Screening Determination for Appropriate Assessment

Project Reference:

T32-028A, Wicklow Seaweed Company Ltd, Aquaculture & Foreshore Licence application for the cultivation of Irish Wakame (Alaria esculenta), Northern European kelp (Digitata) (Laminaria digitata), Dulse (Palmaria palmata), Sugar kelp (Saccharina latissima), Sea thong (Himanthalia elongata), Nori (Porphyra umbilicalis), Harpoon weed (Asparagopsis armata) at Arklow Bay, Co. Wicklow.

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended ('The Regulations'), the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine has undertaken Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the proposed project at Arklow Bay, Co. Wicklow individually or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site.

In accordance with Regulation 42(7) of the EC (Birds and Natural habitats) Regulations 2011, SI 477, as amended, the Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required as the project individually or in-combination with other plans or projects is not likely to have a significant effect on any European sites. The risk of likely significant effects on European sites can be excluded on the basis of objective evidence. This determination is based on the location, scale, extent and duration of the proposed development, including temporary works, and has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Timmy Dooley TD
Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Date: 31/08/2026