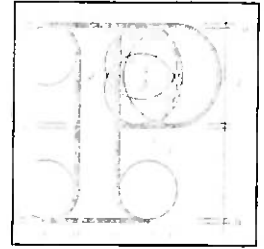


Our Ref: 61.PA0033  
P.A.Reg.Ref:

An Bord Pleanála

Your Ref: SID-2014-GE-02



Niall Redmond  
Assistant Principal  
National Parks and Wildlife Service  
C/O Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht  
7 Ely Place  
Dublin 2  
D02 TW98

30th March 2016

**Re: Galway Harbour Extension  
Renmore and Townparks Townlands, Galway**

Dear Sir,


An Bord Pleanála has received your request for an extension of time to respond to the Board's notice of 2nd of February, 2016 in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and in particular to Galway Harbour Company's proposals in relation to compensatory measures to address the impact on the integrity of the Galway Bay Complex SAC.

The Board invited the National Parks and Wildlife Service to comment on the acceptability in principle of the applicant's initial proposals in relation to compensatory measures. Having regard to the complex issues involved, the Board is agreeable to your request for an extension of time.

Therefore, in accordance with section 37F(1)(c) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, you are now requested to make further submissions or observations to the Board in relation to these emerging proposals and/or a recommended approach to development of compensatory proposals relating to the project on or before the **24th May, 2016**.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

  
Kieran Doherty  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737248

ADHOC/PA0033/44

## Kieran Doherty

---

**From:** Cliona O'Brien - (DAHG) <Cliona.O'Brien@ahg.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 24 March 2016 15:56  
**To:** Kieran Doherty  
**Cc:** Rachel Kenny; Philip Green; John Fitzgerald - (DAHG); Niall Redmond - (DAHG)  
**Subject:** 61.PA0033 Galway Harbour Extension

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Mr Doherty,

I refer to your letter of 2<sup>nd</sup> February, as well as to earlier correspondence between the Department and the Board on the above application.

The Department notes the Board's request for the Department's views by the 29<sup>th</sup> March on the acceptability in principle of the applicant's initial proposals in relation to compensatory measures (as per the Aquafact Report on behalf of Galway Harbour Company: proposed Compensatory Measures Associated with the Galway Harbour Extension, Renmore and Townparks Townlands, Galway).

On the basis of the level of the detail provided in the documents previously received by the Department, as well as the applicant's report and in the absence of more comprehensive scientific data from additional survey work and analysis thereof, the Department is not in a position to express a view at this point on the adequacy or acceptability or otherwise of the proposals.

With specific reference to the Applicant's report, it is generally lacking on specific details on the proposed compensatory measures that would allow the Department to form a view as to whether they may be generally acceptable or not, e.g. there is no supporting data and analysis presented to demonstrate that the possible compensatory habitats are indeed "like-for-like" with those that may be lost or affected, and no specific locations (such as for the compensatory stony bank habitat) are identified, beyond a very general "envelope".

The Department requests an 8-week extension to the consultation period (up until 24<sup>th</sup> May) so that it can prepare a more detailed submission on the information requirements that would be needed to support the development of such a view.

Thank you in advance for considering this request.

Kind regards  
Cliona O'Brien

Cliona O'Brien  
Head of Ecological Assessment  
National Parks and Wildlife Service  
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht  
7 Ely Place  
Dublin D02 TW98.

[cliona.obrien@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:cliona.obrien@ahg.gov.ie)  
Tel: 01-8883297