



## Investigative Foreshore Licence Application (Offshore Renewable Energy)

Please indicate project category as appropriate:

Wave:

Tidal:

Wind:

Other:

Please specify:

### DATA PROTECTION

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### Applicant Name and Address:

Full Name of Applicant (not Agent): [REDACTED]

Company/Organisation: Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park (IEMEP) Ltd, a wholly owned subsidiary project company of DP Energy Ireland (DPEI).

Address: Mill House, Buttevant, Co Cork

Eircode: P51 TN35

### Applicant Contact Details:

Phone No: [REDACTED]

E-mail address: [REDACTED]@dpenergy.com

**Nominated Contact (Where different from above):** Not Applicable

<b>Name:</b>
<b>Address:</b>
<b>Phone No:</b>
<b>E-mail address:</b>

**Applicant's Legal Advisor:**

<b>Name:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>Address:</b> Mill House, Buttevant, Co Cork P51 TN 35
<b>Phone No:</b> [REDACTED]
<b>E-mail address:</b> [REDACTED]@dpenergy.com

## Part 1: Proposal Details (Attach additional documents as required)

<b>1.1</b>	<p><b>Provide background information on the project including reason and objectives of the site investigations, the site selection process and any proposals for future works at the site.</b></p> <p>Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park (IEMEP) Ltd, a subsidiary project company of DP Energy Ireland (DPEI), is investigating the feasibility of developing an offshore floating wind farm off the south coast of Ireland, the Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park (IEMEP). IEMEP is a key part of a wider strategic development of a portfolio of wind (and wave) sites that DPEI is planning.</p> <p>IEMEP Ltd submitted a Foreshore License Application (FLA) (Reference: FS006859) for the proposed turbine area (Array Investigation Area) and export cable corridors in December 2019 to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DoHLGH) . Public consultation was conducted on the FLA between 11 March 2020 and 4 June 2020. The FLA is currently awaiting a licence decision from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG).</p> <p>This subsequent and separate application for a Foreshore Licence for site investigation works is for an additional potential export cable corridor connecting the Array Investigation Area with a landfall between Clonard and Ballymacoda, Co. Cork. Foreshore Licence Map 1 included with this application shows the extent of the Ballymacoda/Clonard investigation area which lies within the 12 nautical mile (NM) limit (i.e. state foreshore). This Foreshore Licence Application Area (FLAA) covers 6,492 hectares (ha).</p> <p>IEMEP Ltd intends to carry out the proposed site investigations within this new investigation area for suitability for cable routing and other electrical infrastructure associated with Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park. The results of these surveys will also provide baseline data for environmental appraisal, Environmental Impact Assessment and subsequent Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) by the Competent Authority.</p> <p>This cable corridor has been identified for site investigation due to the precedence established by the Celtic Interconnector development (ABP consent application ref. A04.310798) and feedback to DPEI from stakeholders requesting greater consideration of those areas already under development for other projects such as the Celtic Interconnector.</p> <p>.</p>
<b>1.2</b>	<p><b>Possible MW output of final development:</b> The potential MW output of Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park would be subject to the findings of the site investigation. However, the possible MW output of the final development is currently anticipated to be up to 1000 MW.</p>

<p><b>1.3</b></p>	<p><b>Type of surveys proposed (e.g. geophysical, geotechnical, archaeological or benthic).</b></p> <p><b>Geophysical:</b> The objective of the proposed geophysical survey is to determine the geophysical characteristics of the FLAA. Investigations to include, for example multibeam echosounder (MBES), side scan sonar (SSS), sub-bottom profiler (SBP), magnetometer survey.</p> <p><b>Geotechnical:</b> The purpose of the proposed geotechnical surveys is to evaluate the nature and mechanical properties of the superficial seabed sediments and intertidal sediments within the FLAA. Following review of the geophysical data, landfall option(s) will be selected for geotechnical sampling. Investigations to include for example grab sampling, cone penetration testing, vibrocores and landfall boreholes.</p> <p><b>Wind Resource and Metocean Survey:</b> To evaluate wind, wave and tidal conditions within the FLAA. Proposed survey methodologies include deployment of LiDAR buoy and Waverider buoys. An acoustic doppler current profiler (ADCP) will be used to assess tidal currents in the area.</p> <p><b>Archaeological:</b> A desktop study will be undertaken to inform the approach to assessment of cultural heritage features. Offshore magnetometer surveys may also be undertaken to identify any additional cultural heritage features.</p> <p><b>Benthic Ecology and Intertidal:</b> Detailed studies will be carried out to map the habitats and to identify the species active within the FLAA, including intertidal cable landfall sites.</p> <p><b>Birds &amp; Marine Mammal:</b> Surveys (e.g. boat-based/aerial/drone offshore surveys, acoustic monitoring) to determine bird, marine mammal and other species' usage of the area.</p>
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**1.4****Survey methodologies and equipment to be used for each survey type proposed:**

Contracts for the survey works have not yet been awarded however detail on surveys is provided in point 1.3 above. Information on survey works is also provided in the Schedule of Survey Works – SOSW submitted with this application.

Information is presented below on the indicative equipment for use for the geophysical surveys proposed as part of this application for Foreshore Licence. Details of the vessels to be used for this investigation will not be known until award of contract. All vessels taking part in the survey/investigation works will comply with full certification requirements and shall be of an adequate size and navigation ability to ensure the works are carried out in a safe manner.

**Geophysical:**

Multibeam echosounder (MBES): MBES is a remote sensing acoustic device typically attached to a vessel's hull. The purpose is to map the water depth to seabed (bathymetry). Potential equipment suppliers include: Kongsberg and Teledyne RESON.

Side Scan Sonar: The side scan sonar will be a dual frequency hydrographic sonar with a lowest operating frequency of not less than 100 kHz. The higher frequency of the side scan sonar will be between 410 and 500 kHz in line with the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht (DAHG) 'Guidance to Manage the Risk to Marine Mammals from Man-made Sound Sources in Irish Waters', published in 2014.

Sub-bottom profiler: It is likely that two different systems may be used; a high-resolution profiler that will emphasise the top 3 to 5m of sediment with a resolution of 0.25m or better in a variety of geological conditions; and a system that provides increased penetration between 50m and 100m. Three systems (ponger, boomer and chirper) will be made available so that the most appropriate system can be chosen dependent on the seabed conditions.

Magnetometry: The marine magnetometer will be of the Caesium Vapour type and capable of recording variations in magnetic field strength during survey to an accuracy of  $\pm 0.5nT$ .

**Geotechnical.** The number and locations of samples below will be determined by experienced contractor after contract award.

Vibrocore Samples: Approximately 30 at representative locations along the preferred cable route. Locations subject to results of the geophysical and archaeological survey. Indicative equipment to be used is a high-performance corer (HPC) or a modular vibrocorer. As the preferred cable route is not yet known, the indicative locations presented in Map 15 (within the Schedule of Survey Works, submitted with this Foreshore Licence Application) are based on three cable routes under consideration at this early stage.

CPTs: Approximately 30 at representative locations along the preferred cable route. Locations subject to results of the geophysical and archaeological survey. Indicative equipment to be used is a seacalf seabed cone penetrometer test (CPT) system or similar and a deck mounted CPT. As the preferred cable route is not yet known, the indicative locations presented in Map 15 (within the Schedule of Survey Works, submitted with this Foreshore Licence Application) are based on three cable routes under consideration at this early stage.

	<p><b>Boreholes:</b> There is potential for approximately two boreholes to be drilled at the chosen cable landfall. Boreholes are typically drilled from a jack-up barge (JUB) using a percussion and a rotary corer. The number of legs used by the JUB is dependent on seabed conditions, current strength and wave action.</p> <p><b>Wind Resource and Metocean Survey:</b></p> <p><b>Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers (ADCP):</b> Approximately two ADCP's to be deployed. The ADCPs will be deployed via a vessel on-board crane and will sit on the seabed.</p> <p><b>Waverider buoys:</b> Approximately two Waverider buoys will be deployed. The buoys are yellow in colour and include an amber LED with a programable ODAS flash sequence with three nautical mile visibility.</p> <p><b>Archaeological:</b> desk study to identify and assess metallic and other targets recorded during marine magnetometer survey and assessment of archaeological significance of identified targets to include sidescan analysis.</p> <p><b>Benthic and Intertidal:</b> Intertidal floral and faunal surveys at proposed cable landfall location (to include transects, quadrats and core sampling). Locations to be determined in part from marine surveys.</p> <p>Subtidal Benthic floral and faunal survey in proposed cable route area to include approximately 30 grab sampling stations and drop-down video and video transects. Locations to be determined in part from marine surveys.</p> <p><b>Birds &amp; Marine Mammal</b></p> <p>Boat based bird and marine mammal marine mammals/reptile and seabird surveys potentially including towed hydrophonic acoustic array. Potential deployment of Passive Acoustic Monitor(s). Potential deployment of Static Acoustic Monitor(s). Scope to be determined following engagement with statutory and non-statutory stakeholders on Year 2 of survey effort pending results from Year 1 of aerial bird and marine mammal survey effort.</p>
1.5	<p><b>Describe the nature and scale of any structure to be erected on the foreshore for testing the suitability of the site. Is the structure proposed to be temporary or permanent?</b></p> <p>A jack-up barge (JUB) will be temporarily located within the nearshore area to acquire geotechnical boreholes. Exact details of the vessel to be used will not be confirmed until award of the contract. The number of legs used for the operations is dependent on seabed conditions, current strength and wave action. For the FLAA, four legs are the most likely scenario.</p> <p>Wind Resource and Metocean Survey: Temporary deployment of ADCP and waverider buoys</p> <p>It is not proposed as part of this application to erect any permanent structures within the FLAA.</p>

**1.6**

**Provide information on proposed mooring, marking and lighting arrangements for any proposed deployment of instrument arrays.**

Commissioners for Irish Lights (CIL) standard navigational safety requirements will be adhered to with regards to lighting, positioning and mooring of all relevant buoys.

1.7

**Has the applicant held or does the applicant hold any previous Foreshore Licences, Leases or applications over the area sought or over any other area? (Give details including Department's file reference number(s)).**

1) FS006859 - Site Investigation to assess wind farm off Inis Ealga, Cork

The applicant's parent company, DP Group Ltd., set up an SPV 'Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park Ltd.' and under same, has submitted a Foreshore Licence Application for site investigation activities relating to a potential offshore wind farm at Inis Ealga, off the coast of County Cork. That application is progressing through the Foreshore Consent Process. The reference number for that application is: FS006859 - 'Site Investigations relating to a possible wind farm at Inis Ealga, Cork'. That application has completed the public consultation phase and responses to both public submissions and prescribed body submissions have been submitted by Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park Ltd. to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. The application has yet to be passed to the Marine Licence Vetting Committee and so, Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park Ltd. is awaiting a response.

2) FS007261- Shelmalere Offshore Wind Farm - Site Investigation to assess wind farm off counties Wicklow and Wexford

The applicant's parent company, DP Group Ltd., set up an SPV 'Shelmalere Offshore Wind Farm Ltd.' and under same, has submitted a Foreshore Licence Application for site investigation activities relating to a potential offshore wind farm at Shelmalere, off the coast of counties Wicklow and Wexford. That application was submitted on 30 November 2020 and is with the DoHHLGH's Marine Advisor's for review.

3) FS007232- Latitude 52 Offshore Wind Farm - Site Investigation to assess wind farm off counties Wicklow and Wexford

The applicant's parent company, DP Group Ltd., set up an SPV 'Latitude 52 Offshore Wind Farm Ltd.' and under same, has submitted a Foreshore Licence Application for site investigation activities relating to a potential offshore wind farm 'Latitude 52', off the coast of counties Wicklow and Wexford. That application was submitted on 11 December 2020 and is with the DoHHLGH's Marine Advisor's for review.

4) FS007280- Clarus Offshore Wind Farm - Site Investigation to assess wind farm off county Clare and Kerry.

The applicant's parent company, DP Group Ltd., set up an SPV 'Clarus Offshore Wind Farm Ltd.' and under same name, has submitted a Foreshore Licence Application for site investigation activities relating to a potential offshore wind farm off the coast of Co. Kerry and Co. Clare. That application was submitted on 18 December 2020 and is with the DoHHLGH's Marine Advisor's for review.



<p><b>1.8</b></p>	<p><b>Indicative timing of the investigation works: (i) Start date (ii) Duration (iii) Any other information relevant to timing.</b></p> <p>The intention is to commence the proposed site investigation activities as soon as feasible following award of a Foreshore Licence, taking into consideration any proposed mitigation requirements. The survey works will most likely be carried out between the months of April and October, preferably in 2022 following award of the Foreshore Licence and subject to weather conditions and vessel availability.</p> <p><b>Geophysical survey (including Archaeology and Benthic):</b> Spring/Summer 2022 (3 months window nominally Mid-April to Mid-July), in association with the benthic sampling programme.</p> <p><b>Geotechnical:</b> Option for preliminary survey summer in Year 2 or 3 (2-month window nominally August to September) and main survey Spring/Summer in Year 4 (4-month window).</p> <p><b>Wind Resource Monitoring:</b> Start Summer Year 1 for a likely minimum of 12 months and a likely maximum of 36 months.</p> <p><b>Metocean Survey:</b> Current resource monitoring – Start Summer Year 1 for a period of 6 months.</p> <p><b>Intertidal:</b> Spring Year 2</p> <p><b>Birds &amp; Marine Mammals:</b> Spring Year 1 (2 years duration seasonal)</p>
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1.9

**Describe any likely interactions with activities of the public or other foreshore users during the investigative works (e.g. fishing, aquaculture, sailing, and surfing). Describe any measures proposed to minimise inconvenience to other users.**

**Access to the shore/beach:** Until the preferred survey contractor is procured, the geophysical survey is complete, and a preferred cable landfall location is identified, it is not possible to determine if access to and from the shore will be restricted. However, it is possible that a survey of a location within the intertidal area will be required. Any restrictions on any beach will be limited in duration (i.e. one to two weeks) and minor in nature.

**Other users in the area including fishing/sea angling, sailing, surfing, diving, recreational and commercial vessels.** There are three high/medium density traffic routes surrounding the FLAA. One route is transiting directly across the FLAA, made up of cargo and tankers, coming to/from Cork Port heading to/from Dublin Port or further. Other adjacent high-density tanker and cargo routes are from Cork Port to the UK and a lower density from Ballyhack, Co. Waterford ferry port to the UK. AIS data presented in Ireland's Marine Atlas (<http://atlas.marine.ie/>) shows that passenger vessel density in the FLAA is low. EMODnet shipping density data for the period 2017 to 2020 shows the area experiences low to moderate use.

Due to the restricted manoeuvrability of the survey vessels, other vessels will be requested to remain at 500m radial distance from them. Fishing vessels with static gear may be requested to temporarily remove gear from specific locations for specific durations by the Fisheries Liaison Officer currently appointed to the project.

The design of the survey scopes will seek to avoid or reduce environmental effects and minimise inconvenience to all other users through careful design and good industry practice. The following measures will be incorporated into survey design:

- In line with ICPC recommendations, geotechnical and environmental sampling locations will be positioned a minimum of 250m from third party assets, for example pipelines. All asset owners will be contacted prior to survey to determine if proximity agreements are required (noting that no third-party assets have been identified in the FLAA).
- Deployment of equipment on the seabed will be kept to a minimum.
- All survey vessels will follow relevant International and National Statutes.
- Notice to Mariners will be issued to the Maritime Safety Directorate, local fishing organisations, Cork and Waterford Port Company and relevant harbour masters.
- A Fisheries Liaison Officer has been appointed to the project and will continue to work as part of the project team.

Each period of the site investigations will be of a limited extent and duration and any effects will be very localised.

<p><b>1.10</b></p>	<p><b>Describe any consultations undertaken to date with other foreshore users.</b></p> <p>DPEI has commenced engagement with the fishing community and with other foreshore users and coastal communities. We aim to undertake additional formal consultations with other stakeholder groups who may be affected by the proposed survey works. DPEI’s aim is to keep members of the public, any interest groups and relevant bodies informed and engaged before and during the proposed surveys.</p>
<p><b>1.11</b></p>	<p><b>Describe any consultations undertaken to date with other consent authorities e.g. planning authority, Commission for Energy Regulation etc.</b></p> <p>20<sup>th</sup> August 2019 IWEA workshop – unlocking the potential of offshore wind in Ireland. Attendees included CRU, DCCAE, Dept of Taoiseach, DHPLG, Eirgrid, SEAI, IWEA Staff and Members (1 person from each offshore developer (Clodagh McGrath representing DP Energy Inis Ealga development) and 1 representative from IWEA workings: Consenting, Grid, Route to Market and Supply Chain)</p> <p>16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 meeting with Eirgrid Customer and Stakeholder team to discuss the project.</p>
<p><b>1.12</b></p>	<p><b>Describe briefly any consultations undertaken with relevant authorities (e.g. county council, port/harbour authority etc) or State Agencies e.g. National Parks &amp; Wildlife Service (NPWS), National Monuments Service (NMS) of Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht:</b></p> <p>19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 meeting with Port of Cork to discuss the project.</p> <p>Following initial consultation with Dr David Lyons, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) in December 2018 and subsequent submission to the Development Application Unit (DAU) of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, in February 2019, we received underwater archaeology and nature conservation recommendations of the Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht, ref G Pre00340/2018. These recommendations will be included in our survey design and any future Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and subsequent Environmental Impact Assessment, if the project progresses past site investigation stage..</p> <p>In January 2021, a series of meetings were held with the following stakeholders specific to the scope and methodologies associated with the onshore and offshore ecology survey effort for Inis Ealga Marine Energy Park. Those stakeholders included: BIM Aquaculture, Cork Nature Network, Irish Whale &amp; Dolphin Group, NPWS, ORC and SEAI. Feedback was taken from those stakeholders to help inform scope of ecology surveys (that do not require Foreshore Licence) now underway.</p>

<b>1.13</b>	<p><b>Describe briefly any support received or under application with the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) or other State Agency:</b></p> <p>Under SEAI Ocean Energy Prototype Research and Development Programme 2017, DPEI conducted a Hybrid Wave and Wind Feasibility Study. Ref OCN/00079.</p>
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**Part 2: Proposed Site. (Attach additional documents as required)**

<b>2.1</b>	<p><b>Delineate the proposed site in red on a latest edition map at a scale of 1:10 000 or larger scale if more appropriate and available, indicating:</b></p> <p>(i) the entire area;</p> <p>(ii) the hectareage involved below the line of high water of medium tides clearly marked in RED and</p> <p>(iii) the area of foreshore involved in metric measurements (i.e. hectares, metres squared or square kilometres etc).</p> <p>Foreshore Licence Map 1 submitted with this Foreshore Licence Application.</p>																																																																																															
<b>2.2</b>	<p><b>Geographic co-ordinates of the area under application, where the area can also be identified on the Ordnance Survey map, specify Ordnance Survey co-ordinates also.</b></p> <p>Map 2, and table below.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Point Id</th> <th>WGS_Long</th> <th>WGS_Lat</th> <th>ITM_Easting</th> <th>ITM_Northing</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>-7.8894</td><td>51.8950</td><td>607609.99</td><td>571429.31</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>-7.8866</td><td>51.8968</td><td>607806.71</td><td>571630.39</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>-7.8841</td><td>51.8968</td><td>607975.31</td><td>571634.89</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>-7.8823</td><td>51.8995</td><td>608101.87</td><td>571932.09</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>-7.8710</td><td>51.9066</td><td>608875.95</td><td>572723.33</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>-7.8676</td><td>51.9219</td><td>609104.27</td><td>574428.95</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>-7.8739</td><td>51.9223</td><td>608670.53</td><td>574466.84</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>-7.8486</td><td>51.9387</td><td>610410.71</td><td>576294.94</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>-7.8125</td><td>51.9098</td><td>612900.66</td><td>573090.28</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>-7.6918</td><td>51.7842</td><td>621265.61</td><td>559144.89</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>-7.7518</td><td>51.7722</td><td>617126.45</td><td>557792.76</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>-7.8207</td><td>51.8824</td><td>612346.91</td><td>570037.24</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>-7.8402</td><td>51.8835</td><td>611002.63</td><td>570154.37</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>-7.8431</td><td>51.8864</td><td>610798.45</td><td>570479.21</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>-7.8668</td><td>51.8861</td><td>609169.48</td><td>570448.35</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>-7.8669</td><td>51.8859</td><td>609160.11</td><td>570419.56</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>-7.8672</td><td>51.8855</td><td>609142.82</td><td>570374.32</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>-7.8673</td><td>51.8852</td><td>609132.63</td><td>570349.73</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Point Id	WGS_Long	WGS_Lat	ITM_Easting	ITM_Northing	1	-7.8894	51.8950	607609.99	571429.31	2	-7.8866	51.8968	607806.71	571630.39	3	-7.8841	51.8968	607975.31	571634.89	4	-7.8823	51.8995	608101.87	571932.09	5	-7.8710	51.9066	608875.95	572723.33	6	-7.8676	51.9219	609104.27	574428.95	7	-7.8739	51.9223	608670.53	574466.84	8	-7.8486	51.9387	610410.71	576294.94	9	-7.8125	51.9098	612900.66	573090.28	10	-7.6918	51.7842	621265.61	559144.89	11	-7.7518	51.7722	617126.45	557792.76	12	-7.8207	51.8824	612346.91	570037.24	13	-7.8402	51.8835	611002.63	570154.37	14	-7.8431	51.8864	610798.45	570479.21	15	-7.8668	51.8861	609169.48	570448.35	16	-7.8669	51.8859	609160.11	570419.56	17	-7.8672	51.8855	609142.82	570374.32	18	-7.8673	51.8852	609132.63	570349.73
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2.3	<p><b>Delineate proposed site on relevant Admiralty Chart.</b></p> <p>See Foreshore Licence Map 1 submitted with this FLA</p>
2.4	<p><b>Relevant Local Authority:</b></p> <p>Cork County Council</p>
2.5	<p><b>Location name and nearest townland name:</b></p> <p>The FLAA area is located approximately 2km to the south west of Youghal, 2km south of Cox Yard and 3km east of Ballymacoda.</p>
2.6	<p><b>Distance from nearest other developments, including any offshore renewable energy developments on the foreshore:</b></p>

	<p>The FLAA potentially intersects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The proposed Celtic Interconnector routes. SID application submitted to An Bord Pleanála case reference: VA04.310798, lodged 09/07/2021. An application to the Foreshore unit is likely to have been lodged but this is not showing on the DHLGH determination website.</li> <li>- Celtic One – ESB/Equinor wind farm project. Foreshore Licence reference: not available.</li> <li>- PiPer infrastructure fibre optic data cable. The foreshore license was submitted in 2014 to commence in 2015 but application is still in consultation suggesting it has been put on hold. Foreshore Licence reference: FS006528.</li> </ul> <p>The FLAA is located approximately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 17km north-east of the Simply Blue, Emerald floating offshore wind project. Foreshore Licence reference. FS007139</li> <li>- 19.5km north of the Celtic Two – ESB/Equinor offshore wind farm project. Foreshore Licence reference: not available.</li> <li>- 34km east of Helvick Head – ESB/Equinor offshore wind farm project. Foreshore Licence reference for Energia Helvick Head: FS006982.</li> <li>- 13km from North Celtic Sea – Energia’s offshore wind project. Foreshore Licence reference: FS006982.</li> <li>- 25.5km east of Celtic Sea Array Offshore Windfarm – SSE Renewables Site Investigation. Foreshore Licence reference. FS006983</li> <li>- 70km from proposed Greenlink Interconnector application area. Foreshore Licence reference: FS007050.</li> </ul> <p>Please see these other developments illustrated on Map 3_OtherDevelopments, included in FLA –Environmental Supporting Information-document reference P2369_R5337.</p>
<p><b>2.7</b></p>	<p><b>Distance from shore:</b></p> <p>The FLAA intersects the coastline.</p>

**2.8****Distance from nearest aquaculture operation:**

There are three licensed aquaculture sites, harvesting oysters and clams, in proximity to the FLAA Site ID's:

T05/491A Ballymacoda Bay – Distance from FLAA: 0km

T05/395 Ballymacoda Bay - Distance from FLAA: 0.14km

T05-482A Ballymacoda – Distance from FLAA: 0.4km

Please see Map 11 - Aquaculture included with this FLA-Environmental Supporting Information -document reference - P2369\_R5337

**2.9 Distance from any other sensitive location e.g. fish spawning ground, designated Shellfish Growing Waters,**

The application area is located within the finfish spawning and nursery grounds of commercially important species:

- Whiting (Spawning and Nursery)
- Megrin (Nursery)
- Mackerel (Nursery)
- Horse Mackerel (Nursery)
- Herring (Spawning)
- Hake (Nursery)
- Haddock (Spawning and Nursery)
- Cod (Spawning and Nursing)
- Nephrops ground.

See Map 10 – Fish Spawning and Nursing within this FLA (Environmental Supporting Information -document reference - P2369\_R5337) which illustrates the spawning and nursery areas of these species in relation to the FLAA.

The FLAA is located within the Ballymacoda designated shellfish waters, an important area for oysters and clams. The total area designated is 0.84km<sup>2</sup>, see Map 8 – Designated Shellfish Waters within this FLA (Environmental Supporting Information -document reference - P2369\_R5337) .

Important Nephrops norvegicus grounds occur on soft muddy sediments within the Celtic and Irish Seas. Brown, or edible, crabs are distributed throughout the continental shelf area to the north and west of Ireland and the rocky areas of the Irish and Celtic Sea. Populations of scallops and queen scallops may also occur in areas of gravelly sediments. Fisheries data from the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) fisheries (landings and activity) has found that the area is important for lobster, Nephrops, crabs, scallops, razor clams and whelks.

The most common gear types near and within the FLAA are shrimp potting, dredging for mussel and razor clams and further offshore trawling for prawns. The fishing port closest to the FLAA is Ballycotton harbour, which is reported to have around 20 fishing vessels operating out of it. See Map 12 and Map 14 included in this FLA for fishing vessel activity within the FLAA.



<b>2.10</b>	<p><b>Any other site details considered relevant:</b></p> <p>In accordance with the Department of Culture, Heritage and Gaeltacht and based on information from the National Monuments Service: Wreck Viewer, there are 3 shipwrecks located within the application area.</p> <p>See Map 6 - Shipwrecks included within this FLA - Environmental Supporting Information --document reference - P2369_R5337.</p>
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**Part 3: Nature Conservation Considerations (Attach additional documents as required)**

<b>3.1</b>	<p><b>Distance from nearest Natura 2000 sites (i.e. Special Protection Area (SPA) or Special Area of Conservation (SAC):</b></p> <p>The closest Natura 2000 sites to the FLAA are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) (SAC) (site code: IE000077) 0.05km distant from the FLAA.</li> <li>- Ballymacoda Bay (SPA) (site code: IE004023) 0.01km distant from the FLAA.</li> </ul>																								
<b>3.2</b>	<p><b>Name and location of Natura 2000 sites in or around the project area:</b></p> <p>The table below sets out all Natura 2000 sites with marine components within 15km of the FLAA.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">SITE NAME</th> <th style="text-align: center;">SITE CODE</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Distance from FLAA</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC</td> <td>002170</td> <td>0.5km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ardmore Head SAC</td> <td>002123</td> <td>7.32 km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC</td> <td>000077</td> <td>0.05 km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ballycotton Bay SPA</td> <td>004022</td> <td>8.35 km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ballymacoda Bay SPA</td> <td>004023</td> <td>0.01 km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blackwater Estuary SPA</td> <td>004028</td> <td>1.92 km</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA</td> <td>004192</td> <td>11.06 km</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>See Map 7 - Protected Areas included within this FLA -- Environmental Supporting Information - document reference - P2369_R5337.</p>	SITE NAME	SITE CODE	Distance from FLAA	Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC	002170	0.5km	Ardmore Head SAC	002123	7.32 km	Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC	000077	0.05 km	Ballycotton Bay SPA	004022	8.35 km	Ballymacoda Bay SPA	004023	0.01 km	Blackwater Estuary SPA	004028	1.92 km	Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA	004192	11.06 km
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<p><b>3.3</b></p>	<p><b>Describe potential impacts of the site investigations on Natura 2000 sites.</b></p> <p>Screening for Appropriate Assessment has been carried out by the Applicant and is provided as Appendix A of the Environmental Supporting Information document submitted in support of this application (Reference (P2369_R5337).</p> <p>Screening of the 18 European Sites was undertaken. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All sites within 15km of FLAA</li> <li>- Sites within 40km of FLAA which are designated for migratory fish species</li> <li>- Marine mammals from European Sites located in the relevant Management Unit (MU) that the FLAA is located within.</li> <li>- Sites designated for harbour seal within 50km of the FLAA</li> <li>- Sites designated for otter within 20km of the FLAA</li> </ul> <p>The assessment concluded that the proposed site investigation works will not have a likely significant effect either alone or in combination with other plans and projects and will not undermine the conservation objectives of any SAC or SPA. Information to support this conclusion is provided Appendix A document reference - P2369_R5337.</p>
<p><b>3.4</b></p>	<p><b>Describe any measures proposed to mitigate possible impacts on Natura 2000 sites and other key marine receptors.</b></p> <p>No likely significant effects were identified; therefore no mitigation has been proposed.</p>
<p><b>3.5</b></p>	<p><b>Describe any other projects or plans for the area, anticipated or developed, that in combination with this proposal, may have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site:</b></p> <p>An assessment of potential in-combination effects on Natura 2000 sites is provided in Screening for Appropriate Assessment (Appendix A of the Environmental Supporting Information document, Reference P2369_R5337_Rev0). The assessment concluded that there would be no likely significant effects on any European Sites, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.</p>

**Part 4: Navigational Safety Considerations.**

<p><b>4.1</b></p>	<p><b>Distance from shipping lanes at nearest point. Illustrate on the appropriate marine charts accompanying the application.</b></p> <p>See Map 4 – Shipping included within this FLA - Environmental Supporting Information -document reference - P2369_R5337.</p> <p>The coastguard Automatic Identification System (AIS) presented in Ireland’s Marine Atlas (<a href="http://atlas.marine.ie/">http://atlas.marine.ie/</a>) shows three high/medium density traffic routes surrounding the FLAA. One route is transiting directly across the FLAA, made up of cargo and tankers, coming to/from Cork Port heading to/from Dublin Port or further. Other adjacent high density tanker and cargo routes are from Cork Port to the UK and a lower density from Ballyhack to the UK. AIS data presented in Ireland’s Marine Atlas shows that passenger vessel density in the FLAA is low.</p>
<p><b>4.2</b></p>	<p><b>If a safety zone for passage of shipping (including fishing and leisure boats) is sought, supply details and give reasons.</b></p> <p>No safety zones are sought; although Notice to Mariners will request that vessels remain at least 500m radial distance from the survey vessels.</p>
<p><b>4.3</b></p>	<p><b>If a temporal /spatial restriction are sought on the use of any type of fishing gear or leisure activity within the area, provide details and justification for such restrictions and indicate location(s) on appropriate marine charts.</b></p> <p>No formal restrictions are sought; details of temporary survey vessels and deployment of any buoys and/or ADCP will be notified to mariners (including fishers) with requests to maintain a safe distance.</p>

**Declaration and Consent:**

The details provided here are correct to the best of my knowledge.

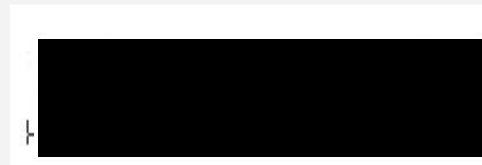
I understand that no works will be commenced, by me or my agents on the proposed site, without the prior written consent of the Minister. The granting or refusal of any foreshore investigation licence will not give rise on the part of the applicant to any expectation whatsoever for, right or entitlement to a grant of any future foreshore permission in respect of all or any part of any area of foreshore.

By submitting this application form, I agree that the details provided (with personal contact details redacted) are to be published on the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage website and also that the full information provided including contact details are to be processed and retained by the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage and shared with all appropriate Prescribed Bodies (as part of the Prescribed Bodies Consultation process) in furtherance of consideration for a foreshore Consent under the Foreshore Act 1933 (and Foreshore Amendment Act 2011).

I give consent to the Minister and his servants to copy this application and to make (a redacted) copy available for inspection and copying by the public. This consent relates

to this application, to any further information, or submission provided by me or on my behalf and to the publication of the licence document

**Signed for and on behalf of the applicant:**



**Name of Signatory (block letters):**

[Redacted]

**Position Held:**

Consenting & Environment Manager

**Date** 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Return completed applications to:**

Marine Environment and Foreshore Section  
Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government  
Newtown Road  
Wexford  
Y35 AP90

Enquiries to: [Foreshore@housing.gov.ie](mailto:Foreshore@housing.gov.ie) (Other contact details to be included in Guidance materials)

Email a copy of application documents: [Foreshore@housing.gov.ie](mailto:Foreshore@housing.gov.ie)