

## SCREENING DETERMINATION FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

***Project reference:*** FS006859 DP ENERGY INIS EALGA ARRAY – SITE INVESTIGATIONS OFF THE COAST OF COUNTIES CORK AND WATERFORD

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended ('The Regulations'), the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has undertaken Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the Site Investigation surveys off the coast of Counties Cork and Waterford, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effects on any European site.

In accordance with Regulation 42(6) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 SI 477 as amended, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect the integrity of European sites, in view of the said sites' conservation objectives.

This determination is based on the location, scale, extent and duration of the proposed site investigations, and has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

**Signature and Date of Recommending Officer - Marine Advisor Environment:**

 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2022

**Signature & Date of Minister of State for Local Government and Planning:**

 19/10/22