

Good afternoon,

Please see below the Port of Waterford submission on the draft South Coast Designated Maritime Area Plan.

The Port welcomes and supports the draft SC-DMAP and the plan-led approach to sensibly manage future ORE development with minimal environmental impact. The proximity of the Maritime Areas to Waterford presents a significant opportunity for the Port and the wider economic region to experience sustained growth, coinciding with the Port's own planned developments, including the construction of a 250m ORE Capable Berth.

From our observation of offshore traffic data, it appears that commercial traffic to and from the Port may be negatively affected if each of the four Maritime Areas is developed to the suggested extremities. Similarly, the east/west flow of commercial traffic off the coast may also be adversely impacted. It is expected that ORE developers would adhere to the Department of Transport's forthcoming Navigation Risk Assessment Guidelines, and the Port would appreciate additional consultation on this matter.

Many thanks.

Best regards,
