

Noeleen Roche

From: Licensing Staff
Subject: FW: Dumping at Sea Licence application S0028-01

From: Foreshore EPA Marine [<mailto:fem.dau@ahg.gov.ie>]
Sent: 17 January 2017 13:55
To: Wexford Receptionist
Subject: Dumping at Sea Licence application S0028-01

Re: Dumping at Sea Licence application S0028-01 by Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in Killybegs Harbour

A Chara,

On behalf of the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs I refer to the above.

Outlined below please find the Nature Conservation observations.

The proposed seabed dredging and dumping-at-sea of sediment at Smooth Point and adjacent, within Killybegs Harbour, Co. Donegal, has been evaluated by both a Natura Impact Statement and amongst others a Marine Megafauna Risk Assessment.

The conclusion of the Natura Impact Statement document is that the proposed works are unlikely to pose a significant likely risk to nature conservation interests in the vicinity. The Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs concur with this conclusion.

The conclusion of the Marine Megafauna Risk Assessment suggests that there is a low likelihood of interaction with marine mammals from the proposed operations subject to good practise on site. The suggested mitigation included the use of observation of marine mammals in the vicinity, speed restrictions and using vessels without unguarded ducted propellers. These recommendations suggested by the environmental consultants should be implemented during operations.

The proponent should also ensure that other activities not covered by the EPA Dumping-at-Sea Consent application take account of requirements for assessment under European and national legislation for nature conservation.

Mise le meas,

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