Screening Determination for Appropriate Assessment

Project reference: FS007358 NISA – to carry out site investigation works off the coasts of Co. Dublin and Co. Meath

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 to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the proposed project to carry out site investigation works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effects on 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 on European sites. The risk of likely significant effects on European sites cannot be excluded on the basis of objective evidence. This determination is based on the location, scale, extent and duration of the proposed development, including temporary works, and has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Signature and Date of Recommending Officer: [redacted] **21st February 2022**

Signature and Date of the Decision Maker: Peter Burke