

Addendum to the
Supporting Information
**Screening for Appropriate
Assessment**

NISA
North Irish Sea Array

Appendix A2

Summary of Consultation



North Irish Sea Array Windfarm Ltd.

North Irish Sea Array Offshore Wind Farm

Environmental Impact Assessment Report

Reference: Appendix A2 – Summary of Consultation

Issue 1 | 2026

This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client. It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

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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 2: Summary of Consultation of the 2024 Supporting Information Screening for Appropriate Assessment (SISAA). This addendum to Appendix 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 SISAA and Natura Impact Statement (NIS).

For the purposes of clarity, this document shall be read in conjunction with the Appendix 2 submitted as part of the 2024 SISAA. Any cross reference to a chapter, section, table, image, figure or appendix within this document is to another location within the Addendum to the SISAA unless explicitly stated otherwise. Any cross reference to anything included in the 2024 SISAA 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 SISAA 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 SISAA, or entirely new tables, have been included in the Addendum to the SISAA. 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 SISAA, are indicated by grey shading in the relevant cell, column or row, as necessary.

The sections relevant to Appendix 2 in the RFI are included below.

RFI Section	RFI	Relevance to Chapter
1 (b)	The scientific information provided as part of the planning application documentation should be based on up-to-date survey reports and data. Accordingly, the applicant is requested to confirm/provide justification/verification that the information submitted in support of the planning application remains relevant and appropriate at the point of submitting further information or to update same as required.	The timeframes associated with the RFI have necessitated a review of the information previously used in the 2024 SISAA and NIS to ensure any necessary updates to the documentation are captured. This Appendix A2 of the NIS ensures that the information regarding consultation remains valid and representative of up to date information.

1.1 Purpose of this Report

This section shall be updated to reflect the ongoing stakeholder consultation that has been undertaken following the submission of the 2024 SISAA. Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 1.1 of Appendix 2 of the 2024 SISAA:

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 A7 Design Refinements) and addressed in the relevant section of the SISAA and NIS.

1.2 Public and Stakeholder Consultation

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. Refer to Section 1.2 of Appendix 1.2 of the 2024 SISAA. For clarity, specific details of public consultation since the 2024 submission have been updated and are provided in Section 1.7 below.

1.3 Topics Covered in Public Consultations

This section requires an update to include details of key issues raised during consultation undertaken since the submission of the 2024 SISAA and NIS. Therefore, the following text shall be included at the end of Section 1.3 of Appendix 2 of the 2024 SISAA:

Post 2024 SISAA/ NIS

Key topics discussed during the gathering of feedback following the submission of the 2024 SISAA and NIS 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.

1.4 Informal EIAR Scoping Consultation

There are no changes required to this section. Refer to Section 1.4 of Appendix 2 of the 2024 SISAA.

1.5 An Bord Pleanála Consultation

There are no changes required to Section 1.5 of Appendix 2 of the 2024 SISAA. 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 1.5.1 has been included below to provide further information on this engagement.

1.5.1 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.

1.6 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 1.6 of Appendix 2 of the 2024 SISAA:

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.

1.7 Summary of NIS-relevant 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 SISSA and NIS 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 SISAA and NIS was submitted.

For clarity, there are no changes required to Table 1 and Table 2 in Appendix 2 of the 2024 SISAA. Table A 1.1 shall therefore be included at the end of Section 1.7 of Appendix 2 of the 2024 SISAA.

Table A 1.1 Summary of NIS relevant issues raised during post-submission stakeholder consultation

NIS Topic	Summary of Key NIS-Relevant Observations from Statutory Stakeholder Consultations	Where addressed in the NIS
Coastal and Marine Habitats	<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> <p>Additionally, no key issues related to Biodiversity landward of the HWM were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.</p>	<p>Whilst Marine Physical Processes is not a specific topic within the SISAA/NIS Assessment, the result of any additional modelling is used to strengthen and inform the assessment against specific impacts. This is addressed in Section 5.1 and 6.2 within the NIS.</p>
Migratory Fish	<p>No key issues on fish and shellfish receptors were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.</p>	<p>Impacts to these receptors are addressed in Section 5.2 and 6.2 of the NIS.</p>
Marine Mammals	<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>	<p>Section 5.3 and 6.3 presents a comprehensive assessment of the offshore development area and is supported by Appendix A10: Marine Mammal Mitigation Protocol and Appendix A13: Underwater Noise Assessment.</p>
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>	<p>Section 5.4 and 6.4 of the NIS presents the impacts assessed for the offshore development area and is supported by Appendices A14 to A22 which include baseline data, modelling results and additional evidence. The feedback from NPWS during post-submission consultation is included throughout the documents and provided in further detail in the RFI Response Report.</p>
Offshore bats	<p>No key issues on Offshore Bats were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

NIS Topic	Summary of Key NIS-Relevant Observations from Statutory Stakeholder Consultations	Where addressed in the NIS
Cumulative Effects	No key issues regarding Cumulative Effects were raised during stakeholder consultation during the post-submission consultation period.	Cumulative effects are addressed in Section 6 of the NIS.