

Your Ref: MS51/6/333(A)

Mr. Matthew McLoughlin,  
Foreshore Unit,  
DECLG,  
Newtown Road,  
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17/10/2011

### **ENGINEERING REPORT.**

#### **RE: FORESHORE LICENCE APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF BORD GAIS EIREANN FOR SITE INVESTIGATION WORKS IN THE BARROW ESTUARY.**

I'm writing in response to Mr. D. Dunnes letter dated the 16/02/2011 to Mr. McDonald requesting observations in relation to the above.

#### **Brief Description**

The site investigation works proposed will take place within the River Barrow Estuary at the proposed location of the 400mm diameter gas pipeline. The location is between Ballinlaw in County Kilkenny and Dollar Point, Great Island in County Wexford. The investigation is required to aid the design and routing of the trenchless crossing.

The proposed investigation will consist of the drilling of six number coreholes from a jack-up barge over a three week period. The coreholes will allow physical sampling and analysing to a depth of 40m below the river bottom

#### **Licence Map.**

Drawing FL-001 Rev PL1 (dated 09/02/2011) should be used to attach to a licence if issued.

#### **Environment**

The proposed site lies within the River Barrow & River Nore cSAC and it is also a proposed National Heritage Area (pNHA). It is therefore important that FU get the observations of NPWS in relation to this application.

The applicant has prepared an Environmental Appraisal Report (February 2011). This report includes a summary of mitigating measures in section 9 of the report. These mitigation measures must be implemented in full during the site investigation.

#### **Navigation**

The proposed works lie within the navigation channel to New Ross Port. It is therefore important the FU get the observation of New Ross Port Company in relation to this application.

**Conclusion/Recommendations**

I have no objection to the advertising of this proposal and subject to no objections arising from that process to granting of a Foreshore Licence subject to the following conditions:

1. The Licensee shall notify the Department of the date of commencement of the works 2 weeks prior to commencement.
2. During the course of the works the Licensee 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 plant or materials used in connection with the site investigations, 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 Environment, Community and Local Government;
  - (c) procedures are adopted to ensure that the works are not injurious to fishing, navigation, adjacent lands or the public interest;
3. The Licensee shall fully comply with the requirements set out in “Code of Practice for the Protection of Marine Mammals during Acoustic Seafloor Surveys in Irish Waters”.
4. The Environmental Mitigation Measures as set out in Section 9.0 of the Environmental Appraisal Report must be adhered to in full during the site investigation works.
5. All vessels/floating plant shall have appropriate certification from the Marine Survey Office.
6. On completion of the works the Licensee shall ensure that all equipment and materials are removed and the foreshore is reinstated to its original condition, to the satisfaction of the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.

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Edwin Mooney,  
Engineering Inspector.