



Marine Notice No. 63 of 2022

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

**North Irish Sea Array (NISA) Offshore Wind Farm -
Geophysical Survey Campaign - Export Cable Route
Area, off the coast of north County Dublin and
County Meath.**

1. Notice of Activity

The Department of Transport has been advised that North Irish Sea Array (NISA) Offshore Wind Farm intend to undertake a **Geophysical Survey** campaign on the proposed NISA Export Cable Route Area, off the coast of north County Dublin and County Meath. The campaign is expected to start on **3rd September 2022** and finish on **3rd October 2022**, weather permitting.

2. Location of Activity

The survey campaign will be confined to the proposed NISA Export Cable Route area. This area forms an irregular shape spanning 11 km north-south and 18km east-west at its widest point. The survey area has 2 landfall areas close to Balbriggan and surveys will proceed as shallow as approx. 3m water depth. See map at Appendix 1 below.

The array area is bounded by the following points (Lat/Long WGS 84 zone 30N):

Site Boundary Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	53° 42' 03.13" N	005° 57' 40.31" W
2	53° 41' 44.66" N	005° 57' 25.19" W
3	53° 38' 30.37" N	005° 56' 18.96" W
4	53° 37' 46.45" N	005° 56' 43.44" W
5	53° 37' 44.57" N	005° 56' 50.99" W
6	53° 37' 51.13" N	006° 03' 23.39" W
7	53° 35' 13.37" N	006° 08' 33.71" W
8	53° 35' 09.70" N	006° 08' 50.28" W
9	53° 35' 21.51" N	006° 09' 12.60" W
10	53° 36' 08.71" N	006° 09' 50.03" W
11	53° 37' 30.86" N	006° 07' 23.88" W
12	53° 37' 23.73" N	006° 11' 07.80" W
13	53° 37' 49.33" N	006° 11' 22.92" W

14	53° 37' 50.80" N	006° 12' 04.67" W
15	53° 38' 01.35" N	006° 12' 47.51" W
16	53° 40' 19.19" N	006° 01' 44.39" W

3. Details of the Survey Vessels

The survey will be conducted by the following Survey Vessels:

- **Geo Focus** Survey vessel (call sign **PCOS**) - survey in excess of 10m water depth;
- **Ros Aine** Survey vessel (call sign **EIZG5**) - survey in water depth less than 10m.

4. Safety Precautions

As the survey vessels will be **restricted in their ability to manoeuvre** when surveying, due to the deployment of the **towed survey equipment** from the vessel for the duration of the survey activities, all vessels operating within this area are requested to keep a wide berth and pass at minimum speed to reduce vessel wash.

The vessels will display appropriate lights and signals. The survey will utilise multibeam echosounders, sub-bottom profilers, side-scan sonar, magnetometer, both hull-mounted and towed.

Typically, the towed cable lengths will be about four times the water depth while acquiring survey data. The work will be conducted during **24hr operations**.

Mariners are advised to keep continuous watch on **VHF radio channel 16** when navigating the area.

5. Contact Details

Enquiries regarding the contents of this Marine Notice should be directed to NISA's Senior Project Manager:

Tina Raleigh Senior Project Manager
 Email: enquiries@northirishsearray.ie

For enquiries related to fishing, please contact the dedicated Fisheries Liaison Officer for NISA Offshore Wind Farm:

Mark O Reilly, Director Fishery Liaisons Limited
 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.

06/09/2022

Encl: Appendix 1: Map of Survey Area.

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: Map of Survey Area.

