*Determination of Aquaculture/ Foreshore Licensing application –T09/521*

Josie King has applied for authorisation to cultivate Mussels using longlines and barrels on sub-tidal foreshore on a *3.47* hectare site (*T09/521A*) in Ardbear Bay, Co. Galway.

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has determined that it is in the public interest to grant the licences sought. In making his determination the Minister considered those matters which by virtue of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, and other relevant legislation, he was required to have regard. Such matters include any submissions and observations received in accordance with the statutory provisions. The following are the reasons and considerations for the Minister's determination to grant the licences sought: -

a. *Scientific advice is to the effect that the waters are suitable;*
b. *Public access to recreational and other activities can be accommodated by this project;*
c. *The proposed development should have a positive effect on the economy of the local area;*
d. *All issues raised during Public and Statutory consultation phase;*
e. *There are no effects anticipated on the man-made environment heritage of value in the area;*
f. *No significant effects arise regarding wild fisheries;*
g. *The site is not located within a designated Natura 2000 site and, as set out in the AA Screening Report for Ardbear Bay/ClifdenBay that significant impacts on any adjacent Natura 2000 are not likely.*
h. *No significant impacts on the marine environment and the quality status of the area will not be adversely impacted;*
i. *The updated Aquaculture and Foreshore licences contain terms and conditions which reflect the environmental protection now required under EU and National law.*"