



Decision on Specific Prospecting Activities

The Minister has assessed the exploration project proposed by the company and has determined that the activities are not likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

PL Area	3508, 3642 and 3643 (Co. Clare)
Company	Hannan Metals Ireland Ltd.
Activity	Ground geophysical surveys, primarily focused on PLA 3643.
Environmental Considerations	The ground geophysical survey will be of temporary duration, involve minimal disturbance and have a very limited zone of influence. The survey will involve a small number of personnel walking over the land recording geophysical measurements. No heavy machinery or noise generating equipment will be utilised. The proposed activity will not generate any waste or discharges to groundwater or surface water. In the event that the geophysical survey is proposed to take place within or immediately adjacent to any designated site, it will be subject to additional environmental screening, undertaken by a qualified ecologist.
European Sites	<p>Lough Gash Turlough SAC/pNHA (Site Code 000051), Lower River Shannon SAC (Site Code 002165), River Shannon & River Fergus Estuaries SPA (Site Code 004077), Ratty River Cave SAC (Site Code 002316), Poulnagordon Cave (Quin) SAC/pNHA (Site Code 000064), Kilkishen House SAC (Site Code 002319), Newgrove House SAC (Site Code 002157).</p> <p>A screening determination has been carried out for the project. Particular attention has been paid to the European Sites listed above.</p> <p>It has been determined that the project does not have the potential for significant effects on a European Site on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The geophysical survey will be temporary, involve minimal disturbance and have a very limited zone of influence. • The activity is not being undertaken in close proximity to any European Sites.
Environmental Information available on DECC website.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Guidelines for Completion of Environmental Screening Forms for Mineral Exploration Activities 2. Guidance for Good Environmental Practice in Mineral Exploration (2019) 3. Environmental Safeguards- The Irish Way (2006) 4. Expert Environmental Guidance – Exploration Methodologies (2017)
Authority	Department of Environment, Climate & Communications
Date of Notice	19 September 2023