



WINS System

Pre-application Consultation, Correspondence & Consents

July 2018

MDM

McMahon Design & Management Ltd

- Consulting Engineers - Project Managers -

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Pre-application Consultation – Inland Fisheries Ireland.

From: Bryan Deegan (Altamar Environmental Consultants) [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, May 4, 2018 8:49:47 AM
To: 'David Harrington'
Cc: 'John Conneely'; 'Seamus Hartigan'
Subject: RE: Fibre Optic Cable Galway

Thank you David,
I will check in relation to the proposed extension of Galway Harbour, but as far as I recall discussions have taken place with the Galway Harbour Authority.

I will touch base with you next week in relation to proposed mitigation measures in relation to survey. We are liaising also with NPWS and will be following MMO guidelines in relation to the use of acoustics.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Kindest Regards

Bryan

Bryan Deegan (MCIEEM)
Managing Director
Altamar Ltd.
Marine and Environmental Consultants

From: David Harrington [mailto:[REDACTED]]
Sent: 03 May 2018 15:07
To: Bryan Deegan
Cc: John Conneely; Seamus Hartigan
Subject: RE: Fibre Optic Cable Galway

Good Afternoon Bryan,

Apologies for not reverting back to you sooner, please see below IFI's comments on the proposed fibre optic cable routing through Galway Bay SPA & SAC:

As previously discussed during our telecom, the proposed cable laying timeline (July 2019) will coincide with the main salmon run returning through Galway Bay into the River Corrib catchment for the purposes of spawning.

I am aware that Dr William Roche has already advised that the salmon smolt run is from mid-April to the end of May (outside the timeline of the proposed cable laying works).

However, I note from your summary information that *"there is no significant noise generation during ploughing operations. As the cable installation by plough is relatively slow it produces only a minor plume of suspension of seabed sediments in the water column and this is transient and localised due to the nature of the ploughing and natural backfill activities"*. It is also noted that the cable laying operation from Ballyloughane Beach to the Aran Islands should only take approximately three days.

IFI will need to be notified at least one week before the cable lay from Ballyloughane Beach in order to monitor the operation to ensure there are no negative impacts on returning Salmon.

Any acoustic surveys associated with the site investigations (April 2019) will obviously require appropriate mitigation measures given the sensitivity of the habitat in question.

The opinion of the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA) in regard to timing of the survey is critical from the spawning/larval life stages of commercially-important fish species using the area.

On a side note, I presume that the proposed extension of Galway Harbour has also been accounted for and will not affect the cable?

I look forward to reviewing a copy of the Foreshore Licence Application in due course.

Kind Regards,
David

David Harrington
Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer
Western River Basin District - Galway

Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland
Teach Breac
Earl's Island
Galway
H91 K6D2

Tel [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Web [REDACTED]

From: David Harrington [REDACTED]
Sent: 18 April 2018 15:24
To: Bryan Deegan
Subject: RE: Fibre Optic Cable Galway

Hi Bryan,
Just to update you on progress.
I've circulated the proposal to my colleagues here in Galway for comment and am awaiting feedback.
Kind Regards,
David

David Harrington
Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer

Western River Basin District - Galway

Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland
Teach Breac
Earl's Island
Galway
H91 K6D2

Tel [REDACTED]

Email [REDACTED]

Web [REDACTED]

From: Bryan Deegan
Sent: 11 April 2018 13:44
To: David Harrington
Subject: Fibre Optic Cable Galway

Dear David,

Please find below information on a proposed fibreoptic cable from Bilbao to Galway Bay that is being proposed by DeepSea Fibre Networks Ltd. We are currently preparing a Natura Impact Statement and Ecological Impact Assessment that will be submitted along with the Foreshore Licence Application.

In summary, the proposed fibreoptic cable (36mm diameter) will pass up the west coast of Ireland outside the 12nm limit. It will enter Irish territorial waters just south of the Aran Islands and travel between the Aran Islands and the Co. Clare Coast, to Ballyloughane Beach on the east side of Galway City (above).

Site investigations are proposed in April 2019 and would involve acoustic investigations, magnetometer, sidescan and cores (1/10km) and grabs (1/500m) along the subtidal route. Trial pits and bar probes would also be carried out on the beach.

Main Lay would involve a 200m Horizontal Directional Drill from the grass area behind the beach into the intertidal (June 2019). The main intertidal section of the HDD would be done at low tide. It is not proposed to "punch out" but to keep the HDD 1.5m below the beach level. The pipe would be cleaned of bentonite with water and the fluids extracted from the main terrestrial pit at the drill rig, prior a hole being dug at the end of the pipe in the intertidal. A marine ecologist will be onsite during the HDD to observe setup, operations and reinstatement works.

The cable installation from the end of the HDD out to the low water line will be installed by a cable plough at low tide. The Main Lay vessel (June to August 2019) will pick up the end of the cable for the Inshore Section and this will then be jointed to the main cable on board the Main Lay Vessel. The Main Lay Vessel will then proceed to deploy and bury the cable in the seabed (to 1.5m) using a sea-plough. The sea-plough is towed by the Main Lay Vessel and is designed to bury the cable at a depth which will be secure from fishing activities. The estimated speed for ploughing in the sediments of Galway Bay is less

than 600m/hr. There is no significant noise generation during ploughing operations. As the cable installation by plough is relatively slow it produces only a minor plume of suspension of seabed sediments in the water column and this is transient and localised due to the nature of the ploughing and natural backfill activities. The total estimated time in Galway Bay, from Ballyloughane Beach to the Aran Islands is three days.

Proposed Timelines:

Pre-submission Consultation & Application Preparation	March/April 2018
Submit Main-Lay Application	April 2018
Contracts for Main-Lay & Cable	August 2018
Site Investigations	April 2019
Shore-End Installation	June 2019
Main-Lay	June - August 2019

The schedule has been designed to avoid the overwintering bird season for the SPA. As we are assisting Dr William Roche in relation to the proposed deployment of an acoustic array in Galway Bay for Atlantic salmon we discussed the project with Dr Roche. He mentioned that the smolt window is mid/April to the end of May (outside the time of proposed works) and the main Atlantic salmon run is June to August (within the proposed main lay time frame). The proposed main lay is for three days within this period. In addition, sea lamprey are a feature of interest of the Lough Corrib SAC.

Could you please tell me, if this proposal is satisfactory from a fisheries perspective and details of conditions that you may request during the Foreshore Licence Application stage, so we can address these or modify the plan to suit any concerns?

If you have any queries or require further information please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Kindest Regards

Bryan

Bryan Deegan (MCIEEM)
Managing Director
Altemar Ltd.
Marine and Environmental Consultants
Tel. [REDACTED]
email: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Pre-application Consultation – Galway Port.

From: Kevin Whyte
Sent: Monday, May 28, 2018 1:34:35 PM
To: Brian Sheridan
Cc: Jim McMahon; Tom McMahon
Subject: Re: WINS cable system route

Hi Brian,

The proposed deviation from our original route is following ongoing discussions with NPWS and environmental scoping surveys that our ecological consultants have completed to date. I will keep you updated on any further developments in this regard.

Is mise, le meas,
Kevin

From: Brian Sheridan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 28, 2018 13:23
Subject: Re: WINS cable system route
To: Kevin Whyte [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] Jim McMahon [REDACTED] Tom McMahon [REDACTED]

Hi Kevin,

I have reviewed and all looks ok...why the deviation?

Brian

On 28 May 2018, at 13:13, Kevin Whyte [REDACTED] wrote:

Brian,

Please see attached admiralty chart extracts with some proposed minor changes to the WINS cable route within the Galway Bay Complex SAC in the vicinity of Hares Island and the Tawin Shoals for your information and comment. The original route is shown in red and the proposed localised diversion is depicted in green. As you can see, the proposed route does not encroach on the current or future navigation channel. If you have any comment on these proposed changes with respect to navigation or anchoring of vessels in the area, please let me know.

Is mise, le meas,

Kevin Whyte
McMahon Design and Management

Pre-application Consultation – Department of Defence.

From: Olive.Mulhall [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 3, 2018 10:47:26 AM
To: Kevin Whyte
Cc: TJ McMahon
Subject: RE: Subsea cable from Galway to Bilbao

Hi Kevin,

Please see our comments below after consultation with all interested parties (Military, Air Corps, Naval Service):

☐ The proposed route of the subsea cable as depicted does not impact on any operational activities or live-firing exercises currently conducted by the military.

☐ Judging by the graphic the only range it would be likely to affect would be D14 and the schematic would suggest the line would run well WEST of this.

☐ The D14 is contained within EID14 SEA AREA SW OF KERRY 514605N 0103227W - 513530N 0101801W - 512238N 0104243W - 513317N 0105700W - 514605N 0103227W. The coordinates of the proposed route would suggest that it will be WEST of D14 throughout.

52° 01' 17.0972" N	11° 49' 5.2234" W
51° 53' 48.0049" N	12° 07' 49.6253" W
51° 42' 26.3674" N	12° 27' 3.1645" W
.46° 48' 52.5560" N	11° 37' 14.3038" W
46° 26' 33.9809" N	10° 45' 19.3332" W

☐ Presumably there will be no requirement for works/supply vessels or aircraft to enter the D14 when laying the line. It would obviously be necessary that there would be no vessels/aircraft within D14 should it be active.

Could you please ascertain if works / supply vessels will be conducting any activity in D14 and if so advance notice should be given to de-conflict any military firing that may be taking place.

If you have any questions on any of the above please let me know.

Kind regards,
Olive

Olive Mulhall
 Property Management Branch
 An Roinn Cosanta
 Department of Defence
 Bóthar an Stáisiúin, An Droichead Nua, Contae Chill Dara, W12 AD93.
 Station Road, Newbridge, Co.Kildare, W12 AD93.
 T: [REDACTED]
 E-mail: [REDACTED]

From: Kevin Whyte [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 June 2018 10:11
To: Olive.Mulhall [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Subsea cable from Galway to Bilbao

No problem Olive. Kmz files can be opened in Google Earth which is freely available to download. If you cannot access Google Earth, do you have any preference of a particular GIS file format for viewing the data or do you have a specific GIS software that you use?

Kind Regards,

Kevin

From: Olive.Mulhall [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, June 26, 2018 9:18:10 AM
To: Kevin Whyte
Subject: RE: Subsea cable from Galway to Bilbao

Hi Kevin,

Thanks for your email. I have taken over from Eilish Keating so I will be your contact from now on.

I don't have the software to open the kmz file, is it possible to get it in a different format?

Regards,

Olive

Olive Mulhall
Property Management Branch
An Roinn Cosanta
Department of Defence
Bóthar an Stáisiúin, An Droichead Nua, Contae Chill Dara, W12 AD93.
Station Road, Newbridge, Co.Kildare, W12 AD93.
T: [REDACTED]
E-mail: [REDACTED]

From: Kevin Whyte [REDACTED]
Sent: 25 June 2018 15:42
To: Olive.Mulhall [REDACTED]
Subject: Subsea cable from Galway to Bilbao

Olive,

Please see attached kmz and Excel file of proposed route of the subsea cable from Galway to Bilbao which is proposed to proceed through the Porcupine Sea Bight as requested. If you have any difficulties accessing the files or require the data in a different format, please let me know. I would be grateful if you could forward this data to Eilish Keating as I have misplaced her contact details.

Is mise, le meas

Kevin Whyte

McMahon Design and Management

Cable Landing Station Planning Permission – Galway City Council.

GALWAY CITY COUNCIL

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACTS, 2000 (as amended)

NOTIFICATION OF GRANT UNDER SECTION 34 OF THE 2000 ACT

To: Deepsea Fibre Networks Ltd.,
c/o Jenning Design Studio,
1 Marino Mart,
Fairview,
Dublin 3.

Ref. No. in Planning Register: 18/70

Date of Receipt of Application: 09 March 2018

In pursuance of the powers conferred upon them by the above mentioned Acts, Galway City Council, being the Planning Authority for the City of Galway have by order dated 7/6/18 granted PERMISSION to the above named for development of land, namely:-

Permission for development: The development will consist of construction of a single storey telecommunications terminal building including network control equipment & storage of spares. The building size is 346 sq. metres with a 2.4 M high security fence & entrance gate plus associated site works on a site of 0.178HA. The height of the building is to be 5.24 metres

at Galway Harbour Enterprise Park, New Docks, Galway

in accordance with all documentation lodged in respect of this application, including those submitted on 09 March 2018, and subject to the conditions set out in the schedule attached hereto.

Signed on behalf of Galway City Council: *Suzanne Keane*
Senior Staff Officer.

Date: 7/6/18

It should be noted that a grant of Outline Permission is subject to permission consequent on the grant of outline permission.

Pursuant to Section 40 of the above Act, a permission will expire five years from the date on which it is granted.

Pursuant to Section 36 of the above Act, permission consequent on the grant of outline permission must be submitted within 3 years from the date of outline permission unless otherwise stated by condition on the decision.

SCHEDULE REFERRED TO IN CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ORDER NO. 69425

PLANNING REGISTER REFERENCE NO. 18/70

- 1 The development shall be granted in accordance with the application made on 9th March 2018 and relates only to the Cable Landing Station hereby approved. Any other works, including cable connections are subject to separate procedures.

REASON:

To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the permission and that effective control is maintained

- 2 The building shall only be used for the purposes set out in the applicant's letter of 9th March 2018 and any other use will require a further application for planning permission

REASON:

To ensure that the development is carried out in accordance with the permission and that effective control is maintained and in compliance with Policy 11.2.5 of the Galway City Council Development Plan 2017-2023

- 3 Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, the developer shall pay to Galway City Council a contribution of €2422 (Two thousand, four hundred and twenty two Euro).

REASON:

So that the developer shall contribute an equitable portion of the cost of the services which facilitate the development. The use or return of this contribution shall be carried out as provided for in the Planning & Development Act 2000, Section 48

4. Prior to the commencement of development, the developer shall submit and agree in writing with the Planning Authority a landscaping scheme. The scheme shall include details of the materials for all hard and soft areas and the location, numbers and species of all new planting (this should be from a range of native species, appropriate to the site). The scheme when approved shall be carried out prior to the operation of development unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Planning Authority. Any plants failing within 3 years of their planting shall be replaced.

REASON:

To provide for an acceptable standard of development and in the interest of visual amenity

