

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Invitation for public submissions on an application for a maritime usage licence and an appropriate assessment

Electricity Supply Board 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 purposes of site investigation at Moneypoint, Co.Clare. Marine site investigation works will include marine geophysical surveys, marine environmental/ecological surveys and metocean Surveys. The proposed geophysical surveys include MultiBeam echosounder, sub-bottom profiler, side scan sonar and magnetometer surveys and may also incorporate visual surveys e.g. drop down video or remotely operated vehicle. Marine geotechnical surveys i.e. sampling/coring boreholes at 20 locations to a maximum of 30m investigation depth below seabed level and vibrocores at approximately 25 locations. The licence application is for a period of 3 years.



A related Natura impact statement has been submitted with the above licence application. The licence application and the Natura impact statement are available for inspection on MARA’s website <https://www.maritimeregulator.ie/applications/lic230008/> and at the following address by appointment– Maritime Area Regulatory Authority, 2nd Floor, Menapia House, Drinagh Business Park, Drinagh, Wexford, Y35 RF29.

Members of the public who wish to make a submission in writing to MARA on the licence application and the Natura impact statement may do so quoting ref: LIC230008 to the following e-mail address licence@mara.gov.ie or by post to the following address - Licence Unit, Maritime Area Regulatory Authority, 2nd Floor, Menapia House, Drinagh Business Park, Drinagh, Wexford, Y35 RF29.

The closing date and time for a written submission to be received by MARA is 17.30 on 27th of May 2024.

MARA will then, as soon as practicable, carry out the appropriate assessment determination in accordance with regulation 42 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011. After the determination, MARA will either grant, part grant or refuse the licence application.

Dated this day 26th of April of 2024.

Signed: Daniel Hogan, Environmental Consenting Project Manager, Electricity Supply Board, ESB Head Office, 27 Fitzwilliam Street Lower, Dublin, D02 KT92