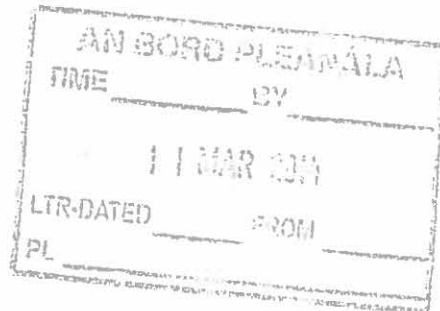


Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann
Tor an Bhacaigh
Bóthar Haddington
Baile Átha Cliath 4



Geological Survey of Ireland
Beggars Bush
Haddington Road
Dublin 4
Tel. +353 1 6707444
Fax. +353 1 6681782
<http://www.gsi.ie>

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1.



11 March 2014

**RE: Galway Harbour Company
Galway Harbour Extension
Direct Application to An Bord Pleanála
in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development**

Tobin Ref: 2139 JPK/SG

GSI Ref: 14/15

Dear Sir/Madam,

There are no sites of geological interest within the primary study area as per the Natura Impact Statement provided by Tobin Consulting Engineers on 9th January 2014.

Please note that Geological Heritage data can now be viewed online on the GSI Public Data Viewer at: http://spatial.dcenr.gov.ie/imf/imf.jsp?site=GSI_Simple – see below.

Datasets

The Geological Survey of Ireland, as the national earth science agency, has datasets on Bedrock Geology, Quaternary Geology, Mineral deposits, Groundwater Resources, Geological Heritage, Landslides and the Irish Seabed. These comprise maps, reports and extensive databases that include mineral occurrences, bedrock/mineral exploration, groundwater, site investigation boreholes, karst features, wells and springs.

To assist with an Environmental impact Assessment (EIA), and especially the "Soils & Geology" and "Surface Water & Groundwater" parts, maps/databases are available on the GSI website under "Online Mapping"- direct link: <http://www.gsi.ie/Mapping.htm> with datasets currently available for Bedrock, Geological Heritage, Groundwater, Karst, Geotechnical boreholes, Mineral locations. More recent viewers accessible from the same link include the National Landslide Viewer, the Aggregate Potential Mapping and the Geotechnical Viewer.

Please note that Geological Heritage data can now be viewed online on the GSI Public Data Viewer at: http://spatial.dcenr.gov.ie/imf/imf.jsp?site=GSI_Simple

There are two map layers under 'Geological Heritage':

1. 'Geological Heritage Sites Boundaries': a national dataset (one shapefile with boundary polygons) showing the nine County Geological Sites audits to date (Carlow, Clare, Kildare, Sligo; and Meath, Kilkenny, Fingal, Waterford and Roscommon, at July 2013).

County Geological Sites audit data are still available for download (as individual county shapefiles and site report pdfs; with direct links to individual reports in the most recent 5 audits) at: <http://www.qsi.ie/Programmes/Heritage+and+Planning/County+Geological+Sites+Audits/>

2. 'Geological Heritage Sites No Boundaries': a national dataset (one shapefile with buffer polygons) covering all the other counties not yet audited, indicating the provisional location/extent of sites. These sites have buffers appropriate to their type (or theme), ranging between 200m, 500m and 1000m (for the largest landscape/glacial features). These are not 'mitigation' buffers, but an attempt to encompass the extent of the particular type of site.

These will all be available to download as well in the next few weeks from: <http://www.dcenr.gov.ie/Spatial+Data/Geological+Survey+of+Ireland/GSI+Spatial+Data+Downloads.htm>

Data Updates

The 'No Boundaries' data is provisional data only. As each county's geological heritage is audited, the 'No Boundaries' data will be replaced with the audited 'Boundaries' data, so please re-visit the viewer regularly for updates. There can also be *ad hoc* updates of individual site data at any time.

We anticipate that with necessary funding and the ongoing good partnerships of local authorities and the Heritage Council, that it will be possible to complete the remaining county audits within the next 5 years. Please note that all the above sites are of, at least, County Geological Site (CGS) status (some are also recommended for designation as Natural Heritage Areas) and are included in the relevant County Development Plan with associated protection policy/ies.

Other comments

Should you identify a Geological Heritage Site with buffer within your study area, please contact Sarah Gately, Head of the Geological Heritage and Planning Programme at sarah.gately@qsi.ie, for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.

As GSI's karst dataset is far from comprehensive due to important data gaps, GSI would welcome complementary data collected during any EIA; data which would be added to the national database. If you wish to contribute data, please contact Caoimhe Hickey for details (caoimhe.hickey@qsi.ie).

At a later stage, GSI would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be added to GSI's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to Beatriz Mozo (beatriz.mozo@qsi.ie, 01-678 2795).

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if the GSI can be of any further help, please contact me.

Yours sincerely,



John Butler, Clerical Officer

Kieran Doherty

From: SIDS
Sent: 12 March 2014 10:02
To: Kieran Doherty
Subject: FW: Direct Application to An Bord Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development - Galway Harbour Extension
Attachments: 14_15_Galway_Harbour_Extension.pdf

From: Bord
Sent: 12 March 2014 09:10
To: SIDS
Subject: FW: Direct Application to An Bord Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development - Galway Harbour Extension

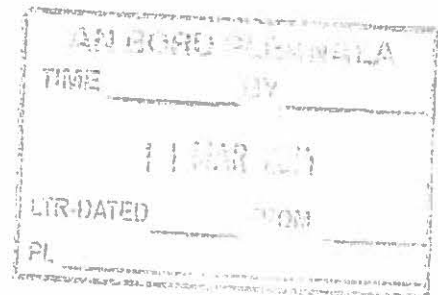
From: John Butler [<mailto:John.Butler@gsi.ie>]
Sent: 11 March 2014 17:09
To: Bord
Subject: RE: Direct Application to An Bord Pleanála in respect of a Strategic Infrastructure Development - Galway Harbour Extension

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find enclosed Geological Survey of Ireland response in relation to the above. The GSI is an agency of the Department of Communications Energy & Natural Resources.

Kind Regards,

John Butler
Clerical Officer
Geological Survey of Ireland
Beggars Bush
Haddington Road
Dublin 4
Tel: +353 (0)1 6782785
<mailto:john.butler@gsi.ie>



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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith priobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach

