

SFPA

**Shirley Kennedy**

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**From:** McGabhann, Declan <Declan.McGabhann@sfpa.ie>  
**Sent:** 28 March 2018 11:17  
**To:** Shirley Kennedy  
**Cc:** Foley Tina; Quigley, Declan  
**Subject:** FS006787 Site investigations at Clogherhead

Hello Shirley,

The following comments relate to the application for a foreshore licence to conduct site investigation works off Clogherhead. The applied foreshore application is approximately 18, 726ha. Comments regarding the inshore fish surveys have not been included as the information cannot be assessed at this time with the information provided. The applicant may wish to discuss the methodology once contract details for the surveys have been decided and comments advice will be provided.

SFPA have reviewed the application and supplementary documents submitted by Hibernian Wind Power (FS006787) and have the following comments to make;

The proposed site investigation works are not likely to cause any food safety issue to the seafood caught within or adjacent to the applied foreshore area.

Prior to the commencement of the investigations works, Hibernian Wind Power should appoint an local fisheries liaison officer (FLO) to coordinate with the fishing interest groups who operate within the proposed area. The FLO will be responsible for informing the fishing interest groups of location, duration and deployment dates where relevant, of any environmental monitoring devices. The Applicant also needs to provide contact details of the FLO to the SFPA Howth Office. I have included contact details of some local interests that are on file with regards to the application below.

The proposed foreshore licence application is within two classified shellfish productions areas and has the following fisheries operating inside the proposed area;

Classified shellfish production areas for Razorclams, *Ensis* spp. the southern boundary of the Dundalk Bay classified area and the northern boundary of Gormanstown classified area are both within the applied foreshore area. Both classified areas are fished by inshore vessels on a 6 day week from ports in Louth, Meath and Dublin. Generally the vessels operate is depth less than 15m. The overall *Ensis* fleet is in the region of 80 vessels of which approximately 20 vessels may operate within the applied area on a daily basis.

The inshore crustacean fisheries namely crab and lobster are fished by vessels from Louth within the applied area. Outside the 6nm limit additionalvessels from Northern Ireland fish alongside Irish registered vessels. The vessels deploy large numbers of pot strings which may not be tended to on a daily basis which may cause issues with the site investigation works. Approximately 10 vessels based in Louth fish the general area and 6 may fish inside the site investigation area.

The Nephrops fishery is fished by both vessels from Louth and Dublin and outside the 6nm limit is also fished by vessels from Northern Ireland. The number of vessels fishing within the investigation area is unknown for Northern Irish vessels. Vessels fishing from Louth and Dublin within the investigation area can number upwards of 15 vessels.

Should good communication with the interested parties and the applicant prior and during the site investigation works I cannot see that for the purpose of this application any issue should arise.

Irish South & East Fishermen's Producer Organisation, Hugo Boyle (086 0222090<<tel:086%200222090>>) and John Lynch (0868282762<<tel:0868282762>>)  
[isefpo@eircom.net](mailto:isefpo@eircom.net)<<mailto:isefpo@eircom.net>><<mailto:isefpo@eircom.net>><<mailto:isefpo@eircom.net>>>

Irish Fishermen's Producer Organisation, Francis O'Donnell (0879247344<tel:0879247344>)  
[ifpo@eircom.net](mailto:ifpo@eircom.net)<mailto:ifpo@eircom.net><mailto:ifpo@eircom.net<mailto:ifpo@eircom.net>>

North East Razor Clam Fisherman's Association, Charles Heasman (0876291905<tel:0876291905>)  
[ne.razorclamfishermansassoc@gmail.com](mailto:ne.razorclamfishermansassoc@gmail.com)<mailto:ne.razorclamfishermansassoc@gmail.com><mailto:ne.razorclamfishermansassoc@gmail.com><mailto:ne.razorclamfishermansassoc@gmail.com>>

Kind regards,

Declan

Sea Fisheries Protection Authority  
Howth Fisheries Harbour Centre  
West Pier  
Howth  
Co. Dublin  
Disclaimer:

Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority

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Údarás Chosaint Iascaigh Mhara

Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceangláin leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-agmaigh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeál, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

SFPA(2)

Pat O'Neill

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**Subject:**

Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

-----Original Message-----

From: McGabhann, Declan [<mailto:Declan.McGabhann@sfpa.ie>]

Sent: 26 April 2018 01:39

To: Pat O'Neill

Subject: Re: Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

Hi Pat,

Thanks for the update regarding Shirley and also the response from Hibernian.

Regards,

Declan

M.I.

## Shirley Kennedy

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**From:** Terry McMahon <Terry.McMahon@Marine.ie>  
**Sent:** 13 February 2018 15:00  
**To:** Shirley Kennedy  
**Subject:** RE: FS006787 Site Investigation works Clogher Head, Co. Louth

Shirley

Hibernian Wind Power Ltd has submitted an application for a Foreshore Licence to carry out site investigations in the western Irish Sea in the general vicinity of Clogher Head, Co. Louth. The location of the proposed site investigations area is shown in the following drawing submitted by the applicant:

- Drawing No. QS-000247-02-D460-001, "Foreshore Licence Map Admiralty Chart" , dated 14/12/2017

It is proposed that the site investigations will include:

- Archaeological Survey – which will include a desk study, identification and assessment of metallic and other targets using magnetometer and identification and assessment of targets using sidescan sonar and diving as required.
- Geophysical Survey - involving the use of multibeam echo sounder, magnetometer, sub-bottom profiler and side scan sonar
- Geotechnical survey – involving cone penetration testing as well as the collection of grab samples and vibrocores. It is proposed to carry out 160 cone penetration tests and collect 160 Vibrocores and 80 grab samples within the study area, the locations of which would be subject to the results of the geophysical and archaeological survey.
- Deployment of wind measuring and current measuring devices

The indicative location of cone penetration testing and the collection of vibrocores, as well as the proposed location for the deployment of wind measuring and current measuring devices is shown in the following drawings submitted by the applicant:

- Drawing No. QS-000247-02-D460-002, Foreshore Investigation Licence –Study Area OSI Discovery Series, dated 14/12/2017
- Drawing No. QS-000247-02-D460-003, Foreshore Investigation Licence –Study Area Admiralty Charts, dated 14/12/2017

It is intended that the Geophysical and Geotechnical Surveys would be carried out in summer 2018 and would be up to 3 months in duration. It is also intended that the Archaeological Survey would be carried out in summer 2018 and would be approximately 1 month in duration. It is intended that the wind measuring device would be deployed in summer 2018 and would be in situ for a minimum period of 12 months and a maximum period of 36 months. The current measuring device would also be deployed in summer 2018 and would be in situ for a period of 2 months.

It is noted that it is also intended to carry out non-intrusive marine mammal and bird surveys, as well as drop down video surveys in the area as part of the overall ecological investigations. The ecological surveys would commence in spring 2018, be carried out seasonally and would be of 2 – 3 years in duration. Given the non-intrusive nature of these surveys it is understood that a Foreshore Licence is not required for these elements of the overall site investigations.

The overall aim of the site investigations is to collect the necessary data and information required to optimise the layout and design of an offshore windfarm in the area, finalise offshore foundation locations, select an optimum route for submarine electricity cables from the windfarm , allow cable design and the development of cable

installation methodologies and to acquire baseline data on the wind resource and baseline environmental information in the area.

There is commercial fishing activity within the proposed site investigation area and therefore some interaction with fishing activity may occur. It is considered that that such interaction will be limited and overall will not be significant. It is recommended, however, that the applicants be required to appoint a Fisheries Liaison Officer who will consult with the SFPA and relevant fishermen's groups in order that appropriate actions can be taken to avoid or minimise interactions with ongoing fishing activity in the area during the course of the site investigations.

On the basis of the above and considering the nature, scale and location of the proposed site investigations the Marine Institute is satisfied that the site investigations as proposed will not have a significant impact on the marine environment in the survey area and will not have a significant impact on other legitimate uses / users of the area and therefore has no objections to a licence being granted. It is recommended that the following specific conditions should be attached to any licence that may issue.

1. The Licensee shall use that part of the Foreshore the subject matter of this licence for the purposes as outlined in the application and for no other purposes whatsoever.
2. The Licensee shall ensure that the works are carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application.
3. The Licensee shall to appoint a Fisheries Liaison Officer who will consult with the SFPA and relevant fishermen's groups in order that appropriate actions can be taken to avoid or minimise interactions with ongoing fishing activity in the area during the course of the site investigations

Terry

Dr. Terry McMahon  
Marine Environment and Food Safety Services  
Marine Institute  
Wilton Park House  
Wilton Terrace  
Dublin D02 NT99

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**From:** Shirley Kennedy [mailto:Shirley.Kennedy@housing.gov.ie]

**Sent:** 07 December 2017 10:27

**To:** PJ Shaw; Terry McMahon; 'foreshore@agriculture.gov.ie'; Manager Dau; declan.mcghabhann@sfpa.ie; Jimmy King; CANTWELL Nick; aabbottking@louthcoco.ie

**Subject:** FS006787 Site Investigation works Clogher Head, Co. Louth

**Re: Foreshore Application on behalf of Hibernian Wind Power for Site investigation Works for an Offshore Windfarm in the vicinity of Clogher Head, County Louth**

Dear Colleagues,

This Department has received an application under the Foreshore Acts (as amended) for the above-named project.

Details of the application are contained in the attached application form and associated documents can be found at <http://www.housing.gov.ie/planning/foreshore/applications/hibernian-wind-power-clogher-head>

MI(2)

Pat O'Neill

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**Subject:**

RE: Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

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**From:** Terry McMahon [<mailto:Terry.McMahon@Marine.ie>]

**Sent:** 30 May 2018 16:38

**To:** Pat O'Neill

**Subject:** RE: Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

Pat

My original observation still stand

Terry

# LOUTH CO CO (PLANNER)

**Foreshore Application on Behalf of Hibernian Wind Power for Site Investigation works for an Off shore Wind farm in the vicinity of Clogher Head County Louth:**

**FAO:**

Shirley I have reviewed the Louth County Development Plan in respect of relevant policies. The site is off the Clogherhead coast. The lands immediately adjoining the coast at these locations are designated as Development Zone 3. I enclose extract from Louth County Council Development Plan 2015 – 2021 for your consideration. I have also referred the matter to Louth County Council's head of Environment & their comments in respect of Clogherhead Blue Flag Beach have been included in the submission.

**The strategic policies for these lands abutting the coast are as follows:-**

### **3.10.1 Development Zone 3 - To protect the recreational and amenity value of the coast.**

"The coastline of County Louth stretches from the County Down border, along Carlingford Lough and Dundalk Bay to the Boyne Estuary outside Drogheda. It is of considerable intrinsic, special amenity and recreational value. Furthermore, the coastline is home to a variety of natural habitats and many species of flora and fauna. The coastline is protected by a number of statutory designations. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHA) and Special Protection Areas (SPA) designations cover much of the coastline".

**The specific policies for the lands abutting the coast are as follows:-**

#### **Policy**

**RD 35 To only permit development that would not be detrimental to the visual and recreational amenities of the coast. Such development would include limited one-off housing\*, agricultural developments, extensions to existing authorised uses and farms, appropriate farm diversification projects, tourism related projects (excluding holiday homes), active recreational amenities such as pedestrian and cycle paths, equestrian trails, ecological corridors, small scale ancillary recreational facilities, leisure and recreation related projects, and renewable energy schemes.**

**RD 36 Multi-unit residential developments, large-scale intensive agricultural, industrial and commercial developments or other developments of similar scale or nature would not be considered appropriate within this zone.**

**\*Refer to Section 2.19.1 for Qualifying Criteria**

With respect to an off shore wind farm development I note the following context notes also extracted from the Louth County Council Development Plan 2015 – 2021:-

#### **“9.4.1 Wind Energy**

Wind energy can make a significant contribution as a clean sustainable solution to energy requirements. County Louth although located on the eastern seaboard where wind availability and speed tends to be less than west coast locations, still has significant potential for wind energy production. However, the County's diverse landscapes have varying degrees of sensitivity to wind energy generating infrastructure and therefore, care will need to be exercised in the location and siting of such infrastructure. It is possible that future large scale wind generation may be located off the Louth coast. This in itself presents significant opportunities for economic development in servicing off shore wind farms.

***Wind Energy Development: Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2006*** published by the ***Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DECLG)*** sets out in detail various development control considerations, including site selection, siting and layout for various types of wind energy projects. The Guidelines have been the subject of a targeted review since 2013 to encompass detailed guidance in relation to noise, proximity and shadow flicker and address issues that have caused increasing concern in relation to wind turbine development. In support of this, ***Circular Letter PL 20-13 Review of Wind Energy and Renewable Energy Policies in Development Plans*** issued to all planning authorities stating that a number of policy initiatives were under review including:

- ∴ Φ0B7 Focused review of the wind energy development guidelines,
- ∴ Φ0B7 Renewable energy export policy and development framework.

As the preparation or variation of local authority development plans must take account of all relevant and up to date national policy, the DECLG has therefore advised that until the review processes have concluded, local authorities should defer amending their existing development plan policies and should instead operate the existing development plan policies and objectives until the completion of these processes and advised otherwise by the DECLG.

It should be noted that as the 2013 document is a draft targeted review of the ***2006 Wind Energy Development Guidelines***; all the other sections of these 2006 Guidelines (including existing appendices) will remain in place.

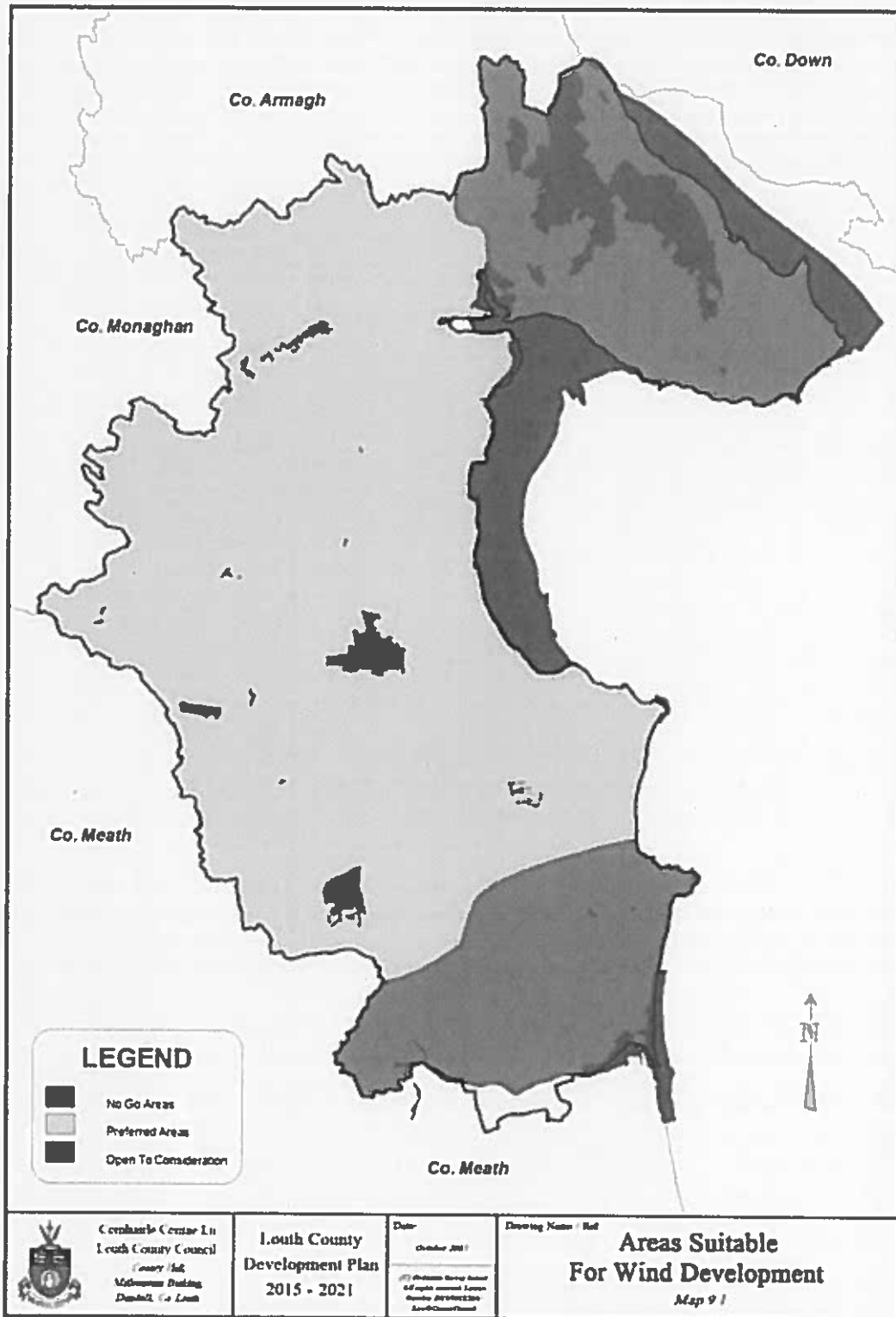
Specifically the draft targeted review of the 2006 guidelines proposes the following;

- Setbacks from turbines and curtilage of noise sensitive properties in the vicinity,
- Noise sensitive properties include residential properties, residential institutions, schools etc
- Areas of special amenity may also be defined as noise sensitive,
- A noise limit to be attached in noise sensitive properties (for one or more properties),
- Exceptions to noise limits if residents give written consent to satisfaction of the planning authority,



- Exceptions to setback from turbines & curtilage of noise sensitive properties if the written consent of local residents is forthcoming & to the satisfaction of the planning authority.

**Map 9.1: Areas suitable for Wind Development**



## Policy

**EnCo 14** To promote the location of wind farms and wind energy infrastructure in the "preferred areas" as outlined in Map 9.1, to prohibit such infrastructure in the areas identified as "no go areas" and to consider, subject to appropriate assessment, the location of wind generating infrastructure in areas "open for consideration".

**EnCo 15** To facilitate the development of wind energy sources where proposals are consistent with the landscape preservation objectives of the Plan, the protection of the natural and built environment and the visual and residential amenities of the area.

**EnCo 16** To require that all wind farm developments comply with the Wind Energy Development - Guidelines for Planning Authorities 2006 and successive revisions developed during the course of this Plan.

**EnCo 17** To support the development of offshore wind farm developments subject to normal proper planning considerations, including in particular the impact on areas of environmental or landscape sensitivity.

The off shore wind farm off the Clogherhead coast should not encroach onto the specific No Go area. Policy EnCo 14 of the Louth County Development Plan 2015 - 2021 seeks "To promote the location of wind farms and wind energy infrastructure in the "preferred areas" as outlined in Map 9.1, to prohibit such infrastructure in the areas identified as "no go areas" and to consider, subject to appropriate assessment, the location of wind generating infrastructure in areas "open for consideration".

### 3.3.1 Coastal Areas

The coastline of County Louth stretches from the County Down border, through Carlingford Lough, Dundalk Bay and as far south as Drogheda on the Boyne Estuary. The coastline is of high intrinsic and special amenity value and is home to a variety of natural habitats. *Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)* and *Special Protection Areas (SPA)* designations cover much of the coastline. Termonfeckin Strand, Clogherhead, Port and Templetown are superb beaches which have considerable tourism potential. The latter three beaches were awarded Blue Flag status in 2015.

**It would appear that Clogherhead Beach only may be impacted by the subject development.**

#### **BlueFlag Beach Impacts:**

It is assumed that the proposed wind-farm would be outside of the designated Blue Flag Beach area and hence the only impact would be visual.

It is considered that the provision of a windfarm would certainly have a negative impact on the attractiveness of our Blue Flag Beach in Clogherhead. However, my understanding is that it would not impact on our ability to apply for a Blue Flag.

The coastline also contains economically significant sites which include the ports at Drogheda, Greenore, Dundalk and Clogherhead.

The coastline is susceptible to pressure for development which has the potential to encroach on sensitive sites and cause pollution. The coastal waters off County Louth provide an important resource, supporting and generating employment and recreational activities. It will be important to ensure that measures to offset coastal erosion are provided in the Plan to protect this important resource.

### **3.5.2 Development on the Foreshore**

The *Foreshore Acts 1933 - 1998* require that a lease or licence must be obtained from the *Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government (DECLG)* before undertaking any works or placing structures or materials on, or removal of material from, any state owned foreshore which falls below the high water mark, where the high water mark is defined as the level reached by sea water at high tide.

However, planning permission will be required for any development on the foreshore that is above the high water mark.

#### **Policy**

**RD17** To increase the quality of beaches in the County and in so doing contribute to the development of the tourism industry and to the enjoyment of the facilities, subject to compliance with the provisions of the EU Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive and Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

**RD 18** To resist development along the coast which would detract from its visual appearance or conflict with its recreational and leisure functions.

**RD 19** To work closely with the Office of Public Works (OPW) in its work to identify and manage the risks associated with coastal flooding and coastal erosion.

**RD 20** To ensure that any development on the foreshore does not detract from the visual amenities of the coast and the public enjoyment thereof.

**RD21** To require all proposed developments within 100m of the coastline of Louth, outside the settlements and in Zone 3, to submit supporting documentation on coastal erosion. New development will be prohibited unless it can be objectively established based on the best scientific information at the time of the application, that the likelihood of erosion at a specific location is minimal taking into account, inter alia, any impacts of the proposed development on erosion or deposition.

Declan Conlon  
Acting Senior Executive Planner  
Date 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018

Pat O'Neill

LOUTH CO CO (HERITAGE)

**Subject:**

RE: FS006787 Site Investigation works for offshore Windfarm Clogherhead

**From:** Declan Conlon [<mailto:Declan.Conlon@louthcoco.ie>]

**Sent:** 24 April 2018 14:01

**To:** Shirley Kennedy

**Cc:** Anne D Callan

**Subject:** FW: : Foreshore Application on behalf of Hibernian Wind Power for Site investigation Works for an Offshore Windfarm in the vicinity of Clogher Head, County Louth

Shirley – these are some further comments (from Brendan Mc Sherry Heritage Officer Louth County Council) in respect of Site Investigation works for an Offshore Windfarm off Clogherhead coast. They are more observations than anything but I shall put them in the Council's submission that was issued to you yesterday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018.

Declan Conlon

**From:** Brendan McSherry

**Sent:** 24 April 2018 12:49

**To:** Declan Conlon

**Subject:** RE: : Foreshore Application on behalf of Hibernian Wind Power for Site investigation Works for an Offshore Windfarm in the vicinity of Clogher Head, County Louth

Hi Declan

Clogherhead is an SAC, as you know. None of its conservation objectives relates to the offshore area. I have seen harbour porpoises off it and minke whales may also occur. Seabirds are plentiful in the area and gannets hunt there from sites in county Dublin.

I hope this helps.

Brendan McSherry

Louth Heritage Officer

Email: <mailto:heritage@louthcoco.ie>

Direct dial: 042 9392969

Mobile: 086 601 3839

WMA

**Shirley Kennedy**

**Re FS006787 –Hibernia Wind Power - Foreshore Licence Application for Marine Survey (Archaeological and Ecological) , Site Investigation works (Geophysical, Geotechnical, and localised site investigations)and Wind and Current resource assessment, for the proposed development of an offshore wind farm in the vicinity of Clogher Head Co Louth –your e-mails of 23/11/2017 and 7/12/2017 refers-**

In relation to the above, ESB International (Consultants ) have submitted an Investigative Foreshore Licence Application ,on behalf of Hibernia Wind Power, to undertake various suites of marine surveys and site investigations in order to assess site and seabed conditions for the purposes of selecting optimum route for the sub marine electricity cables required for the development of an offshore wind farm off the east coast of Ireland in the vicinity of Clogher Head Co Louth .The proposed surveys and site investigations are necessary to acquire baseline data to allow cable design and the development of cable installation methodologies, to acquire baseline data to optimise the wind farm layout design and finalise offshore foundation locations and to acquire baseline data on wind resources and baseline information for environmental studies of the area.

#### **OVERVIEW**

An assessment was undertaken of the Bluefield offshore wind potential in the Irish Sea. This reviewed all previous internal research into this area. A comprehensive suite of assessment criteria (water depth, seabed slope, ecological constraints, planning constraints, access to grid, port facilities, navigation channels, existing foreshore leases /applications etc.) were used to rank the identified Bluefield areas .This assessment selected two preferred Bluefield options to take forward for development consideration as prospective offshore wind farm sites . One of these is off the coast of Wexford and the other one, the subject of this Foreshore Licence application is off the coast at Clogher Head in Co Louth .The overall Area which will be subject to Surveys/SI is shown on Drawing No QS-000247-02-D460-002 and incorporates a total area of 18726Ha .The potential output from any final wind farm development is predicted to be of the order of 500MW

The works will be predominately by seaborne electronic surveys (geophysical survey) with some selective sampling of the seabed (geotechnical survey). The following is my report:

#### **SUBMITTED DOCUMENTATION**

- Completed “Investigative Foreshore Licence Application” Form dated 11/1/2018
- Outline Contractor’s Method Statement dated 18/12/2017 prepared by ESBI Consultants
- Appendix A “Information on Typical Equipment and Shipping” dated Nov 2017 (included as an add-on with the completed Application Form)
- Appendix C “Information on Wind and Current Measurement Devices” dated Nov 2017 (included as an add-on with the completed Application Form)
- Drawings/Maps as follows

- Drawing Number QS-000247-02-D460-001 "Foreshore Licence Map Admiralty Chart" at Scale of 1:100000 on A3 ( area subject to SI is delineated in red outline) '
- Drawing Number QS-000247-02-D460-002 "Foreshore Investigation Licence-Study Area" at Scale of 1:100000 on A3 ( an OS Discovery Series map, area subject to SI is delineated in red outline, SI spot locations shown)
- Drawing Number QS-000247-02-D460-003 "Foreshore Investigation Licence –Study Area Admiralty Chart" at Scale of 1:100000 on A3 (area subject to SI is delineated in red outline, S.I spot locations shown)

#### **PLANNED SURVEYS**

This application refers solely to Geophysical Surveys, Archaeological Survey, Ecological Surveys, Geotechnical Investigations and the deployment of wind and current measurement devices within the proposed survey area of 18,726 Ha as outlined in Drawing No QS-000247-02-D460-002 (survey area delineated in red outline). It is intended to complete the surveys within 3 to 5 years of receipt of Licence. The wind measurement devices will be deployed for a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of 3 years. The current measurement devices will be deployed for a period of 2 months.

#### **PROPOSED MARINE SURVEYS and SITE INVESTIGATIONS**

The types of surveys proposed include geophysical, geotechnical, archaeological and benthic/ecological. Contracts have not yet been awarded for these surveys ,however details of typical equipment is outlined with reference to Section 1.4 of the completed Application Form and also with reference to the Outline Contractors Method Statement (dated 18/12/2017) and Appendices A and C. The location for all of the proposed survey points (spot locations) is shown on Drawing No's QS-000247-02-D460-002 and QS-000247-02-D460-003. A brief summary of surveys proposed is as follows:

##### Geophysical Survey

- Bathymetry (use of Multibeam Echo Sounder MBES)
- Magnetometry
- Geophysical Acquisition systems/sub bottom profiling
- Seismic sound source (applied acoustics boomer plate AA251/AA301 or similar)
- Sidescan Sonar System
- DGPS Positioning
- Steamer Hydrophone (Applied Acoustics or similar)
- Seismic Energy Source (Applied Acoustics CSP-L or similar)

##### Geotechnical Investigations (subject to results of the Geophysical and Archaeological surveys)

- Grab Sampling, 80 No Grab samples at representative locations within the proposed cable route corridor locations.
- Core Sampling, 160 No Core Samples at representative locations within proposed cable route corridor and offshore area locations
- Cone Penetrating Testing (CPT)-use of seabed cone penetrometer -, 160 No CPT's at representative locations within proposed cable route corridor and offshore area locations.
- Chemical Testing and Sample analyses

The survey area extent and proposed cores and CPT locations are indicated on Drawing No QS-000247-02-D460-002. These locations are subject to archaeological survey results.

#### Archaeological Survey

- Desk Study
- Identification of metallic and other targets recorded during marine magnetometer survey
- Assessment of archaeological significance of identified targets to include sidescan analysis and diving as required

#### Marine Ecological Survey

- Intertidal and sub tidal surveys
- Marine benthic, flora and fauna surveys
- Fisheries and Shellfish surveys
- Seabed surveys and collision risk assessment
- Marine Mammal Survey: -Static Acoustic Monitoring by use of CPODS deployed on seabed-  
-Towed hydrophonic acoustic array marine habitat identification ,  
classification and mapping-
- Marine water quality sampling

#### Benthic Ecology Survey

- Sediment grab sampling as required
- Drop down video survey at appropriate locations to undertake benthic assessment
- Near shore diver surveys
- Intertidal core samples along transect locations

#### Wind and Current Resource Assessment

- Deployment of 1 Seawatch wind Lidar Buoy or similar at one location specified on Drawing No QS-000247-02-D460-002-
- Deployment of 1 ADCPs at locations specified on Drawing No QS-000247-02-D460-002
- Deployment of 1 Marker Buoy at location specified on Drawing No QS-000247-02-D460-002-

Details of the vessels to be used for these Surveys and Site Investigations will not be known until the award of the 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. Typical vessel type and sizes which may be used are shown in Appendix A. In terms of the Marine Ecological Survey Works, it is anticipated that a vessel of similar type and size to the "Cuan Ban" as shown in Appendix A could be used for this survey.

All buoys to be deployed within the survey area will comply with CIL standard navigation requirements with regard to lighting, positioning and mooring.

#### **TIMELINES FOR PROPOSED MARINE SURVEYS and SITE INVESTIGATIONS**

The provisional programme for undertaking the surveys and site investigations, subject to weather conditions, is outlined at 1.8 of the completed Foreshore Application Form and is as follows:

- |                               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| • Geophysical Survey          | Summer 2018(3 months max duration)     |
| • Geotechnical Investigations | Summer 2018(3 months max duration)     |
| • Archaeological Survey       | Summer 2018(1 month)                   |
| • Ecological Surveys          | Spring 2018(3 years duration seasonal) |
| • Wind resource Monitoring    | Summer 2018 ( 1 year to max 3 years)   |
| • Current resource monitoring | Summer 2018 (2 months duration)        |

## **MARINE LIASON and CONSULTATION**

The Applicants sent a letter to a number of Statutory Consultees as advised by DHPLG informing them of the project and proposed works and inviting comment re same. A meeting was held with CIL regarding the project and site location. When the surveys/site investigations are scheduled the ESBI (Consultants for the Applicants) will arrange that the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority is notified so that small fishing vessels may be informed of the works taking place. Care will be taken to maintain contact with fishing vessels operating within the area of operations. The contractor will ensure notifications of the intended work and time lines are posted in the relevant press well ahead of schedule and a fisheries liaison officer will be employed

## **NAVIGATION**

The Applicants held a meeting with the CIL regarding project site and location. When the survey works/investigations are scheduled the ESBI will arrange for the publication of Local Marine Notices giving a general description of the operations and approximate dates for commencement and completion. The Mariner Notice will be prepared to ensure that other foreshore users are made aware of the operations. All vessels taking part in the survey/investigation works will comply with full certification requirements.

The survey work will be of a temporary nature, there will be a temporary deployment of wind and current measuring buoys. These buoys will comply with standard navigational safety requirements with regard to lighting, positioning and mooring. The impact on marine traffic will be minimal and will be over a very limited period.

No designated shipping lanes lie within the area for surveys and SI. The closest shipping lane to the site is located approximately 0.7km from the northern boundary of the site area.

The proposed works will cause minimal disruption to marine users.

Mobilisation port for large offshore survey vessels will not be known until award of contract and timing of survey. Potential ports along the east coast (Belfast, Dublin Greenore) are likely to be used.

Typical smaller ports in close proximity to the site will likely be used for the near shore works .These could be typically Clogherhead(Port Oriel), Annagassan and Carlingford for example. The vessel will return to shore each evening on completion of the works for the duration of the near shore survey campaign.



## **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

The proposed surveys will be localised and of limited extent and duration. The mainstay of the proposed surveys is of non-intrusive nature and there will be no impact on coastal erosion. Fishing activities will not be adversely affected by the surveys. When the surveys/site investigations are scheduled the ESBI (Consultants for the Applicants) will arrange that the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority is notified so that small fishing vessels may be informed of the works taking place. As part of the suite of surveys it is proposed to undertake Ecological Surveys including for fish and marine mammals. There are no licensed Aquaculture sites within the area subject to the proposed surveys. No impact on pleasure boating, sailing, swimming or surfing is anticipated.

### **Ecology**

The proposed survey area bounds the Clogher Head SAC along 1.63 km of its western fringe and lies approximately 6.5km from the closest SPA (Dundalk Bay SPA)

The Natura 2000 sites within 20km (1No SAC's and 4 No SPA's) of the proposed survey area are listed in Section 3.2 of the completed Application Form. The surveys and investigations will be of limited extent and duration. Tenderers will be required to submit their methodology statement and risk assessments in advance of carrying out any works and the Applicants will ensure that surveys will not impact on the designated SAC's and SPA's . In summary the environmental impacts of any surveys and investigations "will be negligible" (ref Q 3.3 of completed Application Form)

The site lies close to the proposed Oriel Bank Wind farm lease area (is app 1km south of this area). The site lies within the Gaelectric Development Ltd SI area off the Louth/Meath coast (this has not been advanced past preliminary pre- application phase ).The in combination effect of the existing lease area and the proposed SI and Surveys off Clogher Head will be negligible.

This Department's own independent AA Screening Report (likely to reach a conclusion that the proposed SI works will not impact on the conservation objectives and qualifying interests of any Natura 2000 site )will be forwarded in separate communication on follow on to this report in due course when completed.

## **COMMENTS**

The proposed Site Investigations and marine surveys will be of limited extent and duration, ranging from 1 month to 3 months subject to weather, with exception of Wind measurements which will occur over a 3 year period but these will be taken from a fixed point measurement buoy which will have no impact to the marine environment.

Overall fishing activities will not be adversely affected by the surveys. It is proposed to consult with the SFPA to keep commercial fishermen informed of the survey works including time lines, dates of surveys and SI's.It is proposed to employ a Fisheries Liaison Officer for this purpose.

It should be made a condition of the Licence when/if granted that the proposed surveys will conform to the NPWS (2014) "Guidance to Manage the risk Marine Mammals from Man-made Sound sources in Irish Waters" including the employment of a Marine Mammal Observer .

It is proposed that the SI and Marine Surveys will commence in Q2/Q3 (June/July) of 2018.

In advance of commencing the marine surveys the contractor will publish local Marine Notices in compliance with the requirements of CIL and MSO and notify SFPA providing a description of the SI Works/survey operations, locations and dates for commencement and completion. The Marine Notice will be prepared to ensure that other foreshore users are made aware of the operations.

Approaching vessels will be requested to keep a safe distance from SI Works/survey vessels in accordance with maritime regulations. All vessels involved in marine surveys will have appropriate navigational lighting and be equipped with navigational aids and competent crew maintaining a constant watch on other vessels.

The proposed Surveys and SI's are of limited duration and extent and with the exception of a very small element of near shore Geotechnical SI and Benthic Ecology survey works, which bounds app 1.63 KM of the Clogher Head sea cliff, all of the remaining proposed works are outside of any designated Natura 2000 site. Given the temporary nature of the effect and small scale of the operations, the impact from the marine site investigations and marine surveys on any Natura 2000 site can be considered as insignificant. This Department's own AA Report is likely to reach a similar conclusion that the proposed works will not have any significant effects on the Qualifying interests and the Conservation Objectives of the pertinent Natura 2000 sites within 20 km of the proposed site.

I would therefore consider that there should be minimal impact on the foreshore and marine environment as a result of these proposed Site Investigations and Marine Surveys.

#### **CONCLUSIONS/RECCOMENDATIONS**

The Applicants have demonstrated satisfactorily that, the proposed site investigations and marine surveys, in connection with this project, will not impact on fisheries, navigation or the environment (including potential impact to Natura 2000 sites).

Engineering Inspectorate therefore has no objection to the granting of a Licence subject to the following conditions:

- 1 The Applicant should notify this Department of the date of commencement of the Site Investigation / survey operations at least 2 weeks prior to commencement.**
- 2 During the course of the Site Investigation /survey operations the Applicants shall ensure that,**
  - (a) All necessary precautions are put in place to protect the public in accordance with relevant Health and Safety Legislation;**
  - (b) Existing public access arrangements to the general foreshore area are not impeded by any vessels, plant or materials used in connection with the site investigations/surveys , and where relevant this access should be made safe and**

guaranteed by the provision of appropriate signage/notices/barriers etc. to the satisfaction of the Department of Housing Planning and Local Government;

- (c) Procedures are adopted to ensure that the site investigations/survey operations are not injurious to fishing, navigation, adjacent lands or the public interests
3. All vessels/floating plant shall have appropriate certification from the Marine Survey Office.
  4. On completion of the Site Investigation works/Surveys the Applicants should ensure that all equipment and materials are removed and the foreshore is reinstated to its original condition, to the satisfaction of the Department of Housing Planning, and Local Government.
  5. Marine notice, lighting and markings to be carried out in consultation with the Maritime Safety Directorate, Department of Transport, Leeson Lane, Dublin2.
  6. All relevant Site Investigations and marine surveys to comply with the NPWS (2014) "Guidance to Manage the risk Marine Mammals from Man-made Sound sources in Irish Waters" including the employment of a Marine Mammal Observer as appropriate.
  7. Only those Site Investigation Works and Marine Surveys, the subject of this foreshore licence application and in particular as outlined in Sections 1.3 and 1.4 of the " Investigative Foreshore Licence Application " document dated 11/1/2018 , shall be undertaken.

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P.J.Shaw

Engineer Inspector (WMAU)  
Custom House  
30/1/2018

WMA (2)

Pat O'Neill

---

**Subject:** Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

---

**From:** PJ Shaw  
**Sent:** 30 May 2018 09:47  
**To:** Pat O'Neill  
**Subject:** RE: Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

Hi Pat

I can confirm that my original observations still stand . I note that Hibernian Wind Power commit to complying with all of the suggested conditions as recommended in the said Engineering report so this is fine .

Regards

P.J

30/5/2018

---

**From:** Pat O'Neill  
**Sent:** 29 May 2018 15:28  
**To:** 'terry.mcmahon@marine.ie'; PJ Shaw; 'Jimmy.King@fisheriesireland.ie'; Foreshore EPA Marine  
**Subject:** Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

Dear Addressee,

I refer to my previous e-mail (below) with which I forwarded the applicant's response (dated 25/04/2018) to the observations of our PBs.

Please find attached an updated responses document. Please confirm that, in light of the applicant's responses, your original observations stand.

Regards  
Pat

DAU – I refer to the nature conservation and underwater archaeological observations.

DAFM

**Shirley Kennedy**

---

**From:** OFlynn, Deirdre <Deirdre.OFlynn@agriculture.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 15 March 2018 12:39  
**To:** Shirley Kennedy  
**Cc:** Foreshore  
**Subject:** FS006787 Site Investigation works Clogher Head, Co. Louth

Shirley Kennedy  
Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government  
Newtown Road  
Wexford

**Your Ref:** FS006787

**Our Ref:** FW/2/12

**Re:** **Foreshore Licence application on behalf of Hibernian Wind Power for Site Investigation Works for an Offshore Windfarm in the vicinity of Clogher Head, Co. Louth.**

Dear Shirley,

Further to your email dated 7<sup>th</sup> December 2018, please find below observations from this Department.

The coastline off Clogher Head is a busy shipping and trawling area and a Marine Notice would be essential for the proposed site investigations in particular the longer-term deployment of the proposed monitoring buoy. The proposed monitoring buoy must comply with CIL standard navigational and safety requirements with regard to day marking and lighting etc.

As regards fishery harbours, the study zone includes the Clogher Head fishing harbour which is under the direct control of Louth County Council and the applicant should be advised to contact the local authority in this regard.

The proposed site investigation works are not likely to cause any food safety issue to the seafood caught within or adjacent to the applied foreshore area.

Prior to the commencement of the investigations works, Hibernian Wind Power should appoint a local fisheries liaison officer (FLO) to coordinate with the fishing interest groups who operate within the proposed area. The FLO will be responsible for informing the fishing interest groups of location, duration and deployment dates where relevant, of any environmental monitoring devices. The Applicant also needs to provide contact details of the FLO to the SPPA Howth Office.

The proposed foreshore licence application is within two classified shellfish productions areas and has the following fisheries operating inside the proposed area;

- Classified shellfish production areas for Razorclams, *Ensis spp.* the southern boundary of the Dundalk Bay classified area and the northern boundary of Gormanstown classified area are both within the applied foreshore area. Both classified areas are fished by inshore vessels on a 6 day week from ports in Louth, Meath and Dublin. Generally the vessels operate is depth less than 15m. The overall *Ensis* fleet is in the region of 80 vessels of which approximately 20 vessels may operate within the applied area.
- The inshore crustacean fisheries namely crab and lobster are fished by vessels from Louth and outside the 6nm limit vessels from Northern Ireland. The vessels deploy large numbers of pot strings which may not be tended to on a daily basis which may cause issues with the site

investigation works. Approximately 10 vessels based in Louth fish the general area and 6 may fish inside the site investigation area.

- The Nephrops fishery is fished by both vessels from Louth and Dublin and outside the 6nm limit is also fished by vessels from Northern Ireland. The number of vessels fishing within the investigation area is unknown for Northern Irish vessels. Vessels fishing from Louth and Dublin within the investigation area can number upwards of 15 vessels.

Yours sincerely,

*Deirdre O'Flynn*

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Deirdre O'Flynn  
Aquaculture & Foreshore Management Division  
Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co Cork  
023-8859529

Disclaimer:

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceangláin leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-agmaigh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeál, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

Pat O'Neill

DAFM(2)

**Subject:**

RE: Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

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**From:** Kelleher Evan [<mailto:Evan.Kelleher@agriculture.gov.ie>]

**Sent:** 27 April 2018 10:05

**To:** Pat O'Neill

**Cc:** Foreshore

**Subject:** RE: Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

Dear Pat,

The Department has no further comments to add in regard to this application.

Kind regards,

*Evan*

**Evan Kelleher**

*EO, Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division*

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**An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara**

*Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine*

IFI (1)

**MARINE LICENCE VETTING COMMITTEE:**

**Re: DHPCLG file ref. FS006787 Foreshore Application on behalf of Hibernian Wind Power for Site investigation Works for an Offshore Windfarm in the vicinity of Clogher Head, County Louth**

***Request for observations from Ms. Shirley Kennedy (DECLG) dated 7.12.2017***

**Overview:**

This application is in respect of a series of surveys to be conducted off the coast of Clogher Head, as per maps provided. The surveys include:

1. Geophysical surveys
2. Geotechnical surveys
3. Archaeological surveys
4. Marine ecology surveys
5. Benthic ecology survey
6. Wind resource assessment
7. current resource assessment

Timing and duration of works are listed as:

1. Geophysical surveys - summer 2018 – 3-month duration
2. Geotechnical surveys - summer 2018 – 3-month duration
3. Archaeological surveys – summer 2018 – 1-month duration
4. Marine ecology surveys – spring 2018 – 3-years duration - seasonal
5. Benthic ecology survey – spring 2018 – 3-years duration - seasonal
6. Wind resource assessment – summer 2018 – 12 month (min) – 36 month (max)
7. current resource assessment - summer 2018 – 2 months

**IFI comment:**

IFI notes that a Screening for AA report is not provided. This might be anticipated given the proximity of the overall area to a series of *Natura 2000* sites. The application does note the presence of a series of *Natura 2000* sites in proximity to the licence application area, lists some of these and states that the environmental impact of the surveys and investigations will be negligible.

Item1: The geophysical procedures proposed use instruments that can generate sound pressure levels (SPL) of 200 dB or greater, as indicated in the documents provided, in the case of sub-bottom profiler and seismic boomer. There is potential for impacts to fish species here but such issues are not addressed in the application. The application site is north of the River Boyne estuary. Inward migration routes of adult salmon and sea trout, along with outward migration routes of salmon smolts are likely to use the area proposed for investigation. The Boyne system is a SAC for Atlantic salmon, among other qualifying interests.



Mitigation measures in regard to the timing of works and also in regard to noise generation and potential for adverse impact on fish species should be agreed with Foreshore Divn DHPCLG and form part of any foreshore licence. These mitigations should cover:

- Reduction in the number of sound-requiring test types to be employed
- Use of soft-start and ramp-up procedures for any sound-generating surveys undertaken – both on a day-to-day basis and on re-start after any stoppages within any day
- duration of noise-generating surveys will be reduced to the minimum necessary to collect results of sufficient quality.

Item 2: The geotechnical survey has listed a very large number of locations at which coring is proposed. It is understood that individual cores are not particularly large but the scale of coring seems very substantial, particularly in the narrower part of the application area closest to the coast. This is likely to be very disruptive to benthic ecology and to inshore commercial fishing for the duration of the coring activity.

Mitigation measures in regard to the timing of works should be agreed with Foreshore Divn DHPCLG and form part of any foreshore licence. If such a large number of cores are required then a staggered approach – with a portion of the total sampled over 2-3 years, as proposed for the marine ecology surveys – would be less potentially intrusive.

Items 3 - 7 do not raise any particular concerns. Items 6 and 7 will retain instrumentation *in situ* for extended periods. The reasons for this are clear and the instruments do not impact on marine ecology or fisheries. It is understood that the instruments will be marked for navigation safety etc.

James J. King (IFI R&D) and Noel Mc Gloin (IFI Eastern RBD, Dublin)  
Inland Fisheries Ireland  
8.1.2018

CC Terry Mc Mahon MLVC;

IFI(2)

**MARINE LICENCE VETTING COMMITTEE:**

**Re: DHPCLG file ref. FS006787Foreshore Application on behalf of Hibernian Wind Power for Site investigation Works for an Offshore Windfarm in the vicinity of Clogher Head, County Louth**

***Request for observations from Mr. Pat O' Neill (DECLG) dated 25.4.2018 et seq in regard to applicant responses to Public Authority comments***

The applicant responses to IFI comments are bulleted below, as received. IFI responses are in bold

Inland Fisheries Ireland  
Hibernian Windpower Ltd welcome the comments of Inland Fisheries Ireland and return the following:

A Screening for AA report will be prepared for the project at a future date given the proximity of the overall area to a series of Natura 2000 sites.

**IFI would have assumed that a Screening report would be submitted as part of the application documentation. This is a matter for DHCLG Foreshore to determine.**

Hibernian Windpower Ltd note the point that there is potential for impacts to fish species and will agree mitigation measures with the Foreshore Division, Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government. Hibernian Windpower Ltd will also ensure that all relevant Site Investigations and Marine Surveys comply with the NPWS (2014) "Guidance to Manage the risk Marine Mammals from Man-made Sound sources in Irish Waters" including the employment of a Marine Mammal Observer as appropriate.

**IFI notes agreement to develop mitigations with DHCLG Foreshore and this is welcomed. The mitigations relate to abatement of noise generated into the aquatic environment. Please note that compliance with NPWs guidance in regard to marine mammals is largely of no value when applied to the issue of risk management for fish.**

Hibernian Windpower Ltd note the observation that the proposed geotechnical works may be very disruptive to benthic ecology, including fish species, and to inshore commercial fishing for the duration of the coring activity.

**IFI would welcome sight of mitigation proposals, given that the applicant 'notes' the issue.**

Hibernian Windpower Ltd note the recommendation that the timing of the proposed works should be staggered to act as a mitigation measure. In practice, this arrangement would require the deployment of multiple survey campaigns. It is the view of Hibernian Windpower Ltd that in considering economic and time regards, this would not be feasible. However, Hibernian Windpower Ltd notes the importance of underwater / benthic ecology and is committed to having no undue adverse impact on the area of investigation. Hibernian Windpower Ltd commit to completing any works to the highest ecological standard. This value is enforced by our in-house ecology team and in our instruction to parties completing works.

It is also of note that the actual process of taking a core sample is physically intrusive over a very small area, circa 150mm diameter. The test rig is also appropriately sized to complete such works. The vessel deploying the rig does not require any vessel exclusion limit beyond those of normal safe sailing.

**IFI 's concern is in relation to the proposed number of cores, not the size/diameter of individual cores**

James J. King

Inland Fisheries Ireland

19.6.2018

IFI (3)

Pat O'Neill

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**Subject:**

Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

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**From:** Jimmy King [<mailto:Jimmy.King@fisheriesireland.ie>]

**Sent:** 27 August 2018 08:53

**To:** Pat O'Neill

**Subject:** RE: Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

Pat,

IFI commented on a number of issues in our response of 19.6.2018.

The applicant has provided clarification in regard to the number of cores proposed.

There are other issues raised by IFI and it is not apparent that these have been addressed. However, I consider it is for the Department to make determinations on licence conditions, mitigations etc. IFI has identified its concerns and has no further comment.

Jimmy

Dr. James King  
Senior Research Officer

-----  
**Iascach Intíre Éireann**  
**Inland Fisheries Ireland**

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Web [www.fisheriesireland.ie](http://www.fisheriesireland.ie)

3044 Lake Drive, Citywest Business Campus, Dublin 24, IRELAND.

M50

Marine Survey Office,  
Ballyshannon T.C  
Abbey View House,  
Ballyshannon  
Co.Donegal,  
Ireland.

Tel: 353-071-9822400

Fax: 0719822439

<b>Memorandum to</b>	<b>HPCLG – Foreshore Section</b>
<b>Attention</b>	<b>Shirley Kennedy</b>
<b>Fax No</b>	
<b>From</b>	<b>Nick Cantwell</b>
<b>No of Pages</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>25 April 2018</b>
<b>Reference</b>	<b>FS006787</b> <b>Foreshore Application on behalf of</b> <b>Hibernian Wind Power for Site</b> <b>investigation Works for an Offshore</b> <b>Windfarm in the vicinity of Clogher</b> <b>Head, County Louth</b>
<b>CC</b>	

- This office is satisfied that the documentation accompanying the application adequately addresses any concerns this department may have, however the following conditions will apply.
- **The applicant is required to arrange with the M.S.D. the publication of a Marine Notice. This marine notice should give a general description of operations, including locations and approximate dates of commencement and completion of works. In addition a notice to this effect should be published in a National newspaper.**
- Full consultation with the Irish Coast Guard is required in this matter.
- The views of the Divisional Engineer should be sought.
- All vessels employed in the project must comply fully with Certification and manning requirements.

Yours faithfully

\_\_\_\_\_  
N.W.Cantwell (Capt.)  
Nautical Surveyor

M50(2)

Pat O'Neill

---

**Subject:**

Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

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**From:** CANTWELL Nick [<mailto:NickCANTWELL@dtas.gov.ie>]

**Sent:** 26 April 2018 11:05

**To:** Pat O'Neill

**Subject:** RE: Hibernian Wind Power Clogherhead, Co. Louth - File ref. FS 006787

Good morning Pat.

Thank you for providing the developer's responses regarding the above, I can confirm that the Marine Survey Office are satisfied and have no further comments to submit.

Best regards.

Nick Cantwell (Capt)  
Nautical Surveyor

Marine Survey Office  
Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.  
Town Council Building,  
Ballyshannon,  
Co. Donegal

Tel: 071-9822400

Fax: 0719822439

Email: [nickcantwell@dtas.ie](mailto:nickcantwell@dtas.ie)

# NATURE + ARCHAEOLOGY

foreshore

**From:** Foreshore EPA Marine  
**Sent:** 16 January 2018 14:43  
**To:** foreshore  
**Subject:** Foreshore Licence application FS006787 by Hibernian Wind Power

**Re: Foreshore Licence application FS006787 by Hibernian Wind Power - Clogher Head, in the vicinity of Clogher Head, County Louth.**

A Chara,

On behalf of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht I refer to the above.

Outlined below please find the Underwater Archaeology & Nature Conservation observations.

## Underwater Archaeology

It is noted that the proposed investigations are within an area of underwater archaeological potential. The Wreck Inventory of Ireland Database lists numerous wrecks for Clogher Head / Dundalk Bay, which are subject to statutory protection under section 3 of the 1987 National Monuments (Amendment) Act. Given the location of the proposed investigations it is possible that underwater archaeology may be impacted by the investigations.

It is therefore recommended that the proposed geophysical surveys be carried out in advance of any geotechnical works. The geophysical data for all proposed geotechnical investigation locations (including the taking of vibrocores and grab samples) shall be assessed by a suitably qualified archaeologist to ensure that the proposed works do not negatively impact on locations where there is known or potential archaeology and to ensure no samples or cores are taken from an area where a wreck site is located.

A report summarising the assessment of the geophysical data should be forwarded to this office for review prior to the geotechnical works taking place. Where archaeological material/features are shown to be present, preservation *in situ*, avoidance, preservation by record (archaeological excavation) or archaeological monitoring may be required. The applicant shall be prepared to be advised by the Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.

The proposed geophysical surveys and archaeological dive surveys should be licenced under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2014. The dive survey should be accompanied by a hand-held metal detection survey which should also be licenced under the National Monuments Acts 1930-2014.

The results of the geotechnical investigations should be assessed by a suitably qualified archaeologist and this assessment should form part of the overall archaeological assessment of any proposed windfarm development.

## Nature Conservation

It is noted that the location of the proposed works is situated in the vicinity of Clogher Head SAC (site code 1459), and Dundalk Bay SPA (site code 4026).

This Department is of the view that this development does not pose a known significant threat to nature conservation and therefore we have no objection to the granting of this application, once the following guidance document is adhered to:

**NPWS Guidance Document - Guidance to Manage the Risk to Marine Mammals from Man-made Sound Sources in Irish Waters.**

[https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/general/Underwater%20sound%20guidance\\_Jan%202014.pdf](https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/general/Underwater%20sound%20guidance_Jan%202014.pdf)

The section with particular relevance for the proposed survey is section 4.3.4 – Geophysical Acoustic Surveys.

Mise le meas,

Simon Dolan  
Development Applications Unit  
Department of Culture, Heritage, and the Gaeltacht.  
Newtown Road  
Wexford

tel: 0539117377



An Roinn  
Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta  
Department of  
Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht