



Marine Notice No. 03 of 2022

Amended 14/04/2022

Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers,
Yachtsmen and Seafarers

Deployment of Metocean Instrumentation at the North Ireland Sea Area (NISA)

1. Notice of Activity

The Department of Transport has been advised that Partrac is planning to deploy Metocean Instrumentation at the North Ireland Sea Area (NISA). The deployment is expected to be completed over a two-day period from 20th January 2022. Weather dependent.

Update: The Site A positions are due to change following deployment operation over 24th-25th April 2022, please see updated positions below.

2. Location of Activity

The exact location co-ordinates of the buoys are as follows:

Location	Position	WGS84	
		Latitude	Longitude
Site A	Wave Buoy	53° 44.816' N	005° 48.086' W
	Acoustic Release N	53° 44.723' N	005° 48.270' W
	Guard Buoy	53° 44.630' N	005° 48.086' W
	Acoustic Release S	53° 44.529' N	005° 48.279' W
	Bed Frame	53° 44.626' N	005° 48.274' W
Site B	Guard Buoy	53° 35.672' N	005° 54.572' W
	Bed Frame	53° 35.672' N	005° 54.690' W
	Acoustic Release N	53° 35.737' N	005° 54.690' W
	Acoustic Release S	53° 35.607' N	005° 54.690' W

The survey campaign will be undertaken within the proposed NISA OWF array area. This area forms an irregular, approximately rectangular shape, spanning 31 km north-south and 14km east-west at its widest point. At its closest location, near Rush in Co. Dublin, the array area is approximately 7.4km from the coastline. A map detailing the location is provided below see Appendix 1.

On completion of the deployment operations, Site A instruments will remain deployed for 12 months. Site B instruments will be deployed for 6 months.

3. Details of Vessel

A Damen Shoalbuster 2409, versatile multi-purpose and shallow draft tug named **AMS Retriever** (Call Sign **MEH18**) will carry out the work. During operations the vessel will be restricted in its ability to manoeuvre. Vessels are requested to leave a wide berth during the deployment operations. Radio transmissions will be conducted with other seafarers to notify them of the operations.

4. Buoy Characteristics

Guard Buoy

Partrac will deploy two Poseidon 1750 Ocean Buoys. The buoy has a hull diameter of 1.75m and height above water level of 2.6m. Both buoys will be yellow in colour and displaying St. Andrew's Cross day shapes. They will be fitted with a radar reflector and a navigation light with a 3 Nm range, flashing sequence: Y. Fl. (5) 20s. The guard buoy deployed at Site A will also be fitted with AIS.

Wave Buoy

Yellow Spherical buoy with a diameter of approx. 1.1m. Buoy Light IALA yellow. Group flashing character of 5 flashes every 20 seconds - Fl(5) Y 20s Range of 3 nm.

5. Additional Information.

Enquiries regarding the contents of this Marine Notice, or any other matters, should be directed to NISA's Senior Project Manager, Tina Raleigh at enquiries@northirishseaarray.ie

For enquiries related to fishing, please contact the dedicated Fisheries Liaison Officer for NISA Offshore Wind Farm, Mark O Reilly – Mobile: 085-1399000, Email: mark@fishery-liaisons.com

All mariners are reminded of their responsibilities under the **International Collision Regulations** and are reminded of [Marine Notice No. 17 of 2007](#), which gives general advice in relation to the activities of vessels engaged in survey work for hydrographic, seismic, fishing research and underwater operations.

The International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) are implemented in Irish law by the *Merchant Shipping (Collision Regulations) (Ships and*

Water Craft on the Water) Order 2012 [S.I. No. 507 of 2012], and the *Signals of Distress (Ships) Rules 2012* [S.I. No.170 of 2012]. [See Marine Notice No. 06 of 2013.](#) These Statutory Instruments may be purchased by mail order from Government Publications, Office of Public Works, 52 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. Tel: (01) 6476834/1890-213434. They are also available online at: www.irishstatutebook.ie.

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration,
Department of Transport,
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

12/01/2022

Amended 17/01/2022.

Amended 14/04/2022.

Encl: Appendix 1

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:
The Marine Survey Office, email: MSO@transport.gov.ie
For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email:
MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie
Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:
Dept. of Transport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.
email: MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie or visit us at: www.gov.ie/transport

Appendix 1 Deployment locations of Site A and Site B

