

Marine Notice No. 74 of 2023

Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers, Yachtsmen and Seafarers

North Irish Sea Array Offshore Wind Farm, Geophysical Survey Campaign Cable Route Area

1. Notice of Activity

The Department of Transport has been advised that the North Irish Sea Array (NISA) Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) intends to undertake a geophysical survey campaign on the proposed NISA Cable Corridor Area, off the coast of counties Dublin, Meath, and Louth. The campaign will be undertaken by SEP Hydrographic and will involve the deployment of a hull mounted (multibeam echo sounder and high frequency sub bottom profiler) and towed geophysical sensors (side scan sonar, magnetometer and medium frequency sub bottom profiler) within the nearshore part of the NISA OWF Cable Corridor Area detailed below.

The campaign will start on **22 November 2023** and will continue for a period of 2 weeks, subject to weather and operational constraints.

2. Location of Activity

The survey campaign will be confined to the nearshore area of the proposed NISA Cable Corridor Area, a total area of approximately 2.5 km². The survey area extends to landfall near Bremore. All operations will be within the 12nm limit. The survey area is bounded by the points in the table below and as set out in the map in the Appendix to this notice.

| ld | Latitude (degrees | Longitude (degrees | ld | Latitude (degrees | Longitude (degrees |
|----|-------------------|--------------------|----|-------------------|--------------------|
| | decimal minutes) | decimal minutes) | | decimal minutes) | decimal minutes) |
| 1 | 53°37.557'N | 006°11.319'W | 24 | 53°37.814'N | 006°10.548'W |
| 2 | 53°37.643'N | 006°10.897'W | 25 | 53°37.824'N | 006°10.538'W |
| 3 | 53°37.648'N | 006°10.875'W | 26 | 53°37.826'N | 006°10.536'W |
| 4 | 53°37.654'N | 006°10.854'W | 27 | 53°37.838'N | 006°10.524'W |
| 5 | 53°37.660'N | 006°10.834'W | 28 | 53°37.848'N | 006°10.516'W |
| 6 | 53°37.666'N | 006°10.813'W | 29 | 53°37.850'N | 006°10.513'W |
| 7 | 53°37.673'N | 006°10.794'W | 30 | 53°37.858'N | 006°10.507'W |
| 8 | 53°37.680'N | 006°10.775'W | 31 | 53°37.862'N | 006°10.503'W |
| 9 | 53°37.680'N | 006°10.774'W | 32 | 53°37.875'N | 006°10.494'W |
| 10 | 53°37.688'N | 006°10.755'W | 33 | 53°37.887'N | 006°10.485'W |

| ld | Latitude (degrees | Longitude (degrees | ld | Latitude (degrees | Longitude (degrees |
|----|-------------------|--------------------|----|-------------------|--------------------|
| | decimal minutes) | decimal minutes) | | decimal minutes) | decimal minutes) |
| 11 | 53°37.696'N | 006°10.736'W | 34 | 53°37.900'N | 006°10.477'W |
| 12 | 53°37.704'N | 006°10.718'W | 35 | 53°37.913'N | 006°10.469'W |
| 13 | 53°37.713'N | 006°10.700'W | 36 | 53°37.926'N | 006°10.462'W |
| 14 | 53°37.721'N | 006°10.682'W | 37 | 53°37.931'N | 006°10.460'W |
| 15 | 53°37.731'N | 006°10.665'W | 38 | 53°38.028'N | 006°09.710'W |
| 16 | 53°37.734'N | 006°10.660'W | 39 | 53°38.209'N | 006°09.082'W |
| 17 | 53°37.740'N | 006°10.649'W | 40 | 53°38.268'N | 006°08.691'W |
| 18 | 53°37.750'N | 006°10.633'W | 41 | 53°37.753'N | 006°08.433"W |
| 19 | 53°37.760'N | 006°10.617'W | 42 | 53°37.561'N | 006°09.689'W |
| 20 | 53°37.770'N | 006°10.602'W | 43 | 53°37.421'`N | 006°10.333'W |
| 21 | 53°37.781'N | 006°10.588'W | 44 | 53°37.396'N | 006°11.128'W |
| 22 | 53°37.792'N | 006°10.574'W | 45 | 53°37.315'N | 006°11.333'W |
| 23 | 53°37.803'N | 006°10.561'W | | | |

3. Details of the Survey Vessel

The survey will be conducted by the survey Vessel: "Ros Aine" (call sign EIZG5). As the survey vessel will be restricted in its ability to manoeuvre when surveying, due to the deployment of the towed survey sampling equipment from the vessel for the duration of the survey activities, other vessels are kindly requested to keep a wide berth. The vessels will display appropriate lights and signals. The survey will utilise multibeam echosounders, subbottom profilers, side-scan sonar, magnetometer, both hull-mounted and towed. The work will be conducted during 12 hr (daylight) operations.

4. Contact Details

Enquiries regarding the contents of this Marine Notice, or any other relevant matters should be directed to NISA's Senior Project Manager:

Tina Raleigh

Email: enquiries@northirishseaarray.ie

For enquiries related to fishing, please contact the dedicated Fisheries Liaison Officer for NISA Offshore Wind Farm:

Mark O Reilly, Director Fishery Liaisons Limited

Mobile: 085-1399000,

Email: mark@fishery-liaisons.com

All mariners are reminded of their responsibilities under the International Collision Regulations and of <u>Marine Notice No. 17 of 2007</u>, which gives general advice in relation to the activities of vessels engaged in survey work for hydrographic, seismic, fishing research and underwater operations.

The International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) are implemented in Irish law by the *Merchant Shipping (Collision Regulations) (Ships and Water Craft on the Water) Order 2012* [S.I. No. 507 of 2012] and the *Signals of Distress (Ships) Rules 2012* [S.I. No.170 of 2012]. See Marine Notice No. 06 of 2013. These Statutory Instruments may be purchased by mail order from Government Publications, Office of Public Works, Mountshannon Road, Dublin, D08 XA06 Tel: (046) 9423100. They are also available online at: www.irishstatutebook.ie.

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration, Department of Transport, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

06/11/2023

Encl: Appendix: Map of Survey Area

The Marine Survey Office, email: MSO@transport.gov.ie.

For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email: MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie.

Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to: Dept. of Transport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland. email: MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie or visit us at: www.gov.ie/transport.gov.ie.

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:

Appendix: Map of Survey Area

