

Submission No.				56	
Organisation Name or Name of Submitter				DECC Geological Survey Ireland	
Item No.	Section Ref.	Page No.	Page No.	Observation Statement	TII Response
Letter Re: Railway Order Application- Metro North: Estuary through Swords, Dublin Airport, Ballymun, Glasnevin and City Centre to Charlemont, Co. Dublin					
1	Introduction	3	3	With reference to your email received on the 17 October 2022, concerning the Draft railway order for Metrolink project (Estuary to Charlemont via Dublin Airport), Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. Please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter and following sections provide more detail on some of these datasets.	<p>TII thank GSI for the provision of links to datasets covering Geoheritage; Groundwater; Geological Mapping; Geotechnical Database Resources; Natural Resources (Minerals / Aggregates); Geochemistry of soils, surface waters and sediments; and, Geophysical data, together with associated guidelines.</p> <p>TII confirm that relevant data has been used to inform the EIAR and is referenced including Chapter 18: Hydrology, Chapter 19: Hydrogeology and Chapter 20: Soils and Geology. TII will also use this data to inform the development of the design and delivery of MetroLink.</p>
2	Other Comments		6	Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. Should any significant bedrock cuttings be created, we would ask that they will be designed to remain visible as rock exposure rather than covered with soil and vegetated, in accordance with safety guidelines and engineering constraints. In areas where natural exposures are few, or deeply weathered, this measure would permit on-going improvement of geological knowledge of the subsurface and could be included as additional sites of the geoheritage dataset, if appropriate. Alternatively, we ask that a digital photographic record of significant new excavations could be provided. Potential visits from Geological Survey Ireland to personally document exposures could also be arranged.	<p>TII confirm that all designs and construction will be undertaken in accordance with technical guidance and standards, and industry best practice.</p> <p>TII concur that the MetroLink proposed scheme presents a huge opportunity to significantly increase the knowledge database with respect to geological / geotechnical records and commit to the provision of the ground investigation data collected on behalf of TII. Furthermore, TII would welcome GSI visits to the works once underway. TII will seek to schedule a coordination meeting in advance of the commencement of construction to further explore any synergies, including discussion around any particular aspects of record keeping that may be of assistance to GSI.</p>
		6		The data would be added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at mailto: GeologicalMappingInfo(g)gsi.ie, 01-678 2795.	