

Notice of Intention to Renew Prospecting Licence

Since it appears to the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications (the Minister) that there are minerals not being worked under the lands in the areas set out below, pursuant to section 7(1) of the Minerals Development Act 1940, as amended, the Minister intends to renew a prospecting licence for **Base Metals, Barytes, Silver (Ores of.), Platinum Group Elements (Ores of.)** held by **Glencore Zinc Ireland Ltd, Unit 1 Dromkeen Industrial Park, Dromkeen, Limerick V94 TW59, Ireland** over the following Townlands of **Limerick**:

Clanwilliam Barony

ARDVARNA, BALLYCLOGH, BALLYNACOURTY, BALLYNAGOWAN, BALLYVOLLANE, BIDDYFORD, BRACKLOON, BUNKEY, CARROWKEEL, CLYDUFF EAST, CLYDUFF WEST, COOLBANE, COOLREIRY, DROMINBOY, DROMINBOY LOWER, DROMINBOY UPPER, GARDENHILL, GARRAUN, GARRAUNYKEE, GORTNALAHAGH, GRANGE LOWER, GRANGE UPPER, HERMITAGE, HUNTINGSTOWN, KILLONAN, KILLONAN, KNOCKBRACK EAST, KNOCKBRACK WEST, KNOCKSENTRY, LAGHTANE EAST, LAGHTANE WEST, LISNAGRY, MOUNTSHANNON, NEWGARDEN NORTH, NEWGARDEN SOUTH, PARK, PARKWOOD, PART OF BALLYNAGOWAN, PART OF GARDENHILL, PART OF MOUNTSHANNON, PART OF MOUNTSHANNON, PART OF RIVERS, PROSPECT, RAHEEN, RICHHILL, RIVERS, RUAN, SALLYMOUNT, STRADBALLY NORTH, STRADBALLY SOUTH, THORNFIELD, WOODPARK, WOODROAD, WOODSTOWN.

The maps and townland lists should be viewed on the Government of Ireland website and these are available at (<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/507ce-prospecting-licence-notices/>).

Where possible they will be made available at Castleconnell Garda Station and Roxboro Road Garda Station 24/7; Limerick County Council Offices; Geological Survey Ireland, Booterstown Hall, Booterstown, Co Dublin, A94 N2R6 and the address below.

Submissions to the renewal of the licence should be made within **30 days** of the date of this Notice. Submissions can only be made by either posting them to the Geoscience Regulation Office at the address below or by using the online submissions form

www.gov.ie/gsroSubmissions. The Minister reserves the right to make details of the submissions available to the applicant in order to fully consider their validity.

NB: A prospecting licence entitles the holder to explore for mineral deposits and **does not authorise mining of any minerals**. The activities permissible under a licence are in general non-invasive and of minimal environmental impact. The Minister has assessed the exploration

programme proposed by the Company and has determined that the activities are not likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

Further information, statutory notice and Minister's determination at:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/507ce-prospecting-licence-notices/>

Geoscience Regulation Office
Department of the Environment
Climate and Communications,
29-31 Adelaide Road,
Dublin
D02 X285

Ref: M.A. 56/16

Date: 8th February 2024

EU General Data Protection Regulation (EU GDPR)

Department responsibilities: The Department welcomes submissions and petitions from the public. In responding to the consultation respondents consent to their name being publicly available with the submission. The Department will redact personal addresses and personal email addresses prior to publication. We would draw your attention to the Department's Privacy Statement:

'The Department of the Environment

Climate and Communications requires responders to provide certain personal data in order to provide services and carry out the functions of the Department. Your personal data may be exchanged with other Government Departments and Agencies in certain circumstances.

where lawful. Full details can be found in our Data Privacy Notice which is available on the Government of Ireland website (<https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/dfd02-data-protection/>) or in hard copy on request'.

Petitioner's responsibilities: Each Petition Organiser is a Data Controller, and they should be aware of their responsibilities; that details provided by petition signatories when signing the petition (for example names, addresses, email addresses, telephone numbers and so on) are categorised as 'personal data' which is subject to GDPR (EU Regulation 2016/679 'General Data Protection Regulation 2018').

Petition Organisers as Data Controllers are required to confirm in their submission that:

- a) All individuals whose personal data is provided in the Petition have consented to the processing of their personal data by the Petition Organiser and the Department (as outlined in our Privacy Statement above),
- b) **OR**, that you otherwise have a legal basis (please specify) for providing such personal data to the Department for the purposes of participation in this consultation.

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.

Company Glencore Zinc Ireland Ltd

PLA

3431

Activity

Mineral exploration consisting of desk studies, geochemical sampling, geophysical surveying, and drilling.

Environmental Considerations

Desk studies, geochemical sampling, and geophysical surveying are temporary, non-intrusive activities, involving minimal disturbance and with a limited zone of influence. The activity is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment. If the activity is undertaken at or in the vicinity of a Natura 2000 site, the activity will be subject to a separate screening assessment. If diamond drilling is undertaken, this activity will be subject to a separate screening assessment.

European Sites Determination

1. Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA (Site Code 004165)
2. Lower River Shannon SAC (Site Code 002165)

A screening determination has been carried out for the project. Particular attention has been paid to the European Sites listed above.

It has been determined that the project does not have the potential for significant effects on any European Site and the activities are not likely to have a significant effect on the Natural Heritage Area (NHA) or proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHA) listed below.

1. Castleconnell (Domestic Dwelling, Occupied) pNHA (Site Code 000433)

Environmental Information is available on [the gov.ie website](#)

1. [Guidelines for Completion of Environmental Screening Forms for Mineral Exploration Activities 2023](#)
2. [Exploration Drilling - Guidance on Discharge to Surface and Groundwater \(2019\)](#)
3. [Guidance for Good Environmental Practice in Mineral Exploration \(2019\)](#)
4. [Environmental Safeguards- The Irish Way \(2006\)](#)
5. [Expert Environmental Guidance for Exploration Methodologies \(2017\)](#)

Authority: **Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications**

Date: 23 November 2023

