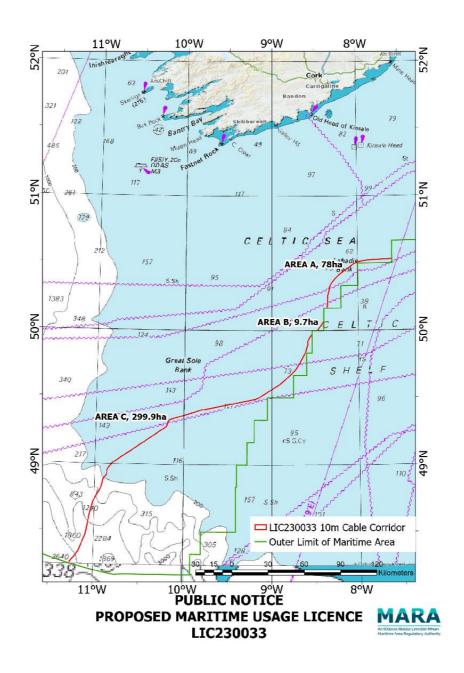
## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

Apollo Submarine Cable System 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 the installation and operation of fibre optic subsea telecoms cable within the Irish Exclusive Economic Zone ("EEZ"). The licence application is for a period of 25 years.



## Screening for appropriate assessment determination

On 23 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 LIC230033 - 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 Apollo Submarine Cable System 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 day of February 2024

The Maritime Area Regulatory Authority