

Notice of Intention to Renew a Prospecting Licence

Pursuant to section 8(6) of the Minerals Development Act 1940, as inserted by section 2 of the Minerals Development Act 1995, the **Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications** intends to renew the prospecting licence for **Gold, (Ores of.)** to **Irish Marine Oil Ltd, 162 Clontarf Road, Dublin, D03 F6Y0, Ireland** over the following Townlands in **County Kildare**:

Naas South Barony:

Alliganstown, Ardinode East, Ardinode West, Ballybought, Ballydallagh, Ballymore Eustace East, Ballymore Eustace West, Bishopsland, Bishopslane, Boleybeg, Broadleas Commons, Coghlanstown East, Coghlanstown West, Coldwells, Fallarees Commons, Gaganstown, Grange Beg, Horsepasstown, Kennycourt, Kimmeens, Longstone, Moorhill, Mullaghboy, Rochestown, Silverhill Lower, Silverhill Upper, Sousheen Common, Tinnycross, Whiteleas.

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

Where possible, they will be made available at Naas Garda Station 24/7 and Kilcullen Garda Station; Kildare County Council; the 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/gsproSubmissions. The Minister reserves the right to make details of the submissions available to the applicant in order to fully consider their validity.

Please note: A Prospecting Licence entitles the holder to explore for mineral deposits only and **does not authorise mining of any minerals**. The prospecting 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 the Minister's determination are available to view at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/507ce-prospecting-licence-notices/>.

Geoscience Regulation Office
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications,
Tom Johnson House, Haddington Road,
Dublin, D04K7X4

Ref: M. A. 324/1

Date: 5th November 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 their 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. They should be aware of their responsibilities; those 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 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),

Or

b) 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 (Aarhus) 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 Irish Marine Oil Ltd

PLA 3794

Activities

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

Environmental Effect

Desk studies, prospecting, mapping, geochemical sampling, and geophysical surveying are temporary, non-intrusive activities, involving minimal disturbance and with a limited zone of influence. The activities are not likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

If the activities are undertaken at or in the vicinity of a Natura 2000 site, the activities will be subject to a separate screening assessment.

If diamond drilling is undertaken, this activity will be subject to a separate individual screening assessment.

European Sites Determination

A screening determination has been carried out for the project. Particular attention has been paid to the European Sites listed below. It has been determined that the project does not have the potential for significant effects on any European Site.

1. Poulaphouca Reservoir SPA (Site Code 004063)

In addition, 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. Poulaphouca Reservoir pNHA (Site Code 000731)
2. Dunlavin Marches pNHA (Site Code 001772)
3. Newtown Marches pNHA (Site Code 001759)
4. Liffey Valley Meander Belt pNHA (Site Code 000393)

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: 07 August 2024