



Marine Notice No. 50 of 2024

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

Arklow Bank Wind Park Benthic Survey

1. Notice of Activity

The Department of Transport has been advised that a benthic (seafloor ecology) survey will be undertaken in the Irish Sea, off the coast of Counties Wicklow and Wexford, to maintain an up to date understanding of the benthic ecology to facilitate the sustainable development of the Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 project. The survey will involve the use of Drop Down Video (DDV) to record footage of the seafloor and the lowering of a day grab to take a 0.1 m² sample of the sediment for analysis. The survey work is anticipated to run from **1 September 2024 to 30 September 2024**, subject to weather and operational constraints.

2. Location of Activity

The survey will be confined to the proposed Arklow Bank Wind Park 2 area and focused on the offshore export cable routes from landfall and the array area. The Arklow Bank area is located approximately 3nm to 7nm off the coast of counties Wicklow and Wexford, consisting of a north-south trending sandbank around 12nm in length and sub-parallel to the coastline between Ardmore point and Kilmichael point. The benthic survey area coordinates are set out in the table below. A map of the survey area is provided for in the Appendix to this Marine Notice.

Point	Longitude	Latitude
1	006° 0' 8.28" W	52° 57' 37.58" N
2	005° 48' 38.84" W	52° 56' 38.08" N
3	005° 53' 12.34" W	52° 37' 25.43" N
4	006° 13' 19.02" W	52° 39' 8.71" N

3. Details of the Survey Vessels

The survey will be conducted by the vessel “**Husky**” (Call Sign: **2EQI7**).

Due to the deployment of equipment from the vessel for the duration of the survey activities, the survey vessel will be restricted in its ability to manoeuvre when surveying. All vessels operating within this area are requested to keep their distance and pass at minimum speed to reduce vessel wash. Mariners are advised to keep continuous watch on **VHF radio channel 16** when navigating the area. The vessels will display appropriate lights and signals.

4. Contact Details

A Fisheries Liaison Officer will be available to discuss operations in advance and throughout the duration of the survey campaign. Enquiries regarding the contents of this Marine Notice, or any other relevant matters, should be directed to SSE Renewables:

Brendan Dillon

- Email: brendan.dillon@sse.com
- Ph: +353 (0) 87 2493817

All mariners are reminded of their responsibilities under the International Collision Regulations and 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, Mountshannon Road, Dublin, D08 XA06 Tel: (046) 9423100. 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.

28/08/2024

Encl: Appendix: Map of Arklow Bank 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 Arklow Bank Wind Park survey area

