

SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Project reference: LIC230001 NORTH IRISH SEA ARRAY WINDFARM LTD, SITE INVESTIGATIONS OFF THE COAST OF COUNTIES DUBLIN, MEATH AND LOUTH

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'), MARA has undertaken screening for Appropriate Assessment to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the site investigation works off the coast of Counties Dublin, Meath and Louth, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effects on any European site.

In accordance with Regulation 42(6) of the Regulations, MARA has determined that an Appropriate Assessment is required as it cannot be excluded on the basis of objective scientific information that the proposed activities, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, may have a significant effect on the following European sites:

Rockabill to Dalkey SAC [IE003000]
Lambay Island SAC [IE000204]
River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC [IE002299]
Slaney River Valley SAC [IE000781]
Saltee Islands SAC [Site code IE0007071]
Roaringwater Bay and Islands SAC [IE000101]
Basket Islands SAC [IE002172]
North-west Irish Sea cSPA [IE004236]
Rockabill SPA [IE004014]
Skerries Islands SPA [IE004122]
Lambay Island SPA [Site code 004069]
The Maidens SAC [UK0030384]
Pembrokeshire Marine SAC [UK0013116]
Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC [UK0013117]
Cardigan Bay SAC [UK0012712]
North Anglesey Marine SAC [UK 0030398]
West Wales Marine SAC [UK 0030397]
North Channel SAC [UK 0030399]
Bristol Channel Approaches SAC [UK0030396]
Récifs et landes de la Hague [FR2500084]
Anse de Vauville [FR2502019]
Banc et récifs de Surtainville [FR2502018]
Chausey [FR2500079]
Baie du Mont Saint-Michel [FR2500077]
Estuaire de la Rance [FR5300061]

Baie de Lancieux, Baie de l'Arguenon, Archipel de Saint Malo et Dinard [FR5300012]
Cap d'Erquy-Cap Fréhel [FR5300011]
Baie de Saint-Brieuc [FR5300066]
Tregor Goëlo [FR5300010]
Côte de Granit rose-Sept-Iles [FR5300009]
Nord Bretagne DH [FR2502022]
Baie de Morlaix [FR5300015]
Abers - Côte des legends [FR5300017]
Ouessant-Molène [FR5300018]
Côtes de Crozon [FR5302006]

The reasons for MARA's determination that Appropriate Assessment is required are set out in detail in the screening report published alongside the determination.

This determination is based on the location, scale, extent and duration of the proposed site investigations, and has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Recommending officer: _____

Mary Hegarty, 21st February 2024

Decision maker: _____

Dr Karen Creed, 21st February 2024