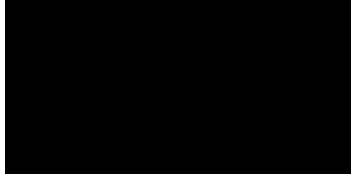


Neil Ruane



22 December 2025

Appeal Ref: AP2/1-2/2023

Site Ref: T09/093A

Re: Appeal against the decision by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to grant an Aquaculture Licence to the Marine Institute for the cultivation of various species of finfish, shellfish and seaweeds for research purposes on site T09/093A at Lehanagh Pool, Bertraghboy Bay, Co Galway (the "Appeal").

Dear Mr Ruane,

I refer to the above Appeal, received by the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board (the Board).

Pursuant to Section 47(1) of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, as amended, (the “**Act**”), where the Board is of the opinion that any document, particular or other information is or are necessary for the purposes of enabling the Board to determine the Appeal, it may serve a notice on a party requiring that party to submit to the Board such documents, particulars or other information as are specified in the Notice.

Accordingly, pursuant to section 47(1)(a), the Board requires the following information:

1. Information to facilitate an Assessment under the WFD:

Information is required on the current hydromorphological, ecological and chemical status of relevant transitional and coastal waterbodies together with an assessment of impacts that the proposed aquaculture project is likely to have on the Water Framework Directive status of those waterbodies, to include:

- a. Details on the effect, if any, of the proposed aquaculture project on the prospect of relevant waterbodies achieving good ecological and chemical status or causing a deterioration in the current WFD status of a waterbody,
- b. Identification of any areas with extra legal protections likely to be impacted by the proposed project and provide details on the effect, if any, of the proposed project on any relevant protected area.

2. Information to facilitate an Assessment under the MSFD:

Information is required to address the consistency of the proposed project with the objectives of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, and Ireland's Marine Strategy under the Directive, to include:

- a. Information on the status of the proposed aquaculture project with respect to the 11 MSFD Descriptors of Good Environmental Status and with reference to MSFD Targets and Indicators as set out in Ireland's Marine Strategy Framework Directive Marine Strategy.
- b. An assessment of the effect, if any, of the proposed aquaculture project on achievement of the relevant Targets for the 11 Descriptors.

In accordance with section 47(1)(a) of the Act the Board requires this information no later than **23 April 2026**. In the event that the Board does not receive the requested information by this date, it shall, after the expiration of that period and without further notice to you, determine the appeal.

Please also note that a person who refuses or fails to comply with a requirement under section 47 (1)(a) shall be guilty of an offence.

Yours faithfully



Karl Brogan
Secretary to the Board