

Addendum to the
Environmental Impact
Assessment Report

NISA
North Irish Sea Array

Volume 8: Introductory Appendices

Appendix A1.2

Consultation Report



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1. Introduction

North Irish Sea Array Windfarm Ltd (NISA, hereafter referred to as ‘the Developer’) has been considering the Request for Further Information (RFI) issued by An Bord Pleanála (now An Coimisiún Pleanála) as well as the third-party submissions received following public consultation. At An Coimisiún Pleanála’s behest, the Developer has also continued to consult with stakeholders in respect of the 2024 planning application throughout 2024-2026. The Developer has refined elements of the design to respond to the third-party submissions, the continued public and stakeholder consultation and the RFI. Amendments are therefore required to Appendix 1.2: Consultation Report of the 2024 Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). This addendum to Appendix 1.2 describes the ongoing consultation since the submission of the 2024 planning application for the proposed development, and the manner in which stakeholder feedback has been incorporated into the updated EIAR.

For the purposes of clarity, this document shall be read in conjunction with the Appendix 1.2 submitted as part of the 2024 EIAR. Additional guidance on the reading of the document is provided in the RFI Report prepared alongside the EIAR Addendum Report.

For the purposes of clarity, any cross reference to a chapter, section, table, image, figure or appendix within this document is to another location within the Addendum to the EIAR unless explicitly stated otherwise. Any cross reference to anything included in the 2024 EIAR will be clearly labelled as such.

Text in bold is only used throughout this document to indicate where changes are required, and why they are required. Text in italics illustrates section(s) of the 2024 EIAR which are deleted, or quotations from other documents (as explicitly stated). Replacement text is in normal font. Where text has been replaced in normal font, bold text shall be used to indicate no further changes to this section (where relevant).

Tables which have been updated from the 2024 EIAR, or entirely new tables, have been included in the Addendum to the EIAR. These tables can be identified by the “A” prefix in the table caption. Any changes within the updated table, in comparison to tables within the 2024 EIAR, are indicated by grey shading in the relevant cell, column or row, as necessary.

The sections relevant to Appendix 1.2 in the RFI are included below.

RFI Section	RFI	Relevance to Chapter
2 (a)	The Irish Coast Guard (IRCG), through the Department of Transport, has raised concerns in relation to the layout of the proposed development with respect to search-and-rescue (SAR) access. The applicant is requested to consult with the IRCG, in addressing these concerns, and provide further information and clarification on such matters.	The Developer engaged with the IRCG on several occasions to further refine the array layouts to address the concerns raised by them with regards to SAR access. Details of this engagement and how the EIAR has been updated to reflect this engagement are provided in Section 6 of this document.
2 (b)	The EIAR under Chapter 17, Shipping and Navigation, states that as part of embedded mitigation, the fixed layouts for Project Option 1 and Project Option 2 comply with MGN 654 requirements (UK guidance, Maritime and Coastguard Agency, 2021). The applicant is advised that the Department of Transport Marine Survey Office (MSO) states that the proposed layout does not comply with guidance provided in MGN 654 and the MSO strongly disagrees with the summarisation of the risk to the safety of navigation posed to commercial shipping, fishing vessels, and recreational craft transiting in proximity to the southeastern corner and the Rockabill GAP. The applicant is requested to consult with the Department of Transport MSO in addressing these concerns and provide further information and clarification on such matters.	At that time of writing the 2024 EIAR, comprehensive Irish guidance was not in place and therefore use of the UK MGN 654 (MCA, 2021) was agreed for use by relevant stakeholders. Since then, the guidance (Guidance on Safety of Navigation & Emergency Response: Offshore Renewable Energy Installations) has been published by Department of Transport (DoT). The Developer has engaged with the MSO on several occasions to agree further mitigation measures and to refine the array layout in a manner that complies with both the DoT and MGN 654 guidance. The engagement with the MSO and how it has been incorporated into the updated EIAR is detailed in Section 6 of this document.

RFI Section	RFI	Relevance to Chapter
12 (a)	The applicant is requested to address observations by prescribed bodies and observers who raise concerns in relation to the potential impacts on commercial fishing arising from the proposed development within both the array and the cable route corridor areas, specifically relating to the practicality and uncertainties of co-existence with reference to Co-existence Policy 1 in the NMPF.	The Developer has addressed the request to address observations and prescribed bodies regarding concerns in relation to impacts to commercial fisheries. Details are provided in Section 2.1 of this report which provide information on the engagement undertaken following the submission of the 2024 planning application.
17 (a)	'EI-D1' is an area of airspace surrounding Gormanston Airfield, utilised by the Irish Defence forces. The applicant is requested to confirm, following consultation with the Irish Air Corps, and having regard to NMPF Defence and Security Policy 1, that the proposed development will not significantly impact on the operation of Gormanston Military Practice and Exercise Area.	The Developer has addressed the request to consult with the Irish Air Corps with considered of the NMPF Defence and Security Policy 1. Details of this engagement and how the EIAR has been updated to reflect this engagement are provided in Section 6 of this document.
17 (b)	The applicant is requested to confirm through consultation with Dublin Airport Authority and Air Nav Ireland (the national Air Navigation Service Provider (ANSP)) that the layout and reduced height of 311m above LAT applied to a number of turbines for layout Option 2 is satisfactory, having regard to the location of the area within the 3nm buffer areas of Dublin Airport's ATCSMAC sectors 1 and 2.	The Developer engaged with Dublin Airport Authority and AirNav Ireland and have incorporated the modelling of the new radar to address AirNav concerns which have now been addressed Details of the consultation undertaken and how this has informed the updated EIAR is provided in Section 6.
19 (a)	The Board acknowledges concerns raised by Fingal County Council and a number of observers in relation to the scale and duration of onshore road closures proposed to facilitate the development. Having regard to the anticipated traffic disruption, the applicant is requested to consider, in consultation with Fingal County Council, mitigation measures to address the predicted length of road closures, including consideration of lane closures with significant traffic management measures, nighttime road closures and measures to reduce road closure timelines such as increased resources. The applicant is also requested to submit, further to consultation with Fingal County Council, proposals for a phasing plan.	The Developer engaged on several occasions with Fingal County Council (FCC) and presented an indicative phasing plan and additional mitigation measures for the onshore cable route for FCC approval. The indicative phasing plan has been agreed and will be updated prior to the commencement of construction with further engagement from FCC and other relevant stakeholders. Details on the engagement with FCC and how it has been incorporated into the updated EIAR is provided in Section 6.

1.1 Purpose of this Report and Approach to Stakeholder Consultation

This section shall be updated to reflect the ongoing stakeholder consultation that has been undertaken following the submission of the 2024 Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 1.1 of Appendix 1.21 of the 2024 EIAR:

Following the submission of the planning application for the proposed development in June 2024, the Developer continued to engage with stakeholders. Upon receipt of the Request for Further Information (RFI) from An Bord Pleanála in April 2025, the Developer continued to engage in an extensive stakeholder campaign with public and prescribed bodies. Where practicable, the information and advice received during the post-submission consultation process was incorporated into the refined design of the proposed development (see Appendix A5.1 Design Refinements) and addressed in the relevant chapters of the Addendum to the EIAR.

2. Public Consultations

Given that in 2024, this section details the projects approach to public consultation but does not detail the specifics of engagement, there are no changes to the introductory text in this section. For clarity, specific details of public consultation since the 2024 submission have been updated and are provided in Section 2.2 below.

2.1 Engagement with the Fishing Industry

This section shall be updated to reflect the ongoing engagement with the fishing industry that has been undertaken following the submission of the 2024 Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of the “Extent of Fisheries Engagement” of Section 2.1 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

Since the submission of the 2024 EIAR, the Developer has maintained ongoing engagement with fishery organisations covering national fishing industry bodies and key local individuals and groups in the fishing industry and local fishers on many topics, including the Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy, the Sustainable Fisheries Community, holistic approach to assessing cumulative impacts, and bi-weekly pier visits. Further details on these engagements can be found within Appendix A16.2 Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy.

Consultation has been ongoing and has expanded significantly through the development of the Sustainable Fisheries Community (SFC). The SFC has been established as a fisheries-led framework in the development phase to support long-term coexistence between the proposed development and commercial fishing activity.

Since implementation began on the SFC in April 2025, engagement has included bi-weekly pier visits, direct engagement with fisheries representative organisations, seafood producers, government departments, prescribed bodies and wider offshore renewable and fisheries stakeholders, alongside targeted meetings on FMMS development, coexistence and cumulative effects, and project initiatives such as the Digital Effort Traceability Pilot (DETP) and Low Impact Fishery Pilot. Key milestones have included:

- Finalisation of the SFC framework arrangements during the development phase;
- SFC committee formation in June 2025 with majority seafood-sector representation;
- Opening of the SFC Fund, presentations to the SF-ORE Working Group;
- Ministerial and agency (BIM and Fingal County Council) engagement; and,
- Circulation of the FMMS to fisheries stakeholders for comment in February 2026.

The first round of SFC initiatives, which includes four individual projects, has commenced, and the second round of SFC initiatives have been approved in principle. Further information on these projects can be found in the Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy (Appendix A16.2 of Volume 9). This site-specific initiative is compliant with the new Offshore Renewable Energy Seafood Working Group (ORE SFWG) communications protocol which is based on openness and transparency.

Ongoing engagement with the fishing industry has been undertaken and a website dedicated to the SFC has been launched where members of the fishing industry and local community can learn more about the SFC and submit applications for projects they would like to see progress. In addition to this, during the launch of the SFC in October 2025, members of the fisheries liaison team visited the ports to distribute information leaflets regarding the SFC. A breakdown of engagement around the SFC to date is shown in Table A2.2 below, with further details available in Appendix 16.2 Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy.

Table A2.1 Estimated breakdown of engagement around SFC to date

Type of engagement	Approximate count / number of interactions
Engagements on Piers	240
Phone conversations	480
SMS	1200
Emails sent	250
Email recipients including stakeholder mailing lists including SF-ORE WG stakeholders	Vast majority of maritime facing stakeholders in Ireland
Clinics and Workshops	8
Video conferences	16
Teams meetings	190
Paid adverts in industry media including socials	1
Flyer distribution (units)	100
Editorials in industry media	1
Dedicated Website for SFC	1
Dedicated SFC page on NISA website	1

From a broader fisheries perspective The consultation programme has involved a substantial level of outreach, including pier-based engagement, workshops and clinics, video conferences, Teams meetings, phone calls, emails, stakeholder mailshots and digital communications, demonstrating a structured and ongoing approach to fisheries engagement intended to inform the FMMS and support fisheries-led coexistence measures.

Table A2.2 Consultation with the fishing community undertaken since the submission of the 2024 planning application

Date	Stakeholder	Detail of discussion
Key milestones and timeline of notable engagements		
01/04/2025	Fisheries team	Additional resource appointed to the proposed development Fisheries team with responsibility for Sustainable Fisheries Community development and implementation. Key responsibilities include Sustainable Fisheries Community Terms of Reference finalisation, formation, fund opening and call for expressions of interest to the seafood sector, building awareness of the Sustainable Fisheries Community, and canvassing support on the piers and with fisheries representative organisations, government agencies and prescribed bodies.
15/04/2025	Fisheries stakeholders / local piers	Commenced bi-weekly pier visit programme – ongoing.
05/06/2025	National Maritime College of Ireland, Cork	Discussed the possibility of utilising a simulator for co-existence modelling.
18/06/2025	Sustainable Fisheries Community Committee	Sustainable Fisheries Community Committee formed, with a majority of members from the seafood sector, including representation for the North Irish Sea Array area of impact. The committee is meeting monthly.
19/06/2025	Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association and Irish Fish Producers Organisation	Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association and Irish Fish Producers Organisation expressed interest in joining the Sustainable Fisheries Community and were provided with the governance documents for review and comment.

Date	Stakeholder	Detail of discussion
16/07/2025	Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association and Irish Fish Producers Organisation	Meeting held to finalise the Sustainable Fisheries Community Terms of Reference.
21/07/2025	South East Regional Inshore Fisheries Forum	Meeting in Wexford to present on the Sustainable Fisheries Community.
25/07/2025	Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association	Irish Fish Processors and Exporters Association signed the Sustainable Fisheries Community Memorandum of Understanding
02/10/2025	Sustainable Fisheries Community Fund	Sustainable Fisheries Community Fund Round 1 opened.
Consultation to build support for Sustainable Fisheries Community initiative, build capacity in communities and support uptake of funding		
21/10/2025	Timmy Dooley, Minister of State, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine; Patrick Murphy, Irish South and West Fish Producers Organisation	Meeting to present on the Sustainable Fisheries Community. Patrick Murphy of the Irish South and West Fish Producers Organisation also attended.
22/10/2025	Seafood / Offshore Renewable Energy Working Group	Presented the Sustainable Fisheries Community, followed by questions and answers, with the full stakeholder group in attendance. Follow-up undertaken by circulating the presentation to the stakeholder group by email.
13/11/2025	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Harbour Master and Ports Engineer.	Meeting in Howth regarding Howth Heritage Museum and Balbriggan sustainable fisheries harbour proposals.
20/11/2025	Irish Whale and Dolphin Group	Discussed the potential for the Sustainable Fisheries Community to fund a new marine biodiversity app for use by the fishing fleet.
28/11/2025	Bord Iascaigh Mhara	Meeting in Tralee to discuss potential synergies between the Fisheries Local Action Group fund and the Sustainable Fisheries Community.
01/12/2025	Dunany Lobstermen's Association	Meeting in Clogherhead regarding the Digital Effort Traceability Pilot and Low Impact Fishery Pilot.
04/12/2025	SmartOcean UK	Meeting to discuss a potential partnership on the Digital Effort Traceability Pilot project.
09/12/2025	Fingal County Council	Meeting in Swords regarding the Balbriggan sustainable fisheries harbour Sustainable Fisheries Community proposal.
10/12/2025	Sustainable Fisheries Community Fund / Evaluation Committee	Sustainable Fisheries Community Fund Round 1 closed.
17/12/2025	Sustainable Fisheries Community Committee	Sustainable Fisheries Community committee evaluation meeting held; four project proposals approved.
16/01/2026	Wind Energy Ireland fishing group	Presentation on Sustainable Fisheries Community progress and initiatives, including the Digital Enhanced Tracking Pilot project.
21/01/2026	Sustainable Fisheries Community Fund	Sustainable Fisheries Community Fund opened for Round 2.
27/01/2026	Dunany Lobstermen's Association	Meeting in Clogherhead to distribute Digital Enhanced Tracking Pilot devices and hold an onboarding workshop.
29/01/2026	Irish Islands Marine Resource Organisation	Low Impact Fishery Pilot presentation, with discussion of alignments with Low Impact Fishers of Europe and Make Fishing Fair in Europe.

Date	Stakeholder	Detail of discussion
07/02/2026	Skerries Sailing Club	Workshop providing an overview of Sustainable Fisheries Community progress, Low Impact Fishery Pilot and Digital Effort Traceability Pilot projects, inviting expressions of interest and distributing Digital Effort Traceability Pilot devices to local fishermen.
12/02/2026	Fingal LEADER Development	Meeting in Swords regarding the Balbriggan sustainable fisheries harbour feasibility study proposal
09/03/2026	Sustainable Fisheries Community Committee	Sustainable Fisheries Community Committee review on status of Round 1 Initiatives
02/04/2026	Sustainable Fisheries Community Fund / Evaluation Committee	Sustainable Fisheries Community Fund Round 2 closed.
14/04/2026	Sustainable Fisheries Community Committee	Sustainable Fisheries Community committee evaluation meeting held; three project proposals approved.
Other engagements and communications with stakeholders		
24/07/2025	Phase One developers	Collaborative meeting to discuss holistic approaches to cumulative impacts.
28/08/2025	Seafood / Offshore Renewable Energy Working Group stakeholder mailing list	Benthic engagement on piers and survey notification issued.
02/10/2025	Irish South and East Fish Producers Organisation, Irish Fish Producers Organisation and Seaview Consultants	Meeting held to discuss the Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy and plans to begin a scoping exercise on the socio-economic value of the nephrops fishery in the proposed North Irish Sea Array area.
07/11/2025	Phase One developers	Collaborative meeting to discuss holistic approaches to cumulative impacts.
07/11/2025	Other relevant projects and Marine Institute	Meeting to discuss holistic approaches to cumulative impacts.
14/12/2025	Phase One developers	Collaborative meeting to discuss holistic approaches to cumulative impacts.
28/01/2026	Marine Institute	Presented the Digital Effort Traceability Pilot project to the Marine Institute inshore fisheries team.
Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy consultations		
25/02/2026	Fisheries stakeholders	Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy document circulated to main fisheries stakeholders for consultation and comment.
12/03/2026	Fisheries stakeholders	Meeting to discuss Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy and Sustainable Fisheries Community progress.
02/04/2026	Fisheries Stakeholders	Latest draft of Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy circulated to full stakeholder list with request for feedback and meeting request.

Feedback and the Design Process

Since the submission of the 2024 EIAR refined layouts for Project Options 1 and 2 have been proposed. Engagement has been undertaken with the fisheries and the FMMS updated which has formed the basis of the latest rounds of consultation and engagements with the fishing industry on layout. This recommenced in February 2026 as part of broader collaborative FMMS buildout efforts by the developer and is ongoing.

Engagement During Offshore Surveys

Additional geophysical surveys were carried out within the array area following submission of the 2024 EIAR.

Feedback from the local fishing industry during the planning phase of this survey influenced the timing and management of this survey and resulted in the survey commencement date moving from the July 2024 to September 2024 to consider fishing practices within the area and to ensure minimum disturbance to the fisheries. Additionally, the project fisheries team engaged with the survey vessel crew, including an offshore vessel visit to ensure that local fishing practices were understood and considered as an integral part of this surveying method. Briefing the crew with a full understanding of the local fisheries, along with employing an Onboard Fisheries Liaison Officer (OFLO) during the campaign, were key to ensuring that fisheries interactions were managed successfully.

In addition to this, a subtidal benthic campaign was carried out in September 2025, which similar engagement with the local fishing industry. The FLO carried out port visits in the lead-up to the campaign to ensure local fishers were aware of the campaign and to answer any questions raised by them. The vessel crew were also briefed on local fishing practices in order to ensure minimal disturbance to fishing occurred throughout the course of the campaign.

2.2 Community Consultation

This section requires an update to include details of consultation undertaken since the submission of the 2024 planning application. Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 2.2 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

Ongoing community consultation focussed on maintaining a presence and availability to the network of community-based stakeholders. Two dedicated Community Liaison Officers (CLO) have continued to engage in meetings with community groups, elected representatives and members of the community to ensure a means for which dialogue can continue.

A status update was shared with communities by way of an eight-page project update brochure prepared and distributed in June 2025 to provide an update on the planning process to all stakeholders. Updates included key project milestones, localised project activities and to share contact details for the Community Liaison Team to encourage further outreach.

The community liaison team also engaged in ways to support sustainable initiatives in the community which aligned with the overarching sustainable goals of the developer to include support of:

- Skerries Sailing Club Regatta, 2025
- Flavours of Fingal Summer Event, Summer 2025
- Bettystown Tidy Towns World Ocean Day Initiative, 2025
- Further sponsorship of 300 local secondary school children participation in Rewrite Sustainability Education Initiative
- A 'Little Big Beach Clean' initiative with 300 primary school children along the coastline to promote marine environment awareness and coastal protection

These initiatives ensured that there were regular touch points with large cohorts of the community across the proposed development area to maintain awareness, promote dialogue and demonstrate commitment to collaborative sustainable partnerships.

To build awareness of the project refinements outlined in Appendix A5.1: Design Refinements, engagement has been undertaken with all community stakeholders via the distribution of an updated project brochure in April 2026 shared among the project's stakeholder database via email. The project brochure was distributed digitally to a network of 300+ contacts including local elected representatives, sporting organisations, community members and individual members of the public.

The distribution of the brochure was supported with a series of 1:1 meetings, hosted both in person and online. Individual meetings pertaining to the project refinements and any other project related queries were facilitated between April and June 2026.

These groups include, but are not limited to:

- Skerries Community Association
- Sustainable Skerries
- Balbriggan Chamber of Commerce
- Our Balbriggan
- Balbriggan Climate Club
- Bettystown Tidy Towns
- Rush Tourism
- Fingal, Louth, Meath Public Participation Network PPNs

2.2.1 Engagement with Public Representatives

This section requires an update to include details of consultation undertaken since the submission of the 2024 planning application. Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 2.2.1 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

Consultation has continued with public representatives following the submission of the planning application to June 2024. This was principally conducted by the two project Community Liaison Officers along with the project Stakeholder Manager.

The focus of the engagement was to share updates on the planning process and timelines, continue to respond to questions about project design, including design refinements for the 2026 RFI and to ensure sustained awareness of the project.

All local elected representatives also received the updated project information shared digitally in June 2025 and April 2026. Local elected representatives included local councillors, TDs and Senators representing the catchment areas of the proposed project development area.

2.2.2 Engagement with Local Community Groups

This section requires an update to include details of consultation undertaken since the submission of the 2024 planning application. Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 2.2.2 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

Consultation has continued with Local Community Groups following the submission of the planning application to June 2024. This was principally conducted by the two project Community Liaison Officers along with the project Stakeholder Manager.

The focus of the engagement was to share updates on the planning process and timelines, continue to respond to questions about project design, including design refinements for the 2026 RFI and to ensure sustained awareness of the project.

All community groups also received the updated project information shared digitally in June 2025 and April 2026.

Community groups included, but are not limited to:

- Skerries Community Association
- Sustainable Skerries
- Balbriggan Chamber of Commerce
- Our Balbriggan
- Balbriggan Climate Club
- Bettystown Tidy Towns

- Rush Tourism
- Fingal, Louth, Meath Public Participation Network PPNs

2.3 Project Website

The only change to this section is to note the additional traffic to the website since the submission of the 2024 planning application. The Developer notes that the website domain changed in November 2024 and no data is available for the traffic statistics between April 2024 and November 2024.

Therefore, the following text shall be added to Section 2.3 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

Website traffic statistics since November 2024 include:

Users	3,231
Visits	6,156
Page Views	11,744

2.4 Virtual Consultation Rooms

There are no changes required to this section. Refer to Section 2.4 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR.

2.5 Public Consultation Events

There are no changes required to this section. Refer to Section 2.5 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR.

2.6 Tailored Information Clinics

There are no changes required to this section. Refer to Section 2.6 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR.

2.7 Supporting Documentation

This section requires an update to account for the additional leaflets and brochures produced during the public consultation campaigns since the 2024 submission of the planning application. Therefore, the following text shall be added to the end of Section 2.7 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

Project Update Brochure 2025

An eight-page project update brochure was prepared and distributed in June 2025 to provide an update on the planning process to all stakeholders. Updates included key project milestones, localised project activities and to share contact details for the Community Liaison Team to encourage further outreach.

Sustainable Fisheries Community (SFC) Launch Leaflet

A one-page leaflet outlining the detail of the SFC was also distributed to onshore communities and stakeholders in November 2025 to share news of the initiative given its wider benefit for coastal communities as a whole and provide details of the bespoke website for the SFC.

Project Update Brochure 2026

A further nine-page brochure was distributed to the project’s stakeholder database in April 2026 providing further updates on both planning and project timelines. The primary purpose of the brochure was to detail the refinements to the project design and to highlight that these were within scope of the Design Flexibility opinion granted by An Bord Pleanála.

The brochure also included wider detail on key industry activities that have taken place over the last 12 months. The final page provided a reminder of the contact details of the Community Liaison Team to encourage further engagement considering the project refinements.

2.8 Summary of Topics Discussed During Community Consultation

This section requires an update to include details of key issues raised during consultation undertaken since the submission of the 2024 planning application. Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 2.8 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

Key topics discussed during the gathering of feedback following the submission of the 2024 EIAR were principally queries/discussions related to the timeline for the project, further environmental/ornithology assessment, the onshore grid facility, schedule and sequencing for the onshore cable route and the planning process in general. The Community Benefit Fund remains an aspect of the project local communities are very keen to discuss with the project team specifically with regards to the administration and distribution of the fund.

31 submissions were received from the public via the formal public consultation process and NISA have responded to these in themes at the direction of An Coimisiún Pleanála in the Response to Submissions Report

3. Landowner Consultation

This section requires an update to include details of consultation undertaken with landowners since the submission of the 2024 planning application. Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 2.2.2 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

Since submission of the 2024 planning application, the Developer has continued to have regular engagement with all landowners along the onshore cable route to provide status updates on the project. Informal EIAR Scoping Consultation

4. Informal EIAR Scoping Consultation

There are no changes required to this section. Refer to Section 4 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR.

5. Pre-Application Consultations with An Bord Pleanála

There are no changes required to Section 5 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR. However, the Developer engaged further with An Bord Pleanála (at the time of consultation, An Bord Pleanála was officially renamed An Coimisiún Pleanála following Commencement Order for Part 17 of the Planning and Development Act 2024) after receipt of the RFI in April 2025.

Whilst there are no changes required to the information provided regarding the pre-application consultation with An Bord Pleanála, Section 5.1 has been included below to provide further information on this engagement.

5.1 Post Submission Consultation with An Coimisiún Pleanála

Under Regulation 5(6)(c) of the Planning and Development (Maritime Development) Regulations 2023, S.I. 100 of 2023, the Developer engaged with An Coimisiún Pleanála on 6 November 2025. The meeting covered a range of environmental and technical topics relevant to the RFI and An Coimisiún Pleanála provided clarification of its requirements in relation to a number of matters specified in the RFI.

In particular, the developer discussed a range of technical specialisms with An Coimisiún Pleanála including Cumulative Impact Assessment, Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes, Offshore Ornithology and Marine Mammals.

An Coimisiún Pleanála reiterated the importance of only providing design refinements in direct relation to matters raised in the RFI and to ensure consistency with the Design Flexibility Opinion issued in the pre-application stage. In relation to matters within the remit of National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS), An Coimisiún Pleanála advised the developer to continue to seek feedback from NPWS in advance of responding to the RFI.

6. Other Stakeholders

This section requires a minor update to reflect that the timeline of stakeholder engagement has continued beyond the EIAR preparation stage. Therefore, the following text shall be deleted from Section 6 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

“Extensive consultation with a range of stakeholders throughout the design development and EIAR preparation commenced in 2021 in order to:”

And replaced with the following text:

Extensive consultation with a range of stakeholders has been undertaken throughout the design development and EIAR preparation in 2021, through to the preparation of the response for further information and updated design in 2025 and 2026 in order to:

There are no further changes required to this section. Refer to Section 6 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR.

6.1 Coastal Planning Authorities (Local Authorities)

The only change required to this section is to provide additional information to reflect the ongoing consultation undertaken with the coastal planning authorities since the submission of the 2024 planning application. Therefore, the following text shall be added to the end of Section 6.1:

Several additional meetings took place in 2025 and 2026 between members of the project team and the technical staff of Fingal County Council, Dublin City Council Louth County Council and Meath County Council to discuss specific points raised in the RFI. In particular, the Developer engaged with the Planning Departments and Roads Departments of Fingal County Council and Dublin City Council to discuss and agree the proposals for an indicative phasing plan for the construction of the onshore cable route to mitigate traffic related impacts. Further discussions were held with Meath County Council regarding potential impacts from the proposed development on heritage receptors within the administrative boundaries of Meath County Council.

6.2 Statutory Bodies/Other Stakeholders

Since the submission of the 2024 planning application, the Developer has continued to engage with statutory bodies and other stakeholders at An Coimisiún Pleanála's behest.

This section requires an update to reflect the ongoing consultation with Developer has undertaken with the statutory bodies and other relevant stakeholders. Therefore, Table A6.1 shall be added after Table 3 in Section 6.2 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR.

Table A6.1 Post-submission consultation with statutory bodies and other relevant stakeholders

Stakeholder	Consultation Dates
AirNav	- 27th May 2025
Commissioners of Irish Lights	- 21st November 2025 - 19th February 2026
Department of Defence	- 17th June 2025
Dublin Airport Authority	- 27th May 2025
Dublin City Council	- 03rd March 2026
EirGrid	Note; The Developer is in regular communication and consultation with Eirgrid on a range of workstreams.
Fáilte Ireland	- 08th April 2026
Fingal County Council	- 16th July 2025 - 15th September 2025 - 08th October 2025 - 10th December 2025
Gas Networks Ireland	- 12th August 2025 - 11th September 2025 - 15th December 2025 - 17th February 2026
Irish Coast Guard	- 24th June 2025 - 02 September 2025 - 05th February 2026
Irish Fish Producers Organisation	- 2nd October 2025
Irish South and East Fish Producers Organisation	- 2nd October 2025
Louth County Council	- 15th April 2026
National Monuments Service (NMS)	- 05th March 2026 - 01st May 2026
National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)	- 3rd December 2024 - 14th October 2025 - 10th February 2026 - 21st April 2026
Marine Survey Office	- 28th May 2025 - 23rd September 2025 - 24th March 2026
Meath County Council	- 22nd April 2026
National Transport Authority	- 05th February 2026

6.3 Transboundary Consultees

There are no changes required to this section. Refer to Section 6.3 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR.

6.4 Phase One Collaboration

This section requires an update to provide further information on the ongoing collaboration between Phase One projects to provide an informed and collaborative approach to responding to the RFI. Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 6.4 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR:

In responding to the RFI, the Phase One projects have continued to liaise on cumulative matters, as specifically encouraged under RFI Section 5. This engagement has focused on achieving consistency in methodology, data inputs, and assumptions applied to the cumulative effects assessment, including consideration of migratory bird collision risk modelling and the presentation of cumulative impacts in alignment with the National Strategic Infrastructure Project (NSIP): Advice on Cumulative Effects Assessment guidance document.

Further collaboration between the Phase One project teams included topic-based discussions covering offshore ornithology, offshore bats, marine mammals, fish and shellfish, commercial fisheries and coastal processes. This engagement has also informed the development of project-specific and coordinated operational monitoring considerations, in line with RFI Section 1(d) which sets out the requirement to set out an appropriate operational monitoring programme and to demonstrate how monitoring may inform adaptive mitigation and future decommissioning where relevant. This engagement supports the objective of transparency and consistency across the Phase One developments in responding to the respective RFI for each Phase One project.

6.5 Summary of Observations Raised During Statutory Stakeholder Consultations

At An Coimisiún Pleanála's behest, the Developer has continued to consult with stakeholders in respect of the 2024 planning application throughout 2024-2026. The Developer has refined elements of the design to respond to the third-party submissions, the continued public and stakeholder consultation and the RFI. Therefore, an additional table is required to reflect the consultation that has taken place since the 2024 planning application was submitted. For clarity, there are no changes required to Table 4 in Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR. Table A6.2 shall therefore be included to Section 6.5 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 EIAR at the end of the section.

Table A6.2 Summary of issues raised during post-submission stakeholder consultation

EIAR Topic	Summary of Key Issues from Statutory Stakeholder Consultations	Where addressed in the EIAR
Alternatives	<p>Irish Coast Guard</p> <p>Several meetings were held with the Irish Coast Guard to review the proposed WTG array layout refinements for both options. The introduction of suction bucket jacket foundations was also introduced as a means to ensure the refined array layout aligned with the requirements set out in MGN 654 Guidance. Feedback was received and incorporated into the overall refinements of the proposed WTG array.</p> <p>Commissioner of Irish Lights</p> <p>Consultation with the Commissioners of Irish Lights confirmed a preference for a clear and uniform array shape and a line of orientation from a navigational and SAR perspective. Irish Lights noted that the layout was not a red-line issue but may require additional mitigation, including buoyage and AIS, particularly in respect of turbines located toward the south-east of the array.</p> <p>Marine Survey Office</p> <p>There were a number of meetings with MSO, to discuss the safety of navigation in proximity to the NISA array and particularly in relation to the Rockabill Gap.</p>	Offshore wind turbine array layout refinements, including the adoption of suction bucket jacket foundations, are addressed in Volume 2, Chapter 5: Alternatives and Appendix A5.1 (Design Refinements) and incorporated into Volume 2, Chapter 6: Project Description – Offshore.
Marine Physical Processes	<p>An Coimisiún Pleanála</p> <p>During the November 2026 meeting between the Developer and ACP, Marine Physical Process was a key discussion topic in relation to modelling parameters and methodologies which will be presented in the RFI response.</p>	Volume 3, Chapter 10: Marine Geology, Oceanography and Physical Processes addresses items related to marine physical processes in the RFI.
Marine Water and Sediment Quality	No key issues on marine water and sediment quality were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Benthic and Intertidal Ecology	No key issues on benthic and intertidal ecology receptors were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A

EIAR Topic	Summary of Key Issues from Statutory Stakeholder Consultations	Where addressed in the EIAR
Fish and Shellfish	No key issues on fish and shellfish receptors were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period. Discussions related to Commercial Fisheries are presented below.	Volume 9, Appendix 13.1 provides a comprehensive baseline assessment of the fish and shellfish receptors within the offshore development area and study area. Impacts to these receptors is assessed in Volume 3, Chapter 13 Fish and Shellfish and this includes from EMF.
Marine Mammal and Megafauna Ecology	<p>An Coimisiún Pleanála</p> <p>During the November 2026 meeting between the Developer and ACP, Marine Mammals was a key discussion topic in relation to how to consider how to present “masking” behaviour and highlighting that the refinement to SBJ’S will result in a reduction of underwater noise impacts on marine mammals.</p> <p>Irish Whale and Dolphin Group.</p> <p>The SFC funded an initiative in 2025 working in collaboration with the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group. This initiative is creating a marine application for fishers to record marine mammals and other marine life.</p>	Volume 3; Chapter 14: Marine Mammals presents a comprehensive baseline assessment of the offshore development and is supported by Appendix 16.1: Marine Mammals Technical Report and Appendix 16.2 Marine Mammals Mitigation Protocol.
Offshore and Intertidal Ornithology	<p>National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)</p> <p>Several post submission meetings were held with NPWS to discuss approaches to addressing offshore ornithology matters raised in the RFI. The meetings focused on clarifications of proposed assessment methodologies (including guillemot seasonal definitions and apportionment, displacement and mortality rates, population definition and spatial distribution within the North West Irish Sea Special Protection Area (SPA)) and the interpretation of SPA conservation objectives. NPWS acknowledged the robustness of the 12-month Digital Aerial Survey dataset and confirmed that displacement assessment in relation to the NWIS SPA is primarily relevant for displacement-sensitive species.</p>	Volume 3, Chapter 15: Offshore and Intertidal Ornithology presents a summary of the surveys, methodologies and impacts assessed of the offshore development area and is supported by Volume 9, Appendices A15.1 to A15.5 which include baseline data and impact assessment and modelling results. The feedback from NPWS during post-submission consultation is included throughout the documents and provided in further detail in the RFI Response Report.
Commercial Fisheries	<p>Irish Fish Producers Organisation, Irish South and East Fish Producers Organisation</p> <p>An online meeting was held in 2025 for the proposed development to discuss the Sustainable Fisheries Community (SFC). It was agreed to proceed with a scoping exercise for the three-stage plan outlined in the SIRF paper, as requested by the PO representatives. This will cover a baseline analysis, a socio-economic impact assessment, and a supply chain disruption assessment, with the scoping exercise defining the full scope of work and clearly setting out responsibilities to be agreed between NISA and the IFPO/ISEFPO. It was also agreed that stronger representation is needed within the ORE-SF Working Group, in line with PO feedback, who have indicated a preference for the scoping work to be progressed within this framework.</p>	Volume 3, Chapter 16: Commercial Fisheries presents a comprehensive baseline assessment of the offshore development area and is supported by Appendix 16.1: Commercial Fisheries Technical Report and Appendix 16.2 Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy. Volume 3, Chapter 17: Shipping and Navigation presents a comprehensive assessment of navigational safety risks including fishing vessel movements within the offshore development area.
Shipping and Navigation	<p>Irish Coast Guard</p> <p>Several meetings were held with IRCG in compliance with RFI Section 2 (a) to review the proposed WTG array layout refinements for both options with respect to search-and-rescue (SAR) access. Feedback was received and incorporated into the overall refinements of the proposed WTG array.</p>	Navigational risk, vessel traffic assessment and mitigation measures are addressed in Chapter 17 (Shipping and Navigation) and Appendix A17.1 (Navigational Risk Assessment (NRA)), with post-submission clarifications and design refinements documented in Appendix A5.1 (Design Refinements).

EIAR Topic	Summary of Key Issues from Statutory Stakeholder Consultations	Where addressed in the EIAR
	<p>IRCG noted that linearity is a key requirement where two lines of orientation are not available which further informed the array layout. IRCG provided further information requests which were incorporated into the safety justification and Navigational Risk Assessment. IRCG confirmed in May 2026 that they were content with the provisions and mitigations outlined in the Safety Justification.</p> <p>Marine Survey Office (MSO)</p> <p>In May and September 2025, meetings were held with MSO in compliance with RFI Section 2 (b) to discuss the MSO's concerns around the navigational risks posed by the proposed development, vessel traffic and mitigation measures. MSO confirmed that the surveys undertaken were valid and, following clarification of the Navigational Risk Assessment, confirmed that no additional information was required, subject to agreed actions and ongoing engagement between the Developer and the MSO.</p> <p>Commissioners of Irish Lights</p> <p>In November 2025, consultation with the Commissioners of Irish Lights confirmed a preference for a clear and uniform array shape and a line of orientation from a navigational and SAR perspective. Irish Lights noted that the layout was not a red-line issue but may require additional mitigation, including buoyage and AIS, particularly in respect of turbines located toward the south-east of the array.</p>	<p>Within the NRA is a full breakdown of the key points raised during consultation from all the stakeholders, and a response of where the point has been addressed within the NRA.</p> <p>Details on the safety justification are included in Appendix A17.4. A response letter from the IRCG on the safety justification is also included in Appendix A17.5.</p>
Offshore Archaeology	<p>National Monument Service</p> <p>Post-submission consultation was undertaken with the National Monuments Service (NMS) to discuss offshore archaeological matters in the context of the RFI. Key issues related to confirmation of the existing offshore palaeolandscape baseline, identification of areas of higher archaeological sensitivity, and the appropriate focus of mitigation measures, all of which are identified within a Marine Archaeology Management Plan (MAMP) provided in Appendix A18.3</p>	<p>Volume 3, Chapter 18: Offshore Archaeology and Cultural Heritage presents a comprehensive baseline assessment of the offshore development area and is supplemented with Appendix A18.1 of Volume 9: Marine Palaeogeographical Assessment which covers the submerged landscapes as part of the baseline. The MAMP is provided in Appendix A18.3.</p>
Aviation and Radar	<p>AirNav Ireland, and Dublin Airport Authority</p> <p>Post-submission consultation was undertaken with AirNav Ireland and Dublin Airport authority to address aviation and radar matters raised in the RFI. Key issues related to potential effects on air traffic management, radar surveillance systems and Visual Flight Rules (VFR) transit routes, including consideration of turbine height and layout options. Supplementary aviation assessments were undertaken, including radar line-of-sight, SSR and VFR transit assessments.</p> <p>Department of Defence</p> <p>Post-submission consultation was undertaken with the Department of Defence (DoD) to discuss military aviation, radar and operational considerations relevant to the proposed development. Key issues related to the relationship of the turbine layout to the Gormanston military practice and exercise area, aviation lighting requirements, and ongoing coordination with civil aviation authorities. The DoD acknowledged reductions in the offshore development area and confirmed that the proposed turbine array avoids encroachment into the designated danger area.</p>	<p>Volume 3, Chapter 19: Aviation and Radar provides a comprehensive baseline assessment of the offshore development area with regards to aviation and radar receptors and is supported by Appendix A19.1: Airspace Analysis and Radar Modelling.</p> <p>The night time lighting requirements proposed by the DoD are also provided in Appendix A29.3.</p> <p>Following consultations with Dublin Airport Authority and AirNav Ireland, modelling of the new radar to address AirNav concerns have been undertaken and are now detailed in Appendix 19.1. The outcomes have been incorporated in updates to Chapter 19, in accordance with RFI 17 (b).</p>

EIAR Topic	Summary of Key Issues from Statutory Stakeholder Consultations	Where addressed in the EIAR
Infrastructure and Other Users	<p>Gas Networks Ireland</p> <p>Post-submission consultation with Gas Networks Ireland focused on the relationship between the proposed development and existing offshore gas infrastructure, with a focus on Interconnector 2 in accordance with RFI Section 16. Following that consultation, the Developer completed a risk assessment conforming to DNV-RP-F107 Risk Assessment of Pipeline Protection which has been shared with GNI in January 2026 which proposes appropriate mitigation measures to concludes that the risk posed to both parties is tolerable and satisfies As Low As Reasonably Practical (ALARP) methodology</p>	<p>Volume 3, Chapter 20: Infrastructure and Other Users provides a comprehensive baseline assessment of the offshore development area with regards to infrastructure and other users, including IC2.</p> <p>Further information on the proposed development’s interaction with third party assets is also presented in Volume 2, Chapter 6: Description of the Proposed Development – Offshore.</p>
Offshore bats	No key issues on Offshore Bats were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Land and Soils	No key issues on Land and Soils were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Water	No key issues on Water were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Biodiversity landward of the Highwater Mark (HWM)	No key issues related to Biodiversity landward of the HWM were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Traffic & Transportation	<p>Fingal County Council (FCC)</p> <p>Post submission consultation was undertaken with FCC on several occasions to agree an indicative phasing plan in accordance with RFI Section 13 (b). The developer and FCC have agreed an indicative phasing plan for the purposes of responding to the RFI, with a commitment to finalise the phasing plan through further consultation prior to the commencement of construction.</p> <p>The Developer also presented for the agreement of FCC further mitigation measures to reduce construction phase impacts on the traffic network throughout the administrative area of Fingal.</p> <p>Dublin City Council (DCC)</p> <p>Post submission consultation was undertaken with DCC regarding the management of construction traffic associated with the onshore cable route within the DCC administrative area, including potential effects on strategic routes such as the R107 (Malahide Road) and R139, coordination with other planned and permitted transport infrastructure projects, and the need for appropriate construction phasing, traffic management and communication measures. The Developer presented the indicative phasing plan agreed with FCC and committed to ongoing engagement with DCC to manage the sections of the onshore cable route effectively within the DCC administrative area</p>	<p>The indicative phasing plan has been incorporated into the updated Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) included in Appendix A9.1. The additional mitigation measures are outlined in Volume 4, Chapter 24: Traffic and Transportation.</p>

EIAR Topic	Summary of Key Issues from Statutory Stakeholder Consultations	Where addressed in the EIAR
Onshore Archaeology	<p>National Transport Authority (NTA) Engagement with the NTA in the post-submission consultation stage focused on the interactions with the proposed development and a proposed park and ride for Metrolink in Lissenhall. The NTA provided information that significant archaeology (medieval settlement) was encountered during geophysical surveying and test-trenching at the location near the M1 crossing.</p> <p>National Monument Service Post submission consultation was undertaken with The National Monument Service (NMS) to discuss the specifics of the UNESCO World Heritage Assessment undertaken for Bru na Boinne</p> <p>Meath County Council Post submission consultation was undertaken with MCC to discuss the specifics of the UNESCO World Heritage Assessment undertaken for Bru na Boinne.</p>	<p>The medieval settlement raised during consultation with the NTA has been incorporated into the updated baseline and impact assessment included in Volume 4, Chapter 25: Onshore Archaeology, Architectural and Cultural Heritage.</p> <p>Chapter 25 also provides the UNESCO World Heritage Assessment on Bru na Boinne following consultation with NMS.</p>
Material Assets	No key issues on Material Assets were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Air Quality	No key issues on air quality receptors were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Climate	No key issues on climate were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Seascape, Landscape and Visual	<p>The Developer engaged with Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council, Meath County Council and Louth County Council to provide an update on the refined turbine array layouts.</p> <p>Fingal County Council Post-submission consultation with FCC was undertaken with regard to potential landscape and visual impacts on future residents within the Flemington Local Area Plan (LAP) as per RFI Section 13 (e). In the initial meeting, FCC noted that the GIS substation building is the closest large-scale structure to the LAP and requested further consideration of visual effects, boundary treatment and the adequacy of photomontages to fully illustrate the impacts on LAP lands.</p> <p>In the follow up meeting, the Developer noted that potential landscape and visual effects of the grid facility on the Flemington LAP have been reviewed and updated. The assessment confirmed that only a modest portion of the southern substation building (end-on) is adjacent to the LAP. A revised landscape strategy, including a block of native woodland along the south-eastern boundary, has been developed to enhance screening. The assessment concludes that, with the proposed design, orientation and landscaping measures, landscape and visual effects on the Flemington LAP will be localised and mitigated.</p>	<p>Volume 5, Chapter 29: Seascape, Landscape and Visual presents an assessment of likely significant effects from viewpoints selected across the coastal planning authorities on the refined turbine layouts. The updated assessment was conducted on determining the Project Option which results in the greatest magnitude of impact, thereby resulting in the greatest significance of effect and addresses the concerns raised during consultation with the aforementioned stakeholders.</p> <p>Volume 7B2 – Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) has also been updated to include a higher quality external finish on the grid facility buildings. An additional photomontage Viewpoint has also been included within the Flemington LAP lands to further illustrate the potential impacts on LAP lands.</p> <p>The proposed external finishes on the substation will be subject to final agreement with EirGrid and FCC.</p>

EIAR Topic	Summary of Key Issues from Statutory Stakeholder Consultations	Where addressed in the EIAR
Noise and Vibration	<p>Fingal County Council</p> <p>Post-submission consultation was undertaken with FCC in relation to the Flemington LAP in accordance with RFI Section 13 (e). Part of this engagement focused on the potential operational noise implications from the grid facility on potential future residents in the Flemington LAP.</p> <p>The Developer outlined that an assessment of operational noise impacts on potential future residential receptors within the Flemington LAP lands has been completed. The Developer noted that applicable noise limits can be met, with additional mitigation, where required. Identified mitigation measures include the provision of acoustic enclosures to shunt reactors within the grid facility or the specification of lower-noise shunt reactors and shunt reactor coolers, to be confirmed at detailed design stage.</p>	The updated noise assessment on future residents in the Flemington LAP is included in Volume 5, Chapter 30: Noise and Vibration.
Resource and Waste Management	No key issues on resource and waste management were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Population and Human Health	No key issues on population and human health receptors were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	N/A
Socioeconomic, tourism and recreation	<p>Fáilte Ireland</p> <p>During post-submission consultation with Fáilte Ireland, concerns were raised regarding the potential effects of the proposed development on tourism, including the experiential and perceptual qualities that contribute to destination identity and sense of place, particularly in coastal areas. Further detail and justification were requested in relation to how tourism receptors may be affected across the construction, operational and decommissioning phases.</p> <p>No key issues on socioeconomic receptors were raised during stakeholder consultation</p>	<p>Volume 5, Chapter 33: Socioeconomic, Tourism and Recreation has been updated to incorporate the concept of sense of place as an experiential tourism receptor. The baseline environment has been expanded to identify places within the study area that evoke a sense of place, and the assessment has been updated to consider effects on tourism and sense of place during construction, operation and decommissioning.</p> <p>Further information on the visual impact to tourism receptors is presented in Volume 5, Chapter 33: Socioeconomic, Tourism and Recreation.</p>
Cumulative Effects	<p>Fáilte Ireland</p> <p>During consultation with Fáilte Ireland in April 2026, concerns were raised regarding the robustness of the cumulative effects assessment of the proposed development on the tourism industry.</p>	<p>Volume 6, Chapter 38: Cumulative and Inter-Related Effects has been updated to align with the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on Cumulative Effects Assessment Guidance in accordance with RFI Section 5.</p> <p>As part of the update, the Developer has expanded the cumulative Zone of Influence for the tourism cumulative effects assessment to include Arklow Bank II to assuage concerns raised by Fáilte Ireland.</p>

Appendix A

Community Information Booklets

The only change required to this section is the inclusion of new community booklets distributed in 2025 and 2026. These booklets are included in Appendix A.2 below.

A.2 Community Information Booklets (Post Submission)



Securing Our Own Energy Future

Project Update 2025



Project at a Glance



Design layout includes maximum of 49 turbines



Potential to create high-quality jobs



Off the coast of Dublin, Meath and Louth



Capacity to power approximately 500,000 Irish homes and businesses



CO₂ displacement - up to half a million tonnes per year



Community Benefit Fund of approximately €4 million per annum

North Irish Sea Array

The North Irish Sea Array is an offshore wind energy project being proposed off the coast of counties Dublin, Meath and Louth. The project brings with it an opportunity to help deliver clean renewable energy for the island of Ireland, to provide energy security and to bring Ireland closer to our climate action targets.



Why is NISA located where it is?

The NISA location couples an area with an excellent wind resource, with an area with a very high electricity demand.

The closest potential turbine location will be located approximately 13km from shore. Up to a quarter of the total array will be located between 20 and 25km out to sea.

The design process took many factors into consideration when selecting turbine locations within our Maritime Area Consent (MAC) including fishing patterns, ground conditions, wind resources, offshore biodiversity, offshore

archaeology and of course, water depth.

As you move out from shore Ireland's seabed depth increases very quickly, compared to the North Sea, for example, which is relatively shallow and gently sloping. Until the early 2030s all new offshore wind farms in Ireland will use fixed-bottom turbines in water depths generally less than 60 metres.

The ambition is that fixed-bottom turbines will pave the way for floating wind energy as they will build the port infrastructure, the supply-chain and the investor confidence needed to develop floating wind energy.



Milestones

2024 was an exciting year for NISA. Over the course of NISA's many public consultation events our team met with hundreds of members of the community to discuss the potential benefits of this development.

The NISA Geophysical Survey in September and October of 2024 represented the first time a survey of this kind was successfully undertaken anywhere in the world, and it was done in Irish waters. Geophysical surveys are necessary to understand the type of material present on the seabed (e.g. rocks, pebbles, sand/mud). In this instance, the process involved the use of sound energy to examine the composition of the seabed and ground conditions in precise detail without the need for any intrusive drilling or excavation.

Feedback from the local fishing industry influenced the timing and management approach to this survey. The project fisheries team engaged with the survey vessel crew, including an offshore vessel visit to ensure that local fishing practices were understood and considered as an integral part of this new surveying methodology. Briefing the crew with a full understanding of the local fisheries, along with employing an Onboard Fisheries Liaison Officer during the campaign, were key to ensuring that fisheries interactions were managed successfully.

And perhaps the most significant milestone, we also lodged our planning application with An Bord Pleanála in June. Within the 10,000+ pages submitted were the conclusions of years of technical survey work and assessments carried out both on and offshore. Every paragraph and every report that formed the application is a joined-up effort to ensure we can deliver the best project design for the area and for the communities it will serve. The window for observations closed in September of this year, however, the full application can still be viewed here: www.northirishsearraysid.ie.





Continued Engagement

Community Engagement

Engagement is not simply about providing information. We invite communities to continue to engage with us too. We value local knowledge and believe that everyone should have an opportunity to input how the project can be delivered.

While we await updates from An Bord Pleanála, we encourage anyone with feedback or a project query to continue to engage with our community engagement team on enquiries@northirishsearray.ie

The team is available to meet in person or online to discuss any aspect of the NISA offshore wind energy project.

Community Liaison Team



Jim O'Reilly
Community Liaison Officer



Lisa Enright
Community Liaison Officer

Community Benefit Fund

Renewable energy projects can deliver many benefits that not only help our country and our local community, but also the wider world. It can help us reach our climate targets, direct investment to our local community and strengthen our economy.

A Community Benefit Fund could reach approximately €4million each year or €80 million over the lifetime of the project giving residents the opportunity to bring about transformative and positive change to their local community. These projects could span environmental initiatives, energy efficiency schemes and social and economic projects.

Since 2019, the project team has been engaging with local community groups on the process with a view to collecting information, feedback and submissions which could guide the direction of the Community Benefit Fund.

We encourage these conversations so that we are in a position to act quickly and appropriately when the Community Benefit Fund becomes available for NISA.

Engagement with the Fisheries

The fishing community is a key stakeholder in the development of the NISA project and has been from the outset. Engagement with the fishing community commenced in 2019, when only a concept layout was available.

We have been in ongoing contact with the fishing industry in relation to potential concerns and issues. This feedback has influenced how the project design evolved.

The turbine layout design process has taken into account issues such as turbine orientation, turbine spacing and array locations as they relate to existing fishing practices. We endeavoured to adapt our design and processes to allow NISA and the fishing community to successfully share the area of the sea being considered. Protecting the current positions of those making a living from the proposed wind farm area is a priority for us.

This proactive engagement is continuing and will remain for the lifetime of the project.

To contact your Fisheries Liaison Officer, please email flo@northirishseaarray.ie

Project Infrastructure

Delivering NISA in the most appropriate way has and always will be a priority for the team. The project infrastructure – both onshore and offshore – represents new infrastructure for the communities of Dublin, Meath and Louth.

A proposed underground cable route for the project goes from the north of Balbriggan to the grid connection point at Belcamp.

As per EirGrid specifications, the proposed route will follow local roads wide enough to minimise the need for closures, cross under the M1 and arrive at the grid connection point at Belcamp.

Belcamp is a facility on the national grid with optimum connectivity and capacity.

As well as the turbines and offshore substation, there will also be a grid facility located to the west of the road R132.

This is required not only to facilitate the transmission of the electricity from the wind farm to the connection point, but it will also strengthen the electricity grid in this area.

The total timeframe for construction would be approximately two years. Before any construction commences a full traffic management plan and an updated timeline will be prepared for discussion/consultation with the communities in the project area.

Timeline

We remain hopeful that we will have a planning decision for NISA in 2025 which will allow us to progress on the procurement and contracting requirements to deliver this project. The ambition is to begin construction in 2027 and to have the array fully operational by 2030.

NISA is a critical component to deliver on the Irish Government's ambition of 5GW of offshore renewable energy by 2030. Delivering offshore wind energy will drastically cut our CO2 emissions.

It will make Ireland more energy independent. It will attract several billion euro in investment into Ireland and create thousands of long-term and sustainable jobs, particularly in our coastal communities.

This is how we deliver the clean energy, the affordable energy and the secure energy that Irish families, communities and businesses want and which they deserve

We are committed to keeping all stakeholders informed through updated project brochures and our website.

The NISA partnership

In January 2023, Statkraft teamed up with Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP), a global leader in offshore wind energy projects. To deliver a project as significant as NISA, it is vital for Statkraft to partner with a company with a successful track record and expertise in offshore wind development.

CIP and its construction partners Copenhagen Offshore Partners (COP) have years of experience in financing and developing offshore wind projects around the world. This partnership complements Statkraft's development work, enabling the project to harness the power of offshore wind and deliver clean energy to Ireland's homes and businesses.





Securing Our Own Energy Future

Project Update | April 2026





Welcome to the latest update for the North Irish Sea Array (NISA) Windfarm

The ambition for the project remains unchanged. As Ireland charts a course towards a sustainable and secure energy future, NISA plays a vital role in delivering on the government's renewable energy targets.

The project has the potential to power up to 500,000 Irish homes and businesses, stabilise our energy prices and deliver transformative change to communities through a community benefit fund of up to €4million per year.

Offshore wind is an essential component of Ireland's climate action plan. At current delivery rates, Ireland is forecast to achieve less than half of its 2030 climate targets, underscoring the urgency of accelerating implementation.

Our energy system remains highly exposed to geopolitical instability bringing huge spikes in energy costs and further uncertainty around the stability of our supply. This reinforces the need to accelerate our shift towards secure, domestically generated clean energy.

NISA has the potential to both strengthen the domestic energy supply and reduce our dependency on the international energy market.

The project milestones will be influenced by the planning process. Offshore construction is expected to start in 2030.

Key Activities:

September 2025

Taoiseach and Minister O'Brien announce establishment of Offshore Wind Energy Clearing House

In September 2025 the Taoiseach along with Minister O'Brien announced the establishment of the Offshore Wind Energy Clearing House.

The Clearing House will address identified obstacles to delivering offshore renewable energy.

It will support and reinforce the work of the existing Offshore Wind Delivery Taskforce, especially where issues require an additional high-level intervention from the centre of Government.

To-date the group has met twice with topics including planning and consenting bottlenecks, and grid connection with representatives from NISA present at both meetings.

October 2025

NISA launches the Sustainable Fisheries Community

In October 2025 NISA announced the launch of the Sustainable Fisheries Community (SFC).

The SFC is a funding initiative focused on the protection and enhancement of a sustainable local fishing and marine environment in the waters around the proposed project area, focusing initially on coastal communities along the northeast coast of Ireland.

With funding of up to €1 million available in the initial 18 month pilot phase, the SFC offers a valuable opportunity to support the sustainable development of fishing communities through meaningful initiatives spanning research and data gathering, education, and sustainability.

The ambition is that it delivers long term wider industry benefits, establishing a benchmark for best practice for co-existence between Offshore Renewable Energy and the fishing community through a collaborative approach.

The initiative is being steered and influenced by a committee which includes members of the fishing community. With the opening of the fund, the wider fishing and seafood producing community are encouraged to get on board and shape the direction it takes from here and influence its ultimate success.

Find out more at

www.sustainablefisheriescommunity.ie

November 2025

NISA Development Director, Tina Raleigh presents to Joint Oireachtas Committee (JOC) on Climate, Environment and Energy

Tina Raleigh joined industry colleagues to present and discuss delivery challenges in the offshore wind sector. The session allowed NISA to present unique insights into the challenges the industry is facing, particularly across the consenting process.

There was unequivocal support for offshore wind right across the political spectrum and the opportunities it brings, and the committee voiced both frustration and ambition to seek resolution to see the projects progress.

Engagements such as these are critical to drive progress for NISA and the rest of the Phase 1 projects in Ireland.





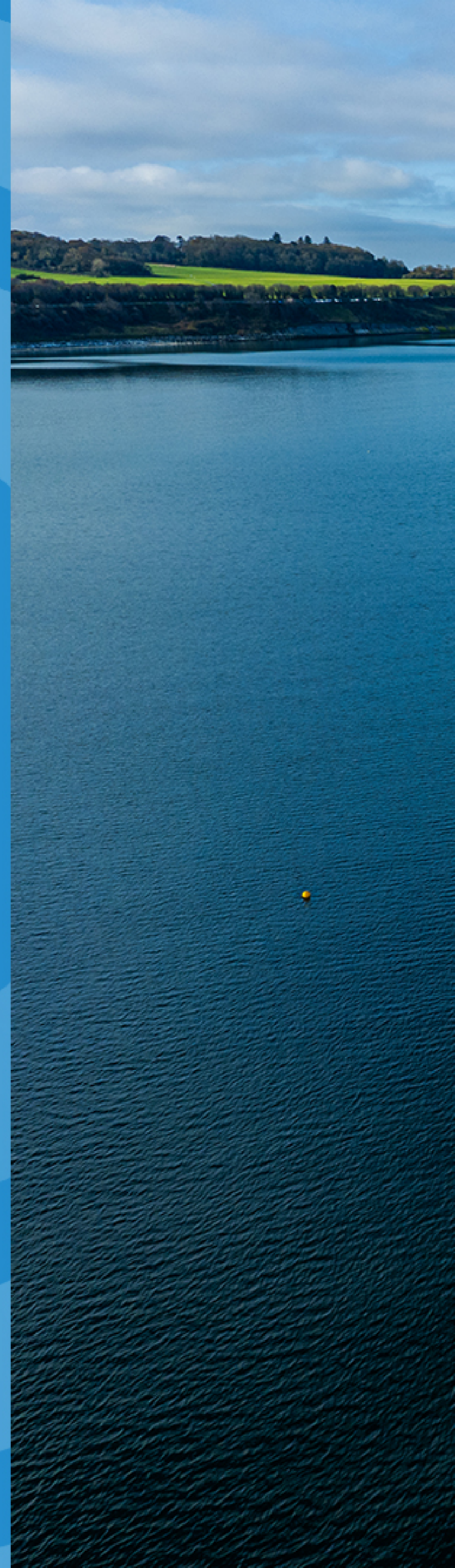
December 2025

**Accelerating Infrastructure
Action Plan Announced**

On 3 December, the Irish Government published the Accelerating Infrastructure Report and Action Plan, a comprehensive roadmap designed to tackle persistent barriers to infrastructure delivery across housing, energy, water, transport, and public services. This plan will also support the work of the Accelerating Renewable Electricity Taskforce and the Offshore Wind Clearing House which are driving the acceleration of Ireland's decarbonisation.

January 2026

Wind Energy Ireland launch their new five-year strategy *Delivering Energy Independence, Powering Growth*. The strategy is based on a set of strategic goals which sets out a clear and ambitious plan to transform Ireland into one of Europe's first true electrostates — a country powered by secure, affordable and home-grown clean electricity.



An aerial photograph of a small boat with a blue hull and a white cabin, moving across a vast, calm body of water. The boat is leaving a white wake behind it. In the background, a low, tree-lined shore is visible under a sky with soft, grey clouds. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and greys.

How NISA is progressing

The planning process

The project received a Request for Information (RFI) in April 2025 and resourcing was allocated to examine it – there was a lot of information requested, and the team moved quickly to respond. Critical to the project's development is engaging with all key stakeholders.

Given the significance of the RFI, the project requested more time to satisfy An Coimisiún Pleanála's (ACP) requirements. The proposed extension more accurately reflects the duration of activities required to support the RFI response.

ACP has granted the project an extension and NISA will endeavour to submit information in advance of this date in Q2 2026.

Project refinements

Following receipt of the RFI and subsequent stakeholder meetings, detailed consideration was given to understanding how a refined offshore design, within the confines of the offshore development boundary submitted to ACP in 2024 could further mitigate potential environmental effects from the proposed development.

The passage of time also enabled the project to invest in pioneering geophysical survey methodology to provide detailed ground conditions which informed those refinements. This achievement underscores NISA's commitment to innovation in site characterisation, efficient development processes, and environmental responsibility.

Key Refinements Offshore

- 1.** Removal of monopile foundations, which typically generate significant underwater noise during wind turbine foundation installation.
- 2.** Refinement of wind turbine foundation installation methodology to jackets with suction buckets, a low underwater noise foundation installation method successfully deployed on many wind farms.
- 3.** Refinement of wind turbine layouts for Project Options 1 and 2 within the confines of the offshore development boundary to address navigational safety concerns and reduce the spatial extent of infrastructure within the Northwest Irish Sea (NWIS) SPA.
- 4.** Removal of dredging from the project design, as excess material will not require to be removed from the seabed.

What does this mean in a practical sense

- Significantly reduced underwater noise during construction
- Improved search and rescue capabilities
- Increased distance from Rockabill
- Reduced density of turbines in the southeast area of the Maritime Area of Consent (MAC) where there is higher density of vessel traffic
- Reduction in 'spatial extent' of wind turbines within array area, reducing overlap with foraging grounds for bird species protected by the NWIS SPA

What hasn't changed

- Number of turbines across both project options
- Offshore Development Boundary, which includes array area and export cable corridor
- Tip height of turbines across both project options
- Onshore infrastructure

Key Refinements Onshore

Since submitting the application to An Coimisiún Pleanála in 2024, NISA has also advanced the design for the onshore cable route and prepared an indicative onshore construction phasing plan which seeks to mitigate against significant, temporary effects of the proposed cable route for communities in the area.

The indicative plan will be available to review as part of the RFI submission later this year.

Some of those mitigations include:

- Avoiding construction outside Corduff National School during term time.
- Undertaking sections along the Swords and Malahide Road outside of peak concert season unless otherwise agreed with Fingal County Council.
- Alleviating partial road closures by reducing single lane closure distances from c. 200-300 to 150-200m
- All single lane closures which include traffic light deployment will have a designed Traffic Management Engineer to monitor and regulate traffic flows at each traffic light head as required to further mitigate and prevent unnecessary tailbacks either side of the lane closure.



Continued Engagement

We recognise the role communities play in the success of these transformative projects. This newsletter is designed to keep you informed about key developments, government actions, and progress on the ground, ensuring that you remain a valued partner in building a brighter, greener tomorrow. We invite your engagement and feedback as we work together to deliver on the potential of offshore wind for Ireland.

Please continue to engage with our community engagement team on enquiries@northirishseaarray.ie. The team is also available to meet in person or online to discuss any aspect of the NISA offshore wind energy project.

Community Liaison Team



Jim O'Reilly
Community
Liaison Officer



Lisa Enright
Community
Liaison Officer

Find out more about the project at
www.northirishseaarray.ie



Appendix B

Fisheries Consultation Booklets

The only change required to this section is the inclusion of a new fisheries booklet distributed following the submission of the 2024 planning application. This booklet is included in Appendix B.2 below.

B.2 Fisheries Consultation Booklets (Post Submission)



Digital Effort Traceability Pilot (DETP)

A NISA Sustainable Fisheries Community (SFC) Initiative



How NISA is Progressing

The North Irish Sea Array Wind Farm (NISA) is a proposed offshore wind energy project with the capacity to power up to 500,000 Irish homes and businesses.

The project is currently in the Irish planning system having received a Request for Information (RFI) in April 2025. Given the significance of the RFI, the project requested more time to satisfy An Coimisiún Pleanála's (ACP) requirements. The proposed extension more accurately reflects the duration of activities required to support the RFI response.

ACP has granted the project an extension and NISA will endeavour to submit information in advance of this date in Q2 2026.

Critical to the project's development remains engaging with all key stakeholders.

The SFC

The SFC is a funding initiative focused on the protection and enhancement of a sustainable local fishing and marine environment in the waters around the proposed project area, focusing initially on coastal communities along the northeast coast of Ireland.

With funding of up to €1 million available in the initial 18month pilot phase, the SFC offers a valuable opportunity to support the sustainable development of fishing communities through meaningful initiatives spanning research and data gathering, education, and sustainability.

The ambition is that it delivers long term wider industry benefits, establishing a benchmark for best practice for co-existence between Offshore Renewable Energy and the fishing community through a collaborative approach.

The initiative is being steered and influenced by a committee which includes members of the fishing community. With the opening of the fund, the wider fishing and seafood producing community are encouraged to get on board and shape the direction it takes from here and influence its ultimate success.

More details on the SFC and projects already launched can be found on the dedicated website here:
www.sustainablefisheriescommunity.ie.



The funding portal can be accessed by scanning the QR code here:

Digital Effort Traceability Pilot (DETP)

DETP was proposed to the SFC and approved for funding in December 2025, developed in Q1 2026 and is now ready for rollout.

DETP can provide fishermen with greater visibility and evidenced recognition of their activity at sea, particularly within the inshore sector, where operations are often underrepresented in national datasets. By capturing accurate, real-time information, DETP helps ensure that fishing activity is more fully reflected in marine planning and decision-making processes.

DETP supports safer and more efficient operations by improving spatial awareness. With better data on where



fishing is taking place, DETP can help reduce conflicts with other marine users, such as offshore energy developments, by enabling more informed planning and coordination.

DETP strengthens the position of fishermen in policy and economic discussions. By evidencing their contribution to the Irish economy and coastal

communities, it ensures the sector is better represented in frameworks like the National Marine Planning Framework and future DMAPs.

DETP can also support catch traceability which can help verify sustainable management of stocks and be leveraged to add value to produce by providing access to alternative markets.

It's Your Data!

DETP data is securely transmitted and stored within a dedicated data lake architecture, ensuring robust protection, scalability, and controlled access.

All data is encrypted both in transit and at rest, with strict access controls and authentication protocols in place to prevent unauthorised use.

The system is designed in full compliance with GDPR requirements, incorporating principles such as data minimisation, purpose limitation, and secure processing.

Where applicable, personal data is anonymised or pseudonymised, and all handling processes align with EU data protection standards, ensuring that fishermen's operational data is protected while still enabling valuable insights for marine planning and management.

Access to DETP data through the Smart Ocean platform is controlled via a secure application process within the app, ensuring that data ownership and permissions are fully respected.

The screenshot shows the Smart Ocean app interface. At the top, there is a text input field containing '7RF3TN'. Below it is a dropdown menu for 'Gear type' with 'Pot' selected. Another text input field for 'Rope length (meters)' contains '0'. Below that is a 'Buoy ID' field with '7RF3TN'. A table titled 'Observations' shows the following data:

Species	FAO Code	Presentation	Quantity (kg)	Price €/kg	Total €
Brown Crab	CRE	Live	750	3.20	2,220

Below the table, there is a section for 'Attach photo from phone' with a button that says 'Tap here to take or select a photo'. To the right, there is a 'Vessel track for day' section with a date of '27/04/2026' and a map showing a blue track. Below the map is a 'Preview' section with a photo of a fishing boat. At the bottom, there is a 'Catch & traceability QR' section with a text input field containing 'www.met.ie' and a 'Generate QR code' button. A QR code is shown on the right side of the screen.

Only the registered data holder—typically the vessel owner or authorised operator—can initiate and approve an application to access their data.

This guarantees that control remains solely with the individual or entity that generated the data, while the Smart Ocean platform facilitates safe, transparent access for approved uses.

This approach reinforces data sovereignty, ensuring that fishermen retain full authority over how their information is accessed and shared.

NISA and the SFC see DETP as the key to safeguarding the seafood producing stakeholder against any potential negative impact associated with the project and for this reason has put considerable investment into developing the system to meet the specific needs and insure suitability for purpose.

The SFC has committed to providing DETP to vessels operating in the NISA catchment area and to covering all associated license costs for the initial 12-month pilot phase.

How to get onboard with DETP

If you are interested in the SFC, DETP or any other fisheries related topic concerning NISA please contact:

Patrick Hennessy,
Senior Marine & Fisheries Advisor:

Email: Patrick.Hennessy@statkraft.com

Phone: 087 3365721

