

# Marine Licence with introductory note

The Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009)

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Licence Holder: University College Dublin

Belfield  
Dublin 4  
Ireland  
D04 V1W8

QUEST – Quantification, Characterisation,  
Source and Fate of Past and Present  
Carbon Storage in Offshore Sediments for  
Effective Marine Management

Licence Number:

**RML2467**

## QUEST

### Marine Licence number: RML2467

#### Introductory note

#### **This introductory note does not form a part of the marine licence**

The main features of the marine licence are as follows:

- 22 grab samples to have a penetration depth of approximately 10cm, and a surface area of 0.04m<sup>2</sup>
- 17 box cores to have a penetration depth of 30-40cm, and a surface area of 0.25m<sup>2</sup>
- 3 multicores to have a penetration depth of approximately 40cm, and a surface area of 0.1m<sup>2</sup>
- 2 vibrocores to have a penetration depth of 5m, and a surface area of 0.09m<sup>2</sup>.
- At each location, approximately 6-8 litres of material will be removed. There will be a total of 22 locations overall.

The status log of the marine licence sets out the marine licence history, including any subsequent marine licence variation(s)

#### **Status log of this marine licence**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Application	<b>23 October 2024</b>	Application received and considered to be duly made
Date licence determined	<b>21 November 2024</b>	Determination date

Related Marine licences or applications under determination

Not applicable.

End of introductory note.

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**BAND 1 MARINE LICENCE NUMBER RML2467**

**1 LICENCE DETAILS**

**1.1 Band 1 Licence**

This is a licence granted by the Licensing Authority in respect of an application numbered **RML2467** and duly made on **23 October 2024** and authorises the Licence Holder to carry out activities for which a licence is required under Part 4 of the 2009 Act and falling within Band 1 of Schedule 1 of the Marine Licensing (Fees) (Wales) Regulations 2017/280. This licence should be interpreted in accordance with **Section 4**.

**1.2 Licence Holder**

The Licence Holder is the organisation set out below:

**Organisation name: University College Dublin**

**Address: Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland, D04 V1W8**

**1.3 Licence Validity**

<b>Licence Start Date</b>	<b>21 November 2024</b>
<b>Licence End Date</b>	<b>31 October 2025</b>
<b>Licence Issue Date</b>	<b>21 November 2024</b>

**1.4 Conditions**

This licence is subject to the conditions set out in **Section 3**.

**Signed:**



**Dr. Emmer Litt – Marine Licensing Team Leader**

For and on behalf of the Licensing Authority

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## 2 LICENSED ACTIVITIES

### 2.1 Project

This licence is granted in respect of:

QUEST – Quantification, Characterisation, Source and Fate of Past and Present Carbon Storage in Offshore Sediments for Effective Marine Management

**The Licensed Activities permitted by this licence, as set out in 2.2 below, comprise activities of the following general type:**

- the removal of a substance or object from the sea bed

### 2.2 Licensed Activities

The following activities can be conducted within the Licence Period, within the Licensed Area and in accordance with the Approved Application, and the Approved Supporting Documents:

#### Removal Activities

- 22 grab samples to have a penetration depth of approximately 10cm, and a surface area of 0.04m<sup>2</sup>
- 17 box cores to have a penetration depth of 30-40cm, and a surface area of 0.25m<sup>2</sup>
- 3 multicores to have a penetration depth of approximately 40cm, and a surface area of 0.1m<sup>2</sup>
- 2 vibrocores to have a penetration depth of 5m, and a surface area of 0.09m<sup>2</sup>.
- At each location, approximately 6-8 litres of material will be removed. There will be a total of 22 locations overall.

### 2.3 Licensed Area

The Licence Holder is authorised to conduct the activities described in paragraph 2.2 in the vicinity of the Celtic Sea bounded by the following coordinates and as indicated in the plan attached at Appendix 1:

Latitude	Longitude
51.36626667	-6.16516667
51.24170000	-6.23428333
51.21821667	-6.25385000
51.52756090	-6.08048438
51.19299492	-6.68572137
51.19227644	-6.45462628
51.35556742	-6.52036112

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51.45373779	-6.23309177
51.21147921	-6.13869181
51.23113020	-6.22878450
51.27264420	-6.25672650
51.04930880	-6.33337860
51.13742340	-6.53061840
51.07506900	-6.57803850
51.40164941	-6.36824178
51.16450365	-6.13960658
51.13746727	-6.48195458
51.13358190	-6.22774599
51.05931019	-6.61826086
51.13634761	-6.48506191
51.16370856	-6.14274310
51.40099528	-6.37201300

In the event of any discrepancy between the coordinates set out above and the plan attached at Appendix 1, the coordinates shall take precedence.

**2.4 Approved Supporting Documents**

<b>Title/Description of Document</b>	<b>Date Submitted</b>
<b>RML2467 - Application Form</b>	<b>06 September 2024</b>
<b>RML2467 - University College Dublin Mail - QUEST Survey - Crown Estate E-mail</b>	<b>06 September 2024</b>
<b>RML2467 - University College Dublin Mail - QUEST Survey - MCGA E-mail</b>	<b>06 September 2024</b>
<b>RML2467 - University College Dublin Mail - QUEST Survey - RCAHMW E-mail</b>	<b>06 September 2024</b>
<b>RML2467 - University College Dublin Mail - QUEST Survey - Trinity House E-mail</b>	<b>06 September 2024</b>
<b>RML2467 - Supplemental Information</b>	<b>04 October 2024</b>
<b>RML2467 - Schedule_of_Workk_QUEST_v2</b>	<b>04 October 2024</b>
<b>RML2467 - QUEST_Survey_Map</b>	<b>06 September 2024</b>

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### **3     CONDITIONS**

#### **Notification and Inspection**

##### **3.1     Notification of Commencement**

- 3.1.1** The Licence Holder must notify the Licensing Authority no less than **5 days** before the commencement of the Licensed Activities, or an individual phase of the Licensed Activities, is expected to commence.
- 3.1.2** The Licence Holder must notify Welsh Government Marine & Fisheries Division (Control & Enforcement Branch) no less than **5 days** before the commencement of the Licensed Activities, or an individual phase of the Licensed Activities, is expected to commence.
- 3.1.3** The Licence Holder must ensure that local mariners and fishermen's organisations are made fully aware of the Licensed Activities through local notices to mariners **5 days** prior to the commencement of the Licensed Activities.

##### **3.2     Notification of Agents/Contractors/Sub-Contractors**

The Licence Holder must ensure that details of any agent(s), contractor(s) or sub-contractor(s) utilised to undertake the Licensed Activities are submitted to the Licensing Authority at least **24 hours** prior to the commencement of Licensed Activities.

##### **3.3     Notification of HM Coastguard**

The Licence Holder must ensure that HM Coastguard is made aware of the Licensed Activities at least **24 hours** prior to commencement by contacting The National Maritime Operations Centre at **zone24@hmcg.gov.uk**.

##### **3.4     Notification of Vessels and/or Vehicles**

The Licence Holder must ensure that the details of the vessels and/or vehicles utilised to undertake the Licensed activities are submitted to the Licensing Authority and Welsh Government Marine & Fisheries Division (Control & Enforcement Branch) at least **24 hours** prior to the commencement of the Licensed Activities.

##### **3.5     Inspection of Licensed Activities**

The Licence Holder must allow Marine Enforcement Officers or any other person authorised by the Licensing Authority to inspect the Licensed activities at any reasonable time.

##### **3.6     Notification of Completion**

- 3.6.1** The Licence Holder must notify the Licensing Authority within **10 days** of completion of the Licensed Activities.
- 3.6.2** The Licence Holder must notify the authorised Welsh Government Marine & Fisheries Division (Control & Enforcement Branch) within **10 days** of completion of the Licensed Activities.

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### **3.7 Accident or Emergency**

**3.7.1** If, by reason of force majeure any substances or articles are deposited otherwise than as permitted as part of the Licensed Activities or in the Licensed Area full details of the circumstances shall be notified to the Licensing Authority within **48 hours** of the incident occurring.

**3.7.2** If it is necessary for the Licence Holder to recover or remove any equipment, plant or machinery used to undertake the Licensed Activities that have been dropped as a result of an accident or emergency, the Licence Holder is permitted to do so provided that the methodology for such recovery or removal has been approved by the Licensing Authority.

### **3.8 Distribution of Copies of this Licence**

The Licence Holder is required to ensure that a copy of this Licence and any special conditions thereto is given to:

- All agent(s), contractor(s) and sub-contractor(s) whose names have been provided to the Licensing Authority pursuant to condition 3.2; and
- The Masters of any vessels and transport managers responsible for the vehicles employed in the pursuance of this Licence whose details have been submitted to the Licensing Authority pursuant to condition 3.4.

### **3.9 Inspection of Documents**

Copies of this Licence shall be made available at the following locations:

- at the address of the Licence Holder specified in section 1.2;
- at any site office, located at or adjacent to the Licensed Area, used by the Licence Holder or its agent(s), contractor(s) or sub-contractor(s) responsible for the loading transportation or deposit of any substances or articles permitted as part of the Licensed Activities;
- on board each vessel or vehicle carrying out Licensed Activities.

The documents referred to in this Condition shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection by officers appropriately authorised by the Licensing Authority and authorised Marine Enforcement Officers at the locations stated in that paragraph.

### **Vessels, Plant and Equipment**

#### **3.10 Notified Contractors, Vessels and/or Vehicles only to Carry out Licensed Activities**

Only those agent(s), contractor(s), sub-contractor(s), vessels and/or vehicles whose details have been notified to the Licensing Authority may operate under the terms of this Licence. Any changes must be notified to and be approved by the Licensing Authority in writing prior to any such agent(s), contractor(s), sub-contractor(s) vessels

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or vehicles carrying out any Licensed Activities pursuant to or otherwise operating under this Licence.

### **3.11 Refuelling of Plant and Equipment**

The Licence Holder must ensure that plant, vehicles and machinery are not refuelled on the foreshore or in the sea.

### **3.12 Equipment, Structures and Access**

The Licence Holder must ensure that all equipment, temporary structures, access tracks, waste and/or debris associated with the Licensed Activities are removed on completion of the Licensed activities.

## **Safety**

### **3.13 Removal of Deposited Material**

If the Licensing Authority considers it necessary or advisable for the safety of navigation, the Licence Holder must remove any deposit specified by the Licensing Authority or Marine Enforcement Officers within one month of notice being given by the Licensing Authority, and not shall not replace such material until the Licensing Authority has given its written approval.

## **Pollution control**

### **3.14 Pollution Prevention**

The Licence Holder must ensure that pollution prevention best practice is adhered to at all times. Any incidents must be reported to the Licensing Authority as soon as possible using the hotline number **0300 065 3000**.

### **3.15 Spillage of Pollutants**

The Licence Holder must employ bunding, storage facilities and spill kits to contain and prevent the release of fuel, oils and chemicals associated with the plant, refuelling and construction equipment into the marine environment. Secondary containment must be used with a capacity of **no less than 110%** of the container's storage capacity.

### **3.16 Coatings**

The Licence Holder must ensure that any coatings/treatments used in carrying out the Licensed Activities are suitable for use in the marine environment and are used in accordance with best environmental practice.

### **3.17 Prevention of Disposal of Man-made Debris**

The Licence Holder must ensure that all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent the disposal of man-made debris to the marine environment. Such material must be removed immediately and be disposed of appropriately. If it is not possible to prevent manmade debris from entering the marine environment during the Licensed Activities, the Licensed Activities must cease immediately.

### **3.18 Cleanliness of Equipment**

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The Licence Holder must ensure that equipment, machinery and PPE are washed with freshwater and/or thoroughly airdried before deployment and before moving between locations.

### **Activity-specific conditions**

#### **3.19 Additional Notification Upon Completion**

The Licence Holder must inform the Licensing Authority, of the location of all completed samples within **10 days** of completion of the work.

#### **3.20 Grab Samples - Sensitive Species**

The Licence Holder must ensure that in the event of removal of any sensitive species designated by NRW under Schedule 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, no further removals occur at that location, or within **20 metres** of that location.

#### **3.21 Removal Activity – Artefacts**

The Licence Holder must ensure that any artefacts found during the Licensed Activities are reported through the Marine Portable Antiquities Scheme.

### **Sensitive Area Conditions**

#### **3.22 Equipment and Materials**

The Licence Holder must ensure that any equipment or materials used do not enter the marine environment within the interest features of a Sensitive Area, unless specified in the Sensitive Area Method Statement.

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#### 4 INTERPRETATION

In this Licence terms are as defined in section 115 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act unless otherwise stated.

- (a) “**2009 Act**” means the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009;
- (b) “**Approved Application**” means the Band 1 Marine Licence Application Form together with the Approved Supporting Documents;
- (c) “**Approved Supporting Documents**” means the documents supporting, or supplementary to, the Approved Application, submitted prior to the Licence Issue Date, listed in the Table at paragraph 2.4 above;
- (d) “**Commencement**” means the first undertaking of any Licensed Activities;
- (e) “**Force majeure**” may be deemed to apply when, due to stress of weather or any other cause, the master of a vessel determines that it is necessary to deposit the substances or articles because the safety of human life and/or of the vessel is threatened;
- (f) “**Licensed Activities**” means the activities authorised by this licence as specified in 2.2;
- (g) “**Licensed Area**” means the area within which Licensed Activities are authorised by this Licence as specified in section 2.3;
- (h) “**Licence Holder**” means the person(s) or organisation(s) named in section 1.2 to whom this licence is granted;
- (i) “**Licence Period**” means the period beginning with the Licence Start Date and ending on the Licence End Date;
- (j) “**Licensing Authority**” means Natural Resources Wales acting on behalf of the Welsh Ministers;
- (k) “**Marine Enforcement Officers**” means the relevant officers appointed by Welsh Ministers under section 235 of the 2009 Act, contact details for whom are provided in paragraph 5;
- (l) “**Marine Licence Application Form**” means the application form forming part of the application referred to in paragraph 1.1;
- (m) “**Sensitive Area**” means any designated or proposed protected area (SPA, SAC, MCZ, SSSI or Ramsar site), or any other habitat identified by Natural Resources Wales as sensitive as at the date of this Licence;
- (n) “**Works**” means any construction activities comprised in the Licensed Activities and, where the context permits, includes any plant, equipment or materials used to carry out those activities or operations but excludes monitoring, minor routine maintenance or other ongoing operational activities following completion of any construction activities;

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(o) all times shall be taken to be the time in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) on any given day;

(p) all co-ordinates shall be taken to be latitude and longitude decimal degree (WGS 84).

(q) in the event of any discrepancy between the coordinates listed in paragraph 2.4 and the plan attached at Appendix 1, the coordinates shall take precedence.

## **5 CONTACTS**

**Except where otherwise indicated, the primary point of contact with the Licensing Authority and the address for returns, correspondence is:**

Natural Resources Wales Marine Licensing Team,  
Welsh Government Offices,  
Cathays Park,  
King Edward VII Avenue,  
Cardiff,  
CF10 3NQ  
Tel: 0300 065 3000  
Email: [marinelicensing@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:marinelicensing@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk)

**Welsh Government Marine Enforcement Officers may be contacted at:**

Welsh Government  
Suite 3  
Cedar Court  
Haven's Head Business Park  
Milford Haven Pembrokeshire  
SA73 3LS

Tel: 03000 253500  
Email: [MarineLicencingEnforcement@gov.wales](mailto:MarineLicencingEnforcement@gov.wales)

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Appendix 1

