ABWP Phase I Decommissioning

Transboundary Screening

Volume 3, Appendix 1.3



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Statement of Authority

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Glossary

Term	Meaning
Arklow Bank Wind Park (ABWP) Phase I	Arklow Bank Wind Park (ABWP) Phase I comprises: • Offshore infrastructure seaward of High Water Mark (HWM), including: – Seven Wind Turbine Generators (WTG) with a combined capacity of 25.2 MW; – One meteorological (met) mast; – Inter-array cables connecting the WTGs and met mast; and – One offshore export cable connecting WTG T4 with landfall at HWM; • Onshore infrastructure landward of HWM including: – One onshore cable connecting landfall at HWM with the onshore substation; and - One onshore substation compound, where the onshore substation and ancillary infrastructure are located.
ABWP Phase II	ABWP Phase II comprises: • Offshore Infrastructure, including: – 53 or 47 WTGs and two Offshore Substation Platforms (OSPs) located within the "Array Area"; – Inter-array cables connecting WTGs with the OSPs; and – Two offshore export cables; • Onshore grid connection infrastructure, including a 220 kV substation at Shelton Abbey with an associated connection to the existing National Electricity Transmission Network; • Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMF) at South Dock, Arklow Harbour; • EirGrid Upgrade Works.
Arklow Energy	Arklow Energy Limited, the entity seeking planning permission for the Proposed Works, i.e. the applicant.
Appropriate Assessment (AA)	An assessment of the likely significant effects of a plan or project (in combination with other plans or projects) on the Natura 2000 site network, which in Ireland comprises Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). These sites are protected by National and European law. The assessment is underpinned by the precautionary principle whereby a proposal cannot be granted permission if significant impacts are anticipated or cannot be ruled out. It entails the preparation of a Natura Impact

Term	Meaning
	Statement (NIS) for projects, or a Natura Impact Report (NIR) for plans under the Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010 (Office of the Planning Regulator, n.d.).
AA screening	A process undertaken by the competent authority to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if a proposed development, individually or in combination with other plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, and whether an appropriate assessment (AA) is required or not (Section 177U(1), Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)).
Baseline	A description of the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment (baseline scenario) (EIA Directive 2014/52/EU).
Competent authority	Are those authorities that are entitled to give authorisation or consent to a plan or project. In the planning system, this means planning authorities and An Coimisiún Pleanála. There are, however, a wide range of other competent authorities in respect of other consent regimes e.g. EPA (environmental licencing), Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine (forestry, aquaculture and foreshore management), and various state bodies that have authority to undertake development under Part 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations (e.g. An Garda Síochána, defence forces, the courts service). The competent authority for this planning application is An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP).
Consent	This shall include any licence, permission, permit, approval or other such authorisation granted by a public authority for any activity, or project where the authority is obliged to have regard to the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and/or Habitats Directive(s) (MacCabe Durney Barnes (MDB), 2017).
Cumulative effect	The addition of many minor or insignificant effects, including effects of other projects, to create larger, more significant effects (EPA, 2022). Cumulative effects within this EIAR comprise those arising from the Proposed Works with other developments, i.e. plans and projects that are 'reasonably foreseeable' (Planning Inspectorate (PINS), 2024).
Cumulative effects assessment	Assessment of potential environmental effects resulting from the Proposed Works cumulatively with other plans, projects or reasonably foreseeable activities.
Decommissioning	The final closing down and putting into a state of safety of a development, project or process when it has come to the end of its useful life (EPA, 2022).
Designated sites	Unless otherwise specified, the term 'designated' is used to refer to international sites, European sites and national sites (that are legally designated, or are going through the process of designation (MDB, 2017).
Effect	The consequence of an impact on a receptor. For example, in the offshore environment, vessel activity (activity) results in increased levels of underwater noise (impact), with the potential to disturb marine mammals (effect).
Environmental factor	Refers to environmental factors used to present the characteristics of the environment (EPA, 2022) that are used to organise the description of the environment in the EIAR.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	Process of assessment of the effects of a project or development proposal on the environment. In the planning area, it is undertaken by a planning authority or An Coimisiún Pleanála during the consideration of applications for planning permission, taking account of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). The projects which require EIA are listed in Annex I and Annex II of the EIA Directive, as amended (Office of the Planning Regulator, n.d.).
Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)	A report or statement of the effects, if any, that Proposed Works, if carried out, would have on the environment. It is prepared by the developer to inform the EIA process (Office of the Planning Regulator, n.d.).
European site	Meaning assigned to it in the EC (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, which is also commonly known as a Natura 2000 site (Office of the Planning Regulator, n.d.).
High Water Mark (HWM)	Level reached by the sea level at high tide.

Term	Meaning
Impact	A change brought about by the Proposed Works.
Indirect impact	Impacts on the environment, which are not a direct result of the Proposed Works, often produced away from (the Offshore / Onshore Site) or as a result of a complex pathway (EPA, 2022).
Inter-array cables	Subsea power lines that link individual wind turbine generators (WTGs) together in an offshore wind farm, forming an electrical network. In ABWP Phase I, inter-array cables connect WTGs and the met mast to each other and have an overall length of 7.4 km.
Landfall	The point where the offshore export cable transitions from the offshore marine environment to the onshore terrestrial environment.
Meteorological (Met) mast	A mast with a number of meteorological sensors located at different heights to record meteorological and sea condition data
Monopile (MP)	Hollow steel cylinder driven into the seabed typically used to anchor an offshore wind turbine generator (WTG). In ABWP Phase I, MPs support the seven WTGs as well as the meteorological (met) mast.
Natura 2000	Network EU-wide network of nature conservation areas established under the 1992 Habitats Directive (and 1979 Birds Directive). The aim of the network is to assure the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats. It includes Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) (Office of the Planning Regulator, n.d.).
Natura Impact Statement (NIS)	A statement, for the purposes of Article 4 of the Habitats Directive, of the implications of a proposed development, on its own or in combination with other plans or projects, for one or more than one European site, in view of the conservation objectives of the site or sites. This is prepared by the applicant (Office of the Planning Regulator, n.d.).
Nautical mile (nm)	Measurement used for distances at sea. 1 nm equates to 1.852 km.
Noise	The terms noise and sound are often used interchangeably. Noise usually refers to unwanted or disturbing sounds that interfere with normal hearing and can be unpleasant or harmful. It is often characterised by irregularities in the sound waves and is considered a form of sound pollution.
Offshore export cable	Subsea power cable that transports the total generated power from an offshore wind farm to the onshore power grid. In ABWP Phase I, the offshore export cable connects the wind turbine generator (WTG) T4 to landfall with an approximate overall length of 15.6 km. At landfall, the offshore export cable transitions to the onshore cable connecting to the onshore substation.
Offshore Site	Part of the Site where Proposed Works Offshore are proposed to take place. In this application for planning permission, the Offshore Site comprises the Sub Lease Area, where the ABWP Phase I wind turbine generators (WTGs), met mast and inter-array cables are located, and the offshore export cable 10 m corridor connecting WTG T4 to the landfall at high water mark (HWM) near Arklow Harbour.
Onshore cable	Land-based portion of the power cable that transports the total generated power from an offshore wind farm to the onshore power grid. In ABWP Phase I, the onshore cable connects the landfall point at HWM to the onshore substation building.
Onshore Site	Part of the Site where Proposed Works Onshore are proposed to take place. In this application for planning permission, the Onshore Site comprises the onshore substation compound that hosts the onshore substation building and ancillary facilities; the onshore cable 10 m corridor connecting the landfall point from high water mark (HWM) to the onshore substation, and the area that will temporarily be used for temporary storage of plant, vehicles, machinery, excavated soil and materials.
Onshore substation compound	Fenced compound that hosts the onshore substation building and ancillary facilities, including the 38 kV transformer.
Pathway	The route by which an effect is conveyed between a source and a receptor (EPA, 2022).
Planning permission	Formal, legal approval required from a local planning authority or An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP) to carry out development. The Proposed Works

Term	Meaning
	require planning permission submitted from ACP under Section 291 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended.
Precautionary principle	The approach aims at ensuring a higher level of environmental protection through preventative decision-taking in the case of risk. The general principles of risk management remain applicable when the precautionary principle is invoked. These are proportionality between the measures taken and the chosen level of protection; non-discrimination in application of the measures; consistency of the measures with similar measures already taken in similar situations or using similar approaches; examination of the benefits and costs of action or lack of action; review of the measures in the light of scientific developments (MDB, 2017).
Proposed Works	The Proposed Works include decommissioning of ABWP Phase I offshore infrastructure (Proposed Works Offshore) and decommissioning of ABWP Phase I onshore infrastructure (Proposed Works Onshore).
Receptor	Any element in the environment which is subject to impacts (EPA, 2022).
Recycling	Subjection of waste to any process or treatment to make it re-usable in whole or in part (Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended)).
Sensitivity	The potential of a receptor to be significantly affected (EPA, 2022).
Significance	The importance of the outcome of the impact (or the consequence of change) for the receiving environment (EPA, 2022).
Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)	Sites designated under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC). This requires the conservation of important, rare or threatened habitats and species (not birds, which are protected by Special Protection Areas (SPAs)) across Europe (Office of the Planning Regulator, n.d.).
Special Protection Areas (SPAs)	Sites designated under the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), to conserve the habitats of certain migratory or rare birds (Office of the Planning Regulator, n.d.).
Study Area	Area covered in the characterisation of the baseline environment and considered in the assessment of potential environmental effects relevant to the environmental factors covered within this EIAR.
Sub Lease Area	Area where the ABWP Phase I WTGs, met mast and inter-array cables are located, as defined in the Sub Lease granted by Sure Partners Limited (SPL) to Arklow Energy Limited (Arklow Energy) to construct and operate ABWP Phase I.
Territorial sea	Belt of sea adjacent to a coastal State's land territory and internal waters, over which the State has sovereignty. A coastal State may claim up to 12 nautical miles from its baseline (usually the low-water line along the coast) (UNCLOS, 1982).
Transboundary effects	Potential environmental effects that may occur across jurisdictional boundaries (MDB, 2017).
Transition Piece	The steel connection structure between the tower and the monopile (MP) foundation.
Waste	Any substance or object belonging to a category of waste specified in the First Schedule or for the time being included in the European Waste Catalogue which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard, and anything which is discarded or otherwise dealt with as if it were waste shall be presumed to be waste until the contrary is proved (Waste Management Act 1996 (as amended)).
Wind Turbine Generator (WTG)	Structure that converts the kinetic energy of ocean winds into electrical energy. ABWP Phase I includes seven GE Energy 3.6s WTGs with a rated capacity of 3.6 megawatts (MW) per WTG.
Zone Of Influence (ZoI)	The potential geographic area that could be affected by the implementation of the Proposed Works, having regard to the source-pathway-target risk assessment concept. ZoIs are defined for environmental factors scoped into the EIAR.

Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning
AA	Appropriate Assessment
ABWP	Arklow Bank Wind Park
ACP	An Coimisiún Pleanála
CO	Conservation Objective
EC	European Commission
EEA	European Economic Area
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
EU	European Union
HWM	High Water Mark
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
MMMU	Marine Mammal Management Unit
MP	Monopile
NIR	Natura Impact Report
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
OMF	Operations and Maintenance Facility
OSPs	Offshore Substation Platforms
PINS	UK Planning Inspectorate
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCI	Sites of Community Importance
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSC	Suspended sediment concentrations
TP	Transition piece
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
WTG	Wind Turbine Generators
ZoI	Zone of Influence

Units

Unit	Meaning
km	Kilometre
kV	Kilovolt
m	Metre
MW	Megawatt
nm	Nautical mile

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

1.1.1.1 Arklow Energy Limited (Arklow Energy) is seeking planning permission to decommission Arklow Bank Wind Park (ABWP) Phase I (referred to hereafter as 'the Proposed Works'). The Proposed Works include decommissioning of ABWP Phase I offshore infrastructure (Proposed Works Offshore) and decommissioning of ABWP Phase I onshore infrastructure (Proposed Works Onshore).

1.1.1.2 This appendix aims to present the transboundary screening used to determine whether the Proposed Works have the potential to result in likely significant transboundary effects, defined as those that that may occur across jurisdictional boundaries (MacCabe Durney Barnes (MDB), 2017), and trigger transboundary consultation obligations under the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive.

1.1.1.3 This appendix has been informed by **Volume 2** of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).

1.1.1.4 An Coimisiún Pleanála (ACP), the competent planning authority, is responsible to determine whether any transboundary consultation is required and, if any, ACP will facilitate the sharing of relevant information with other states following submission of the EIAR, in accordance with applicable legislative requirements.

1.2 Legal Context

1.2.1.1 As indicated in **Volume 2, Chapter 1: Introduction**, the need to consider potential for transboundary effects and transboundary consultation requirements stem from the EIA Directive, which implements the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on EIA in a Transboundary Context, commonly referred to as the Espoo Convention (United Nations, 1991).

1.2.1.2 Article 6(3) of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the 'Habitats Directive') requires that an Appropriate Assessment be undertaken where a plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a site designated for the conservation of habitats or species of international importance. In the context of transboundary screening, sites designated under the Habitats Directive located within other EU Member States may also be relevant where there is a potential for effects to arise beyond national jurisdiction.

1.3 Consultation

1.3.1.1 To date, there has been no transboundary consultation undertaken by Arklow Energy.

1.3.1.2 As indicated in the **Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement Report** prepared in support of the application for planning permission, the Inspector's Report dated 7th May 2026 on ACP-321635-25 noted that Proposed Works Offshore are not considered likely to have significant effects on a European Union (EU) Member State or a state that is party to the Espoo Convention.

1.3.1.3 In addition, ACP, in its letter of the 20th May 2026 closing the pre-application stage (ACP-321635-25), listed all of those bodies that should be consulted by Arklow Energy as part of the application, and no transboundary consultees were listed.

1.4 Methodology

1.4.1.1 The assessment of potential transboundary effects typically distinguishes between:

- Effects likely to occur in or on the environment of another state; and
- Effects likely to occur to the interests of another state.

1.4.1.2 **Volume 2, Chapter 1** describes the methodology followed in the assessment of transboundary effects, which follows the UK Planning Inspectorate (PINS) guidance on transboundary impacts and process (PINS, 2025), and considers the following criteria:

- Characteristics of the project, i.e. size, use of natural resources, production of waste, pollution and nuisances, risk of accidents and use of technologies;
- Location of the project, i.e. existing use, distance to European Economic Area (EEA) states and extent of the area of a likely impact under the jurisdiction of an EEA state;
- Environmental importance, i.e. whether there are any particular environmental values likely to be affected; and
- Potential impacts and carrier, i.e. by what means impacts could be spread (i.e. what pathways) and what are the characteristics of impacts in terms of extent, magnitude, probability, duration, frequency, reversibility, potential for cumulative impacts, etc).

1.4.1.3 This transboundary screening has been undertaken considering legal requirements noted in **Section 1.2** and criteria outlined above, and presents the following in **Section 2**:

- The distance between the Offshore and Onshore Sites and neighbouring states (see **Figure 1**);
- The screening of potential transboundary effects using PINS screening criteria (PINS, 2025) and information contained within **Volume 2** of the EIAR, presented in a tabular format organised by environmental factor (**Table 2.2**); and
- An overall conclusion on whether potential transboundary effects are likely to become significant and consultation requirements are triggered.

1.4.1.4 In relation to the "potential impacts and carrier" criterion, reference has been made to the Zone of Influence (ZoI) of Proposed Works described in Volume 2 of the EIAR in relation to each environmental factor. The ZoI is defined as the potential geographic area that could be affected by the implementation of the Proposed Works, and in the context of transboundary screening, excludes considering potential interaction with other plans and projects, separately covered in the assessment of cumulative effects (see **Volume 2, Chapter 1**).

2 TRANSBOUNDARY SCREENING

2.1 Distance to Neighbouring States

2.1.1.1 Given the insular character of Ireland, and the location of the Onshore Site, the nearest neighbouring state is Northern Ireland (the UK), located within approximately 142 km north of the Onshore Site.

2.1.1.2 The approximate distances between the Offshore Site and the nearest maritime boundary of neighbouring states are outlined in **Table 2.1**, and illustrated in **Figure 1**.

Table 2.1: Approximate distance from the Offshore Site to nearest maritime border

State	Approximate distance (kilometres (km))
The UK	33
Isle of Man	133
France	381
Guernsey	398
Jersey	456

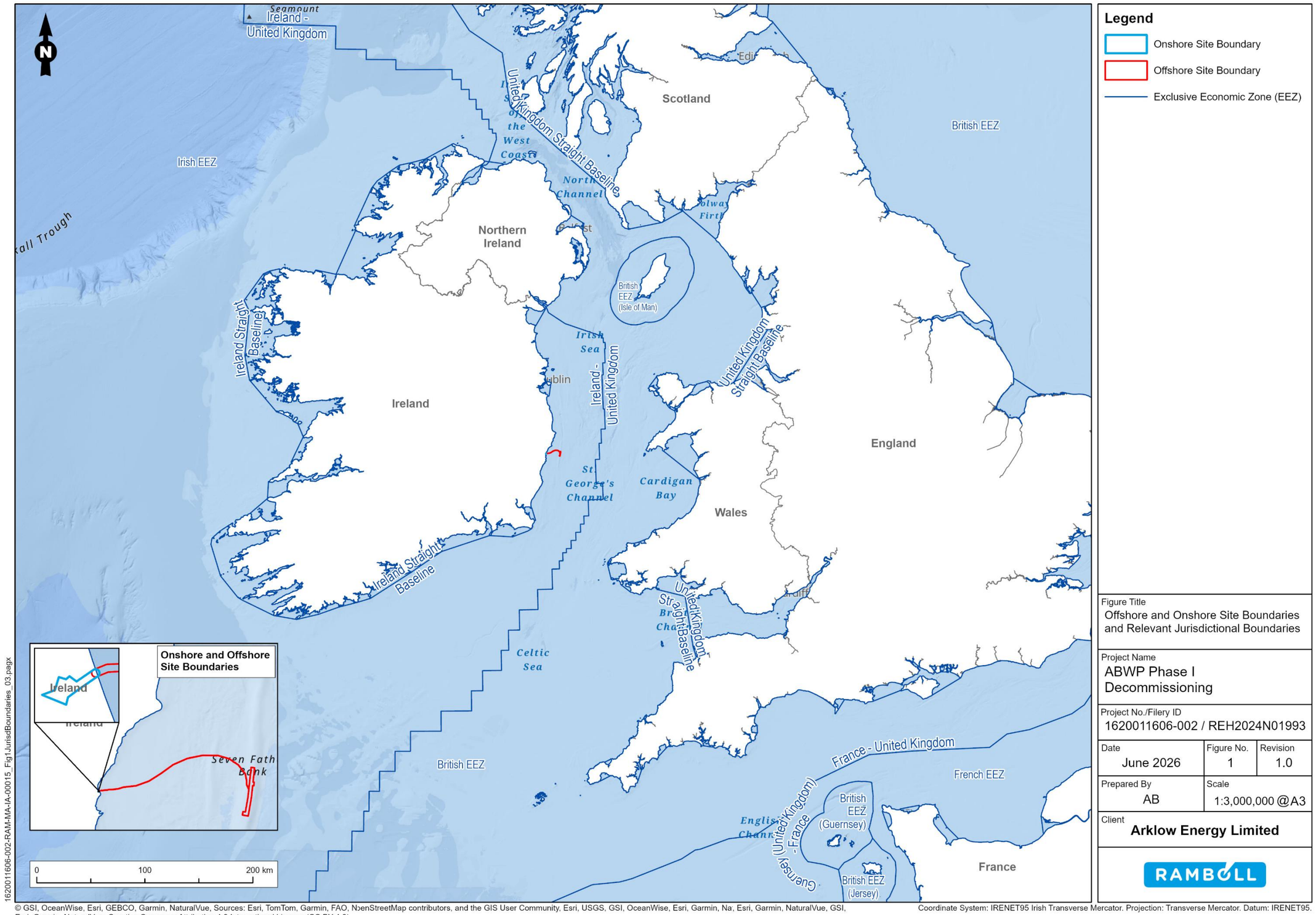


Figure Title
Offshore and Onshore Site Boundaries and Relevant Jurisdictional Boundaries

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Date	Figure No.	Revision
June 2026	1	1.0

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Arklow Energy Limited

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Coordinate System: IRENET95 Irish Transverse Mercator. Projection: Transverse Mercator. Datum: IRENET95.

Figure 1: Offshore and Onshore Site boundaries and relevant jurisdictional boundaries.

2.2 Screening of Transboundary Effects

Table 2.2: Screening of transboundary effects from Proposed Works

Environmental factor	Characteristics of the Proposed Works	Location	Environmental Importance	Potential Impacts and Carrier	Conclusion – Potential for Transboundary Significant Effects
Offshore Environment					
Coastal Processes, Water and Sediment Quality	As further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 3: Proposed Works Description**, the Proposed Works Offshore involve: • The full permanent removal of seven WTGs, a met mast and associated transition pieces (TPs); and inter-array and offshore export cables; • The partial removal of monopile (MP) foundations (cut below seabed level to a depth that minimises the risk of residual MP exposure), and scour protection. In order to ensure safe vessel access, there is potential for some localised dredging to be required, depending on the seabed levels encountered at the time of decommissioning. The Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be undertaken in stages, with two main campaigns envisaged (first campaign focused on the full permanent removal of WTGs to be of an approximate duration of 10 weeks, and second campaign to be undertaken for remaining works with an approximate duration of 16 weeks).	As further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 3: Proposed Works Description**, the Proposed Works Offshore will take place within the Offshore Site, located seaward of the High Water Mark (HWM) off the coast of Arklow, County Wicklow, in southeast Ireland, within Irish territorial waters. The Offshore Site comprises: • The Sub Lease Area, located within Arklow Bank sand bank, within 10 km of the coast, where WTGs, met mast and inter-array cables are located; and • The offshore export cable corridor, a 10-metre (m) corridor along the offshore export cable route connecting WTG turbine 4 (T4) to the landfall point at HWM. The nearest maritime border to the Offshore Site belongs to the UK, located within 33 km to the west.	Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 4: Coastal Processes, Water and Sediment Quality**. Potential effects identified in relation to coastal processes, water and sediment quality as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be limited in duration and not likely to occur beyond the immediate surrounding of the Coastal Processes, Water and Sediment Quality Study Area, defined as 20 km from the Offshore Site (corresponding to approximately two tidal excursions during a mean spring tide, providing a scientifically robust proxy for the maximum potential offshore transport of suspended sediments and hydrodynamic alterations), as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 4**, located entirely within Irish waters**.**	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on the coastal processes, water and sediment quality of other states.
Marine Biodiversity – Benthic Ecology			Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 5: Marine Biodiversity.** Potential effects identified in relation to benthic ecology as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be limited in duration and not likely to occur beyond the ZoI defined for benthic ecology, which extends to 7 km from the Offshore Site (corresponding to the tidal excursion distance, i.e. maximum distance sediment is expected to disperse and then deposit based on one tidal ellipse on a spring tide), as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 5**, located entirely within Irish waters**.**	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on benthic ecology of other states.
Marine Biodiversity – Fish and Shellfish			Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 5: Marine Biodiversity.** Potential effects identified in relation to fish and shellfish as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be limited in duration and not likely to occur beyond the ZoI defined for fish and shellfish, which extends to 7 km from the Offshore Site (corresponding to the tidal excursion distance), as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 5**, located entirely within Irish waters**.** Given the mobile nature of fish and potential migratory routes, there is potential for fish from other states to be present within the ZoI of Proposed Works Offshore, which extend into UK waters. However, potential effects are anticipated to be highly localised, even for migratory fish, and unlikely to become significant for fish distributed within or outside Irish waters.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on fish and shellfish of other states.
Marine Biodiversity – Marine Mammals			Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 5: Marine Biodiversity.** Potential effects identified in relation to marine mammals as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be limited in duration and not likely to occur beyond the ZoI defined for marine mammals, which extends to 45.5 km from the Offshore Site (which accounts for the maximum extent of underwater noise disturbance), as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 5**, extending into UK waters**.** Given the mobile nature of marine mammals, there is also potential for marine mammals from other states, besides the UK, to be present within the ZoI of Proposed Works Offshore, and accordingly, **Volume 2, Chapter 5** also considers the wider Celtic Seas Ecoregion and appropriate Marine Mammal Management Units (MMMUs) to account for the mobile nature of cetaceans. For pinnipeds (seals), the OSPAR Region III (Celtic Seas) has also been considered. However, overall, as noted in **Volume 2, Chapter 5**, potential effects on marine mammals are considered unlikely to become significant for marine mammals distributed within or outside Irish waters.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on marine mammals of other states.
Marine Biodiversity – Marine Birds / Bats			Baseline conditions relevant to bats are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Potential effects identified in relation to bats as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be highly temporary and limited in scale / localised and unlikely to be significant for bats distributed within or outside Ireland. Baseline conditions relevant to marine birds are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 5: Marine Biodiversity.** Potential effects identified in relation to marine birds as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be limited in duration and not likely to occur beyond the ZoI defined for marine birds, which extends to 50 km from the Offshore Site (defined based on review of surrounding designated sites with marine birds as qualifying feature, baseline information and considering large foraging distances exhibited by some marine bird species), as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 5,** extending into UK waters**.** Given the mobile nature of marine birds, **Volume 2, Chapter 5**, there is potential for marine birds from other states to be present within the ZoI of Proposed Works Offshore. However, potential effects are anticipated to be highly localised and unlikely to become significant for marine birds distributed within or outside Irish waters.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on marine birds and bats of other states.
Marine Biodiversity – European Sites			As presented in the **Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report** accompanying the planning application for Proposed Works, there are a number of European Sites located within the maximum ZoI defined for marine biodiversity, i.e. 45.5 km from the Offshore Site (see above), however, these European Sites are all located entirely within Irish waters. Given the mobile nature of some marine qualifying features, namely marine mammals, fish, marine birds and bats, there is potential for marine qualifying features associated with European Sites from other states	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on European Sites of other states.

Environmental factor	Characteristics of the Proposed Works	Location	Environmental Importance	Potential Impacts and Carrier	Conclusion – Potential for Transboundary Significant Effects
			to be present within the ZoI of Proposed Works Offshore. However, as further reported in the **Natural Impact Statement (NIS)** accompanying the planning application for Proposed Works, no likely significant effects on European Sites / qualifying features are anticipated.		
Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture			Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 6: Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture.** Potential effects identified in relation to commercial fisheries and aquaculture as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be limited in duration and not likely to occur beyond the ZoI defined for commercial fisheries and aquaculture, which extends to 25 nautical miles (nm (<50 km) from the Offshore Site (which reflects the typical spatial extent over which local fishing vessels operate and within which interactions with the Proposed Works Offshore are most likely to occur), as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 6**, which extends into UK waters. Given the mobile nature of fish, there is potential for commercially exploited species from other states to be present within the ZoI of Proposed Works Offshore. However, potential effects are anticipated to be highly localised, even for migratory commercially exploited species, and unlikely to become significant. In addition, given the limited presence of foreign fishing vessels within the Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture Study Area, together with the short-term and reversible nature of the Proposed Works Offshore, potential impacts on commercially exploited species or on non-Irish fishing fleets are unlikely to become significant.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on commercially exploited species or non-Irish fishing fleets of other states.
Shipping and Navigation			Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 7: Shipping and Navigation.** Potential effects identified in relation to shipping and navigation as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be limited in duration and not likely to occur beyond the Shipping and Navigation Study Area, which extends to approximately 20 km from the Offshore Site (corresponding to the ABWP Phase II Shipping And Navigation Study Area, considered to encompass shipping and navigation features of relevance to the Proposed Works Offshore, including wider regional context), as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 7**, which extends into UK waters. Given the international nature of vessel activity, there is potential for shipping and navigation originating from other states to transit to or from international ports across the Shipping and Navigation Study Area. However, individual vessel transits, irrespective of flag state, have been accounted for through vessel traffic analysis and navigational risk assessment presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 7**, and potential impacts on non-Irish vessels are unlikely to become significant.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on non-Irish vessels of other states.
Airborne Noise			Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Airborne noise introduced by Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be temporary in nature and of small scale, not expected to be audible beyond 6 km from the Offshore Site.		There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on noise sensitive receptors of other states.
Marine Infrastructure and Other Users			Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Potential environmental effects on marine infrastructure and other users introduced by Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be localised to the vicinity of the Offshore Site, located entirely within Irish territorial waters, as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 1.**		There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on marine infrastructure and other users of other states.
Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage			Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 8: Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage.** Potential effects identified in relation to marine archaeology and cultural heritage as a result of Proposed Works Offshore are anticipated to be limited in duration and not likely to occur beyond the Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage Study Area, which extends to 500 m from the Offshore Site, located entirely within Irish waters, as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 8.**		There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on marine archaeology and cultural heritage of other states.
Onshore Environment					
Water Quality Land Quality Noise and Vibration Onshore Biodiversity Traffic and Transport Onshore Infrastructure and Utility Services	As further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 3: Proposed Works Description**, the Proposed Works Onshore involve the full permanent removal of: • The onshore substation and associated infrastructure, including the onshore cable connecting the landfall point from HWM to the onshore substation. The Proposed Works Onshore are anticipated to be undertaken with an approximate duration of one month.	As further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 3: Proposed Works Description**, the Proposed Works Onshore will take place within the Onshore Site, located landward of the HWM in Ferrybank, off North Quay road, within Arklow Harbour. The Onshore Site comprises: • A fenced compound that hosts the onshore substation	Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Potential environmental effects on water and land quality, noise and vibration, onshore biodiversity (including European Sites), traffic and transport, onshore infrastructure and utility services and cultural heritage and archaeology introduced by Proposed Works Onshore are anticipated to be highly localised and not extend across boundaries with other states.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on environmental receptors of other states.

Environmental factor	Characteristics of the Proposed Works	Location	Environmental Importance	Potential Impacts and Carrier	Conclusion – Potential for Transboundary Significant Effects
Cultural Heritage and Archaeology		building and ancillary facilities; and • A 10 m corridor along the onshore cable connecting the landfall point to the onshore substation. The nearest neighbouring state to the Offshore Site is Wales (The UK), located within 142 km north of the Onshore Site.			
Offshore / Onshore Environment					
Air quality and Climate	As described above.	As described above.		Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Potential changes to air quality introduced by Proposed Works are anticipated to be limited and of short-term nature, with any emissions offshore rapidly dispersing and unlikely to reach sensitive receptors located onshore (within 10 km). Similarly, any emissions associated with Proposed Works Onshore will highly localised and unlikely to extend across boundaries with other states. In addition, as presented in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, given the temporary nature and limited scale of Proposed Works, the potential contribution to climate change of Proposed Works is anticipated to be negligible within the context of regional and national emissions.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on air quality and climate of other states.
Population and Human Health				Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Proposed Works are anticipated to be highly temporary and localised, and not expected to generate substantial employment, place notable demand on local services nor impact tourism and recreational sectors locally and/or in Ireland and/or other states.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on population and human health of other states.
Seascape, Landscape and Visual Amenity				Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Potential changes to seascape, landscape and visual amenity introduced by Proposed Works are anticipated to be highly temporary and localised, and unlikely to extend across boundaries with other states.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on seascape, landscape and visual amenity of other states.
Waste				Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Waste generated by Proposed Works is anticipated to be manageable by authorised waste collectors and licensed treatment or recycling facilities. Although waste may be managed outside of Ireland, given the scale of Proposed Works and associated waste generation and anticipated management routes, significant effects on waste management infrastructure of other countries are considered unlikely.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on waste infrastructure of other states.
Civil and Military aviation				Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Given the temporary nature and small scale of Proposed Works, interference with civil and military aviation activity associated with Irish and foreign operations is considered unlikely.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects on civil and military aviation of other states.
Major Accidents and Natural Disasters				Baseline conditions are further described in **Volume 2, Chapter 1**, **Section 1.4.3** (Scope of the EIAR). Given the temporary nature and scale of Proposed Works, these are considered unlikely to lead to major accidents and disasters in Ireland or across boundaries with other states.	There are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts could result in significant transboundary effects associated with major accidents and natural disasters on other states.

3 CONCLUSIONS

3.1.1.1 Based on the information contained in Volume 2 of the EIAR, this transboundary screening concludes that due to the temporary nature, relatively small scale and location of Proposed Works in relation to other states, there are no identified pathways through which either direct or indirect impacts from Proposed Works could result in significant transboundary effects.

3.1.1.2 Although transboundary consultation, under the EIA Directive, is not considered to be triggered, in line with the Espoo Convention cooperation and transparency principles, and if considered appropriate by ACP, the EIAR submitted in support of the planning application of Proposed Works could be shared by ACP with neighbouring states, offering these an opportunity to participate in the assessment of the EIAR and planning application decision-making process.

4 REFERENCES

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