

Annette Ryan

From: Environmental Co-ordination (Inbox) <Environmental_Co-ordination@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: Friday 2 December 2022 10:03
To: Development Plan
Subject: Proposed Amendments to Draft Clare County Development Plan 2023-2029

Good morning,

Please see below comments regarding commercial sea-fisheries and the draft County Clare Development Plan.

It is important to remember that commercial sea fishing is a long standing, pre-existing and traditional activity in the marine environment. It is essential that any negative impacts on fisheries are avoided. The evaluation of potential impacts on any commercial sea fishing activities needs to be given consideration as part of any planning/proposal process and during the development process itself. It is imperative that engagement should be sought with the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders at as early a stage as possible to discuss any changes that may affect them to afford a chance for their input. Fishers' interests and livelihoods must be fully recognised, supported, and taken into account.

We note the plan supports the extensive construction of offshore windfarms, including floating wind turbines. In the event that offshore renewable energy installations (including offshore windfarms, tidal, and wave generators) are proposed, again the evaluation and consideration of potential impacts on any commercial sea fishing activities needs to be given consideration. It is essential that any negative impacts on fisheries are avoided and stakeholders need to be consulted at as early a stage as possible and throughout the process to ensure fisher's livelihoods are supported.

Regards,

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