

## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

On the 15 December 2023, Apollo Submarine Cable System Limited applied to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (“MARA”) for a maritime usage licence (licence reference no. LIC230033) under section 117 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (“the MAP Act”) to undertake a maritime usage off the south coast of Ireland consisting of the installation of a fibre optic subsea telecommunications cable and potential future maintenance activities within the Irish Exclusive Economic Zone. On 28 June 2024, MARA determined to part grant the licence for the installation of the fibre optic subsea telecommunications cable, subject to conditions.

In connection with the above licence application and following a public consultation under section 117(6)(b) of the MAP Act, MARA carried out an appropriate assessment of the proposed installation of the said fibre optic subsea telecommunications cable. On the 24 May 2024, MARA determined that the proposed installation of the said fibre optic subsea telecommunications cable (either individually or in combination with any other plans or projects) would not adversely affect the integrity of any European Sites<sup>1</sup>, in view of the European Sites’ conservation objectives, subject to the implementation of mitigation measures.

The appropriate assessment report and the appropriate assessment determination dated 24 May 2024 are available at [LIC230033 - MARA - The Maritime Regulator](#).

#### **Judicial review of the appropriate assessment determination**

The validity of the 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 MAP Act. 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

---

<sup>1</sup> As defined in the European Communities (Birds and Habitats) Regulations 2011

Street, Dublin 2 ([www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)) or from the Courts website ([www.courts.ie](http://www.courts.ie)).

Dated this 10 day of July 2024

The Maritime Area Regulatory Authority