FS007358 Statkraft NISA Site Investigations for Export Cable Route

Invitation for submissions for purpose of conducting Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment

Submissions received from Prescribed Bodies:

- NPWS and Underwater Archaeology Unit of Department Housing, Local Government and Heritage
- Louth County Council
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Marine Advisor-Environment
-Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Marine Advisor-Engineering

NPWS, Underwater Archaeology Unit

From: Housing Fem Dau
Sent: Monday 16 May 2022 09:06
To: Housing Foreshore
Subject: FS007358

Categories: Completed NFA

A Chara,

The NPWS and UAU have no further comment to make on this application.

Kind regards,

[redacted]
Executive Officer
—

Aonad na nIarratas ar Fhorbairt
Development Applications Unit
Oifigí an Rialtais
Government Offices
Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Contae Loch Garman Y35 AP90
Newtown Road, Wexford, County Wexford Y35 AP90
———

Louth County Council

From: [redacted] <[redacted]@louthcoco.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 18 May 2022 13:34
To: [redacted] (Housing)
Cc: [redacted]
Subject: Observation - Foreshore Application FS007358 NISA Cable Route - Additional Consultation for Purposes of Conducting Stage 2 AA

Importance: High

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Dear [redacted]

In relation to your email below Louth County Council would like to make the following observation:

"The planning authority (Louth County Council) will rely on the department to consider potential effects on European sites at this location and their in-combination effects on the European sites in view of their conservation objectives and also any protected species as provided for in the Habitats Directive. The Planning Authority is aware that other foreshore licences have been granted for geophysical and geotechnical surveys to be undertaken in these waters. The wider / cumulative impacts on marine habitats, aquatic mammals and birds should be considered in-combination.

It is noted that with regards to the information provided in respect of the Roseate Tern, that no geotechnical or benthic site investigation activities will be carried out during the nesting season. However, the table which sets out how timing and duration of surveys does not provide a cross reference to this mitigation. Greater clarity is required in this regard to avoid any ambiguity regarding survey periods should a license be granted."

Kind Regards
[redacted]

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Marine Advisor

From: [redacted] (Housing)
Sent: Friday 20 May 2022 17:20
To: [redacted] (Housing)
Subject: RE: Foreshore Application FS007358 NISA Cable Route - Additional Consultation for Purposes of Conducting Stage 2 AA
Attachments: Stage 5_FS007358_Prescribed Bodies 2nd Consultation - Environment Report.pdf

Hi [redacted],
Please find attached my prescribed bodies comments on the Foreshore application FS007358 NISA Cable route.

If you have an issues with this do not hesitate to get back to me.

Take care,
[redacted]

Marine Advisor
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
M: 087 [redacted]

An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage

[redacted]
Foreshore Unit,
Department of the Housing, Local Government and Heritage,
Newtown Road,
Co. Wexford
20th May 2022

Prescribed Bodies Second Consultation - Environmental Report

Re: FS007358 Foreshore licence application to carry out site investigation works off the coasts of Co. Dublin and Co. Meath.

Applicant: North Irish Sea Array Ltd

Dear [redacted],

Your email of the 20th of April 2022 refers to this licence application to carry out site investigation works off the coasts of Co. Dublin and Co. Meath.

This coastline is of high ecological importance and includes Six Special Protection Areas (SPA) which are nationally and internationally important sites for waterfowl and sea birds. Rockabill SPA [IE004014] supports the most important Roseate Tern colony in Europe, the site also supports nationally important breeding populations of Common Tern and Arctic Tern. Some sites are important for breeding seabird with Skerries Islands SPA [IE004122] having an internationally important population of breeding Cormorants.
The Special Area of Conservation (SAC) here support good examples of a number of coastal and marine habitats listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [IE002299] is important site for populations of two Annex II species listed on of the E.U. Habitats Directive, namely River Lamprey (Lampetra fluviatilis) which is present in the lower reaches of the Boyne River, and Otter (Lutra lutra) which can be found throughout the site. The Rockabill to Dalkey Island SAC [IE003000] is the only east coast site which designated for Harbour porpoise, it is also designated for the Annex I habitat Reefs of which there are few examples along the east coast.

As you will note from my Screening Stage Report Environmental Report of the 18th of February 2022 I agreed with and accepted the outcome of the IEC's review of the environmental reports associated with this application.

I have no objection to this application subject to a complete environmental assessment. I will provide site specific conditions once the environmental assessment process is complete.

[redacted]

[redacted]
Marine Advisor, Environment.

Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Marine Advisor

From: [redacted] (Housing)
Sent: Monday 23 May 2022 14:31
To: [redacted] (Housing)
Subject: RE: REMINDER: FS007358 NISA Cable Route SI - Additional Consultation for Purposes of Conducting Stage 2 AA

Hi [redacted],

My report of the 11/11/2021 remains valid and I have no further comments to add.

Kind regards,

[redacted]
Marine Advisor/Inspector
National & Regional Planning Policy,

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

Newtown Road, Carricklawn, Wexford, Y35 AP90

T: 053[redacted]
M: 087 [redacted]
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An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage