
ACP-234230-26 Beaufort sub-sea fibre optic cable system

From Louise Gahan <Louise.Gahan@wexfordcoco.ie>
Date Fri 6/12/2026 11:37 AM
To Marine <marine@pleanala.ie>
Cc Diarmuid Houston <Diarmuid.Houston@wexfordcoco.ie>

 1 attachment (133 KB)
ACP-324230-26.pdf;

Caution: This is an **External Email** and may have malicious content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact the ICT Helpdesk.

Good morning,

With reference to the above and in accordance with Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), please find attached the Chief Executives report of Wexford County Council as a coastal Planning Authority.

A copy of the above documents will be forwarded by registered post today.

Kind regards,

Louise

Louise Gahan | Staff Officer | Planning Department

Wexford County Council, County Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford, Y35 WY93

☎ 053 919 6240 | ✉ louise.gahan@wexfordcoco.ie | www.wexfordcoco.ie



Tá an t-eolas sa ríomhphost seo agus in aon chomhad a ghabhann leis rúnda agus ceaptha le haghaidh úsáide an té nó an aonáin ar seoladh chuige iad agus na húsáide sin amháin. Is tuairimí nó dearchthaí an údair amháin aon tuairimí nó dearchthaí ann, agus ní gá gurb ionann iad agus tuairimí nó dearchthaí Comhairle Contae Loch Garman. Má bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid, ar mhiste leat é sin a chur in iúl don seoltóir nó le customerservice@wexfordcoco.ie. Scanann Comhairle Contae Loch Garman ríomhphoist agus ceangaltáin le haghaidh víreas, ach ní ráthaíonn sé go bhfuil ceachtar díobh saor ó víreas agus ní glacann dliteanas ar bith as aon damáiste de dhroim víreas.

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. Any views or opinions presented are solely those of the author, and do not necessarily represent those of Wexford County Council. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender or customerservice@wexfordcoco.ie. Although

Wexford County Council scans e-mail and attachments for viruses, it does not guarantee that either is virus-free and accepts no liability for any damage sustained as a result of viruses.

12 June 2026

To: An Coimisiún Pleanála,
64 Marlborough St.
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Re: ACP-324230-26-Beaufort sub-sea fibre optic cable system.

The attached Chief Executives Report was presented at the meeting of Wexford County Council on 08-June-2026. The report was endorsed by the Council although some of the members expressed concern regarding possible impact on the fishing sector.

Please consider this report as Wexford County Council's response to the proposed application.

I trust this information is of assistance in determining the proposed consent.



Diarmuid Houston
Senior Planner
Wexford County Council



To: An Cathaoirleach and Elected Members of Wexford County Council

Re: ACP-324230-26. Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended

Proposed installation of the Beaufort sub-sea fibre optic cable system from the terminus of works under the granted Foreshore Licence (FS007361) at the 12 nautical mile (nM) limit to the extent of the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) off the coast of Kilmore Quay, Co Wexford.

Wexford County Council has been requested by An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) to set out the Council's views on the above development. In accordance with Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 this report has been prepared for presentation to the Members of the Council for consideration. The Members may, by way of a resolution under 291(7) of the Act, make additional comments which will be included in the submission report to ACP.

The application was submitted to ACP by Amazon MCS Ireland Ltd who are seeking to provide fibre optic links from Ireland to the UK replacing the former ESAT -1 Subsea Cable.

In June 2025 Planning Register 20250330 was granted permission by Wexford County Council for a development consisting of the installation of a cable duct and all other associated works above and below ground, on a site of c. 0.02 ha. located at Crossfarnoge Bay Beach/Kilmore Quay. This permission formed the onshore connections to the overall project.

This application relates to an area starting 12 nautical miles out to sea and covers the maritime area designated as Ireland's Exclusive Economic Zone. The cable will continue onto Pembrokeshire in the UK.

The location of this section of the cable will have very limited impact on County Wexford. The onshore element of the development has been agreed and the applicant, who has been working with the Council, has supported local community projects to the value of €125,000.

Whilst the Planning Authority does not have off-shore expertise on the environmental impacts, the proposed works would appear to follow best practice to reduce impacts on the marine environment. It is recommended that any consent complies with the mitigation measures outlined in the Natura Impact Statement submitted as part of this application.

The development is considered to comply with National Planning Framework, the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, by providing international and regional high

speed telecommunications connectivity. The development also complies with the Wexford County Development Plan 2022-2028. Relevant objectives include:

Objective CZM01

To ensure the sustainable development of the county's coastal areas and the maritime area for the long term benefit of coastal communities and the economic well-being of these areas and the county, whilst protecting and enhancing environmental quality and managing and restoring biodiversity.

Objective CZM03

To maximise the economic development potential of the county's coastal and maritime areas subject to compliance with the objectives of the County Development Plan with regard to the location of economic development, the protection of the scenic amenity and views associated with coastal areas and the maritime area which is crucial to the tourism industry, the protection of the amenity, livelihood and cultural well-being of coastal communities, the protection and restoration of coastal features, habitats and species, compliance with the Habitats Directive and normal planning and environmental criteria and the proper planning and sustainable development of these areas.

Objective CZM04

To seek investment in the sustainable development of infrastructure (physical and social), access (upgraded pier infrastructure, landing facilities and passenger and cargo ferry services), regional connectivity (transport networks and digital) and enterprise growth, and deliver initiatives with local communities and other stakeholders to strengthen and sustainably grow coastal communities subject to compliance with the Habitats Directive and normal planning and environmental criteria.

Objective CZM12

To support transboundary consultations and cooperation by requiring proposals that have transboundary impacts beyond the maritime area, either on the terrestrial environment or neighbouring international jurisdictions, to show evidence of consultation with the relevant public authorities, including terrestrial planning authorities and other country authorities.

Objective CZM17

To work with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in the preparation of sub-regional plans for the maritime area and nearshore area which will maximise the beneficial impacts of the development of the maritime area while protecting County Wexford, its landscape and seascapes, environment, economy and people.

Objective TC02

To support proposals that will ensure existing and future international telecommunications connectivity which is critically important to support the future needs of society and enterprise in Ireland, and to support appropriate proposals that will ensure and enhance connectivity of Ireland's rural communities to high quality

telecommunications networks, and to support proposals where evidence is provided of an approach to development and activity that integrates the need for cables and pipelines.

Objective TC15

To support the relocation or replacement of existing telecommunications infrastructure where the proposed location or form will be more suited in terms of visual amenity, residential amenity, the environment, biodiversity and built or natural heritage

The development is therefore considered to comply with the objectives of the Wexford County Development Plan 2022 to 2028 which seek to maximise the economic benefits of the marine area and promote the international telecommunications connectivity. The proposal will provide essential national infrastructure and Wexford County Council welcomes this investment.



Eddie Taaffe
Chief Executive
Wexford County Council

Date:

4/6/26