
Daniel O'Connor

From: Marine
Sent: Tuesday 24 February 2026 09:41
To: Daniel O'Connor
Subject: FW: ACP323827-25
Attachments: Mara_Submission_ACP 323827_25.pdf

From: MARA Consultation <consultation@mara.gov.ie>
Sent: Monday 23 February 2026 12:21
To: Marine <marine@pleanala.ie>
Subject: Ref: ACP323827-25

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Good Afternoon,

I refer to the above and attach herewith submission on behalf of The Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA).

I would be obliged if you could acknowledge receipt of same.

Kind Regards,

Jennifer.

Jennifer O' Connor
Analyst
MUL & Planning Advisory Directorate

☎ 053 – 910 5756 ✉ jennifer.oconnor@mara.gov.ie

An tÚdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuirí (MARA)
Maritime Area Regulatory Authority

**An Dara Urlár, Teach Menapia, Páirc Gnó Dhraighní,
Draighneach, Loch Garman, Y35RF29.**

2nd Floor, Menapia House, Drinagh Business Park,
Drinagh, Wexford, Y35RF29.

MARA
An tÚdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuirí
Maritime Area Regulatory Authority

Marine/Climate Section
An Coimisúin Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902
marine@pleanala.ie

Date: 23rd February 2026

An Coimisúin Pleanála Case Reference: ACP-323827-25

Applicant: The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).

Re: Application for Substitute Consent for Deep Water Quay Development under Section 177E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The application is accompanied by an rEIAR and an rNIS.

Location: Ros an Mhíl, County Galway.

Dear Sir/Madam,

We acknowledge receipt of your notice dated 7th January 2026, in relation to the above application for Substitute Consent for development works undertaken in relation to the Deep Water Quay project at Ros an Mhíl (Rossaveel) Fishery Harbour Centre between 11th July 2023 and 20th May 2024. The works requiring substitute consent are set out as follows;

- Drilling, Blasting and Dredging works
- Installation of 48m of quay wall foundations
- Temporary protective berm. This is a temporary structure needed for the construction of the quay wall
- Drilling and blasting of 85% (18 blast events) of quay wall trench and berthing pocket was completed
- Dredging of rock in quay wall trench (50m long)
- Reclamation Works continued to place engineering fill material into a remaining small area (0.12ha) within the reclamation lands.

Mara notes that a concurrent application (ACP Reference Number; 323895-25) to complete the development at Ros an Mhíl has also been submitted to An Coimisúin Pleanála under Section 37L of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

MARA as a prescribed body

The Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) welcomes the opportunity to submit our views on the planning application at this stage of the process. MARA is a prescribed body

address:

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2nd Floor, Menapia House, Drinagh Business Park, Drinagh, Wexford,
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email:

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website:

www.maritimeregulator.ie



by virtue of Section 279A of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) for the purposes of Part XXI, and as set out in Schedule 1 of the Planning and Development (Maritime Development) Regulations, 2023.

MARA's functions extend to the entire maritime area, from high water of ordinary tides to the outer limit of the continental shelf, encompassing the State's territorial seas and Exclusive Economic Zone. Our comments relate only to development within the maritime area. Furthermore, our comments should not be interpreted as inferring any aspect of assessment of the planning application.

Maritime Area Consent (MAC)

The area of a Fishery Harbour Centre is defined by an Order currently in force under Section 2 of the Fisheries Harbour Centre Act 1968 (including amendments post 1968) and declared by such order. This Act provides for the establishment and operation of these harbours to promote, develop and carry on sea fishing, fish processing, fish related activities and matters connected to the fish industry as well as any other purpose including the provision, improvement and development of leisure or amenity facilities or for facilitating or promoting the social or economic development of the area in which the Fishery Harbour Centre is located. Ros An Mhíl (Rossaveel) Fishery Harbour Centre is one such Fishery Harbour Centre with an associated administrative boundary; [Fishery Harbour Centres - Dataset - DAFM Open Data](#).

Having regard to the spatial extent of the site area subject to substitute consent, whilst it extends beyond the HWM and into the maritime area it is located within the administrative area of a Fishery Harbour Centre. Therefore noting the requirements of Section 281(2) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), MARA wish to advise that by virtue of Schedule 3(1) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (as amended), the Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine (DAFM) do not require a MAC under Section 75(1) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (as amended), for developments within such Fisheries Harbour Centres, as it is considered within a function referred to in Section 1B of the Foreshore Act of 1933. It is a matter for An Coimisiún Pleanála how they consider the restrictions placed on a maritime development, in the absence of the applicant being a holder of a MAC.

In this regard it is MARA's understanding that any enforcement obligations relevant to the permitted substitute consent development will come within the scope of the relevant Coastal Planning Authorities remit which in this case is Galway County Council.

Maritime Usage Licence (MUL)

The MAP Act requires MARA to licence marine usage activities as specified in Schedule 7 of the MAP Act, (not being a maritime usage which requires development permission).

MARA has a Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) application currently on hand (Reference number; MUL240033) on behalf of Uisce Éireann to conduct surveys to support a

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An tÚdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuiri
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strategic modelling study of water currents within Galway Bay and the exposed coast extending northwest to Roundstone, County Galway and southwest to Loop Head Lighthouse, County Clare. The licence application is for a period of five years. The activities are required to conduct surveys to support a strategic modelling study of water currents within Galway Bay and the exposed coast extending northwest to Roundstone, County Galway and southwest to Loop Head Lighthouse, County Clare. Pursuant to section 117(6)(b) of the MAP Act, public consultation of the license closed on the 21/12/2025. MARA will then, as soon as practicable, either grant, part grant or refuse the licence application.

It is also noted that a Foreshore Licence (Reference number; FS004676) was granted to Galway County Council for Tourist Moorings to the northwest of Rossaveal commencing on the 05/11/1999 for a period of 35 years until 04/11/2034.

These MARA applications and licences may be of relevance in An Coimisiún Pleanála's assessment of cumulative impacts on the marine environment in the remedial environmental impact assessment report and remedial natura impact assessment. The below links provide access to the full suite of licences and consents.

MAC Applications

[Applications & Determinations - MARA - Maritime Area Regulatory Authority](#)

Maritime Usage Licences:

[Applications & Determinations - MARA - Maritime Area Regulatory Authority](#)

Foreshore:

[Extant Foreshore Consents - MARA - Maritime Area Regulatory Authority](#)

Foreshore: Foreshore Notices:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/foreshore-notices/>

The GIS Data Download section of the MARA website has been updated with a Web Feature Service (WFS) for newly 'Determined' applications in ESRI Shapefile format: <https://www.maritimeregulator.ie/knowledge-centre/data-downloads/>.

The making of submissions or observations by the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority under this section shall not prejudice the performance by it of any of its other functions.

If you have any queries or require further information in relation to this matter, please contact the undersigned in the MUL and Planning Advisory Directorate of MARA directly. I would be grateful if receipt of this correspondence, could be formally acknowledged by email to the following consultation@mara.gov.ie

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MARA

An tÚdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuirí
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Yours sincerely,



Niamh Lennon
Senior Marine Planning Advisor
MUL and Planning Advisory Directorate

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