025): Development of Maritime Regeneration, Development and Conservation Fund to support harbours and marinas, SI works will support the continued development of Haulbowline Island.
- Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021: Addressed in Section 4.9 above.
- National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023–2030: Addressed in Section 4.10 above.
- National Ports Policy- the repurposing of the ISPAT area would improve the efficient use, competitiveness and resilience of the pot without undermining essential freight, passenger or fishing activity. It can also support other maritime functions.

European Frameworks:

- EU Ports Strategy, adopted March 2026- repurpose could align the strategy by creating a digitally enabled, climate-resilient and multifunctional port. Relevant measures could include electrification, shore power, renewable energy, alternative fuels, hydrogen-related infrastructure, port security, cybersecurity, innovation, skills and high-quality employment.
- EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030: Requires integration of biodiversity objectives into planning and compliant with EIA and AA. The SI works will support the remediation and sustainable reuse of a previously developed coastal industrial site, rather than requiring development of an undeveloped location. The proposal should contribute to biodiversity objectives through the remediation of legacy contamination in the wider project, protection of Cork Harbour's marine and coastal environment, avoidance and minimisation of habitat loss, control of pollution and invasive species. SI works have been designed to ensure the protection of biodiversity.

Strategic Research Objectives:

- MaREI Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine Research: Calls for early-stage, site-specific investigations to improve consenting outcomes, reduce development risk, and ensure environmental sustainability. SI works will generate primary datasets of strategic research value for Ireland's marine and energy research community.

Attachment 4.11 included.

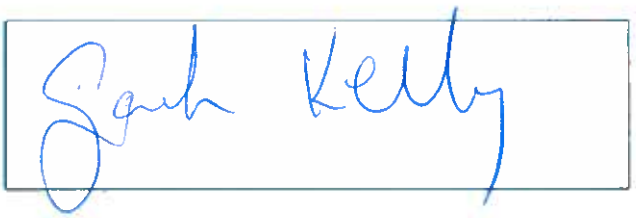
Yes ☐	No ☒	Not Applicable ☐

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:	Sarah Kelly
Position held:	Principal Officer, Property Management Branch
Date:	5th November 2026
Signed for and on behalf of the applicant:	

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	☒
	NPWS application or derogation reference number entered on form	Yes (if applicable)	☐
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 Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	☐
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