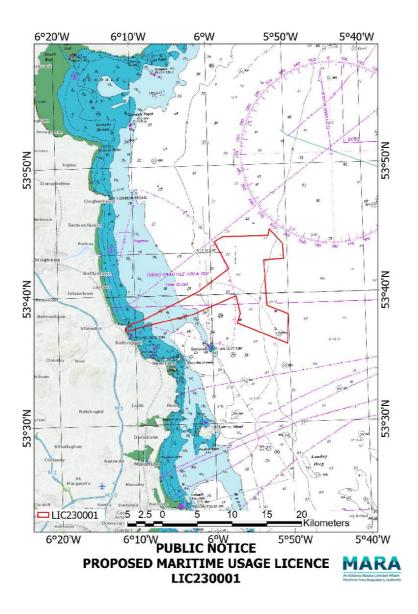
## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## The Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 and the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011

NISA Limited has applied to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority ("MARA") for a maritime usage licence under section 117 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 to undertake marine environmental surveys for the purpose of site investigations off the coasts of the Counties of Dublin, Meath and Louth. The surveys will be carried out within the area identified in the licence application in order to inform the location and design of the proposed offshore wind farm and cable route. The surveys will include marine geophysical, hydrographic, geotechnical, benthic subtidal and intertidal ecology surveys, environmental, metocean and archaeological surveys, and water quality monitoring. The licence application is for a period of 7 years.



Screening for appropriate assessment determination

On 21 February 2024 following screening by MARA under regulation 42 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011), a determination was made that the proposed maritime usage referred to above <u>requires</u> an appropriate assessment. The determination was made on the basis of objective scientific information which indicated that it cannot be excluded that the proposed maritime usage individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site. A copy of the determination is available at LIC230001 - MARA - The Maritime Regulator

In considering this matter MARA had regard to the following:

- The screening for appropriate assessment report prepared by MARA;
- The environmental report prepared by MARA;
- The application documents submitted by NISA Limited which informed the screening for appropriate assessment.

## Judicial review of the screening for appropriate assessment determination

The validity of the screening for appropriate assessment determination may be questioned by judicial review under order 84 of the Superior Courts Rules (S.I. No 15 of 1986) in accordance with chapter 8, part 5 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021, any application for leave to apply for judicial review must be made promptly and in any event within eight weeks of the date of this notice. Practical information on judicial review can be obtained from the Citizens Information Board, Ground Floor, George's Quay House. 43 Townsend Street. Dublin 2 (www.citizensinformation.ie) or from the Courts website (www.courts.ie).

Dated this 26/02/2024 day of February 2024

The Maritime Area Regulatory Authority