

From: MARA Licence
Sent: Tuesday 12 August 2025 16:39
To: MARA Licence; Seabed Sanctuary
Cc: info@bantrysolicitors.ie
Subject: RE: FS007497 / MUL240045

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear Chris,

Further to your correspondence dated 16th May 2025, please see the following responses to your queries:

While MARA initially indicated by correspondence dated 4th October 2024 that it would treat the Foreshore Application as an application for a MUL within the meaning of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (the MAP Act), such confirmation is always subject to the receipt of additional information requested.

As you are aware, a request for further information dated 10th March 2025 issued to you requesting a Section 5 declaration on planning and exempted development from Cork County Council. Receipt of confirmation from the local authority that the proposed works are exempt from planning permission would be key information required by MARA in order to process the MUL application. Therefore, once it was confirmed by Cork County Council that planning permission is required for this development, this brings the project within Part 4 of the MAP Act and MARA is no longer in a position to process the MUL application as a MAC is required.

It is not within MARA's remit to cease any requirement for pre-planning determination or MAC application as a precondition to progression. The legislation provides that where a proposed maritime usage requires development permission, then a MAC is required prior to applying to the local authority for such planning permission. Specifically, section 75(1) of the MAP Act states that "*where development permission is required for a proposed maritime usage in a part of the maritime area, a person shall not seek, or otherwise have (by whatever means), such permission unless he or she is, in respect of that part, the holder of a MAC for the occupation of that part for the purposes of such usage*". MARA cannot deviate from the provisions of the MAP Act and it is not within MARA's statutory function to cease any requirement for pre-planning determination.

In light of the foregoing and as previously advised, you may now proceed to withdraw the MUL application (reference MUL240045) and submit a MAC application under section 79 of the MAP Act.

Further information on the MAC application process is available from the MARA MAC Team at mac@mara.gov.ie who are happy to assist with any application queries you may have further to the MAC pre-application meeting held on 08 May 2025.

Trusting that this clarifies matters.

Kind regards,

Martina

From: MARA Licence <licence@mara.gov.ie>
Sent: Monday 26 May 2025 12:30
To: Seabed Sanctuary <seabed.art@gmail.com>; MARA Licence <licence@mara.gov.ie>
Cc: info@bantrysolicitors.ie
Subject: RE: FS007497 / MUL240045

Dear Chris,

Thank you for your email, the contents of which have been noted. MARA will consider the points raised in your letter and will be in touch following same.

Kind regards,

Martina Monaghan
Maritime Usage Licensing

Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA)
2nd Floor, Menapia House, Drinagh Business Park,
Drinagh, Wexford, Y35RF29.

An tÚdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuirí (MARA)
2ú Dara hUrlár, Teach Menapia, Páirc Ghnó Dhraighní,
Draighneach, Loch Garman, Y35RF29.



From: Seabed Sanctuary <seabed.art@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday 16 May 2025 12:17
To: MARA Licence <licence@mara.gov.ie>
Cc: info@bantrysolicitors.ie
Subject: FS007497 / MUL240045

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Re Request for procedural clarification

Dear MARA team,

Please find attached a letter in reference to our recent communications.

Regards
Chris Gaughran

Secretary
Seabed Sanctuary Collective