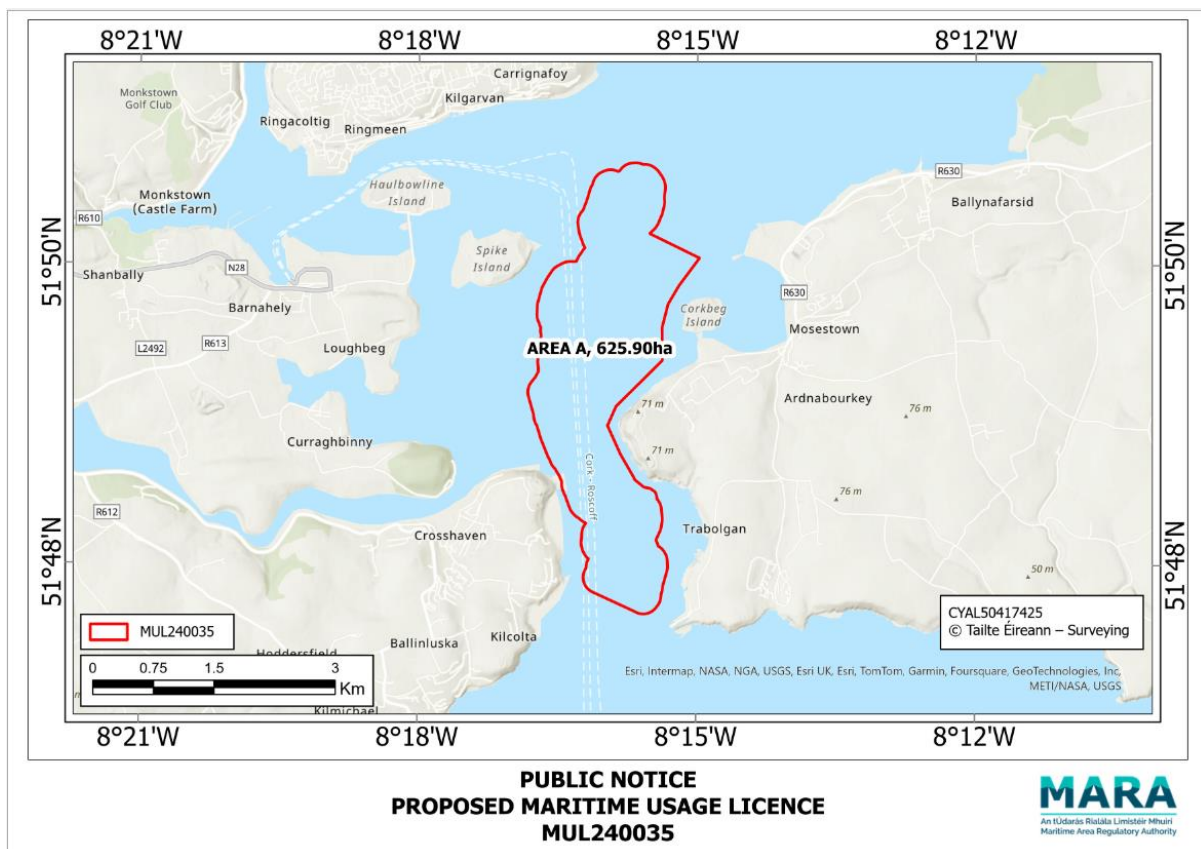


PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Gas Networks Ireland submitted an application on 06/09/2024 to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (“MARA”) for a maritime usage licence under section 117 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 to undertake a marine survey within Cork Harbour to provide high-quality baseline data that can contribute to a reliable basis for site selection for the Strategic Gas Emergency Reserve. The surveys require the deployment and retrieval of static acoustic monitoring (SAM) devices and up to two acoustic doppler current profilers (ADCP) within the study area. The application is for marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigations. The licence application is for a duration of 2.5 years. The activities will take place in Cork Harbour.



Screening for appropriate assessment determination

On 16/12/2024 following screening by MARA under regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. 477 of 2011), a determination was made under regulation 42(7) of the regulations that the proposed maritime usage referred to above will not require Stage 2 appropriate assessment. The determination was made on the basis of objective scientific information following screening that the proposed maritime usage individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on a European site. A copy of the determination is available at [MUL240035 - MARA - The Maritime Regulator](#)

In considering this matter MARA had regard to the following:

- The screening for appropriate assessment report prepared by MARA;
- The application documents submitted by Gas Networks Ireland 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 shall be made 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 22nd day of January of 2025

The Maritime Area Regulatory Authority