



Orla Ryan

From: Michael Hanrahan
Sent: 20 June 2012 14:20
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: Earthquake recorded off coast of Mayo
Importance: High
Attachments: mayo_earthquake_geology_noblock.jpg

From: Michael Hanrahan
Sent: 06 June 2012 10:27
To: Noel Murphy
Subject: Earthquake recorded off coast of Mayo
Importance: High

Noel

I just received a call from Gerry Stanley (GSI) to say that he has received a query from Midwest Radio regarding an earthquake that was recorded off the Mayo coast. According to the BGS http://www.earthquakes.bgs.ac.uk/earthquakes/recent_uk_events.html, a magnitude 4 earthquake was recorded to have occurred at 07:58 this morning at a depth of 15km at the following location 54.169 deg N, 10.920deg west (approx 55km west of Belmullet) – see attached map that I have asked Oonagh to prepare. Given its depth, this is a natural event and would not be related to any onshore Corrib works (currently hydro testing pipeline) or offshore activities (seismic survey). Interestingly, its location is coincident with Slyne Basin bounding fault.

Nonetheless, we can expect to receive queries about any relation to Corrib activities.
Mick

2

Orla Ryan

From: Michael Hanrahan
Sent: 20 June 2012 14:14
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: Please see below from Press office - no doubt either Ciaran or Jim will be on to you

From: Gerry Stanley
Sent: 06 June 2012 11:08
To: Michael Hanrahan
Subject: Please see below from Press office - no doubt either Ciaran or Jim will be on to you

Hi Gerry/Koen/Ciaran/Jim,

Following on from our discussion this morning with GSI regarding a query from The Ray Darcy Show re news of a possible earthquake off the West Coast, we have now received an urgent query from [REDACTED]. She is looking for a comment re (1) the location of the earthquake (2) whether it is indeed an earthquake or (3) an earthquake caused by the 3D Seismic activity at Corrib. We would be grateful for a response as a matter of urgency.

Mid West Radio (Paula Donnellan) has also phoned requesting information.

Thanks,

Gerry Stanley PGeo
Head, Minerals Programme
Geological Survey of Ireland
Beggars Bush
Haddington Road
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4
Tel. + 353 1 678 2863
Fax + 353 1 678 2589
e-mail. gerry.stanley@gsi.ie

Please see the latest GSI newsletter

<http://www.gsi.ie/Newsletters/Introduction.htm>

Orla Ryan

From: Jim Whelan
Sent: 06 June 2012 11:11
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Jim Whelan
Petroleum Affairs Division
01 6782691

-----Original Message-----

From: Koen Verbruggen
Sent: 06 June 2012 11:05
To: Press Office DCENR; Gerry Stanley; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Clodagh

BGS website indicates , time location, depth in kilometres below surface, and strength (4.0) as follows

07:58:13.9 54.151 -10.904 3 4.0 3 WEST COAST OF IRELAND

See http://www.earthquakes.bgs.ac.uk/earthquakes/recent_uk_events.html

A quake of this magnitude at this depth is not very unusual although not common but definitely natural

Regards

Koen

-----Original Message-----

From: Press Office DCENR
Sent: Wed 06/06/2012 11:02
To: Gerry Stanley; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh
Subject: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Hi Gerry/Koen/Ciaran/Jim,

Following on from our discussion this morning with GSI regarding a query from [redacted] re news of a possible earthquake off the West Coast, we have now received an urgent query from [redacted]. She is looking for a comment re (1) the location of the earthquake (2) whether it is indeed an earthquake or (3) an earthquake caused by the 3D Seismic activity at Corrib. We would be grateful for a response as a matter of urgency.

[redacted] has also phoned requesting information.

Thanks,

Clodagh O'Connor

Press Office

Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources

29-31 Adelaide Road

Dublin 2

+3531 6782418

press.office@dcenr.gov.ie

www.dcenr.gov.ie <<http://www.dcenr.gov.ie/>>

A

Orla Ryan

From: Jim Whelan
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:02
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: Earthquake off the west coast

Jim Whelan
Petroleum Affairs Division
01 6782691

From: Michael Manley
Sent: 06 June 2012 11:57
To: Koen Verbruggen; Taly Hunter Williams; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Noel Murphy
Subject: Fw: Earthquake off the west coast

See message following - any update from SEPIL or anyone else on Corrib

From: Gerry Stanley
To: Michael Manley
Sent: Wed Jun 06 11:52:52 2012
Subject: RE: Earthquake off the west coast

Michael,

It was a relatively high magnitude earthquake for Ireland. There are unconfirmed reports of damage to some buildings in the west – apparently a school has a cack in one of its walls. The quake was felt in Mayo, Sligo and Galway (so far). My phone hasn't stopped ringing this morning. [REDACTED] have been on several times looking for an interview. I have been in touch with the Press Office, PAD [REDACTED] [REDACTED] has been on asking about a Corrib link – apparently there was a seismic survey taking place somewhere in the vicinity last week.

The tsunami risk has past (if there ever was one).

Shall I give interviews to the radio stations?

Sorry to be so short.

Regards,

Gerry

From: Michael Manley
Sent: 06 June 2012 11:32
To: Gerry Stanley
Subject: Re: Earthquake off the west coast

Can't open link - is it bad? Does it raise. any issue for Corrib

From: Gerry Stanley
To: Michael Manley; Everyone in GSI; Eibhlin Doyle; Wayne Cox; Brian Loughlin
Sent: Wed Jun 06 11:19:51 2012
Subject: Earthquake off the west coast

Please see the summary information form the BGS website for the earthquake this morning off the west coast.

Gerry

Summary

DATE	06/06/2012
ORIGIN TIME	07:58:13.9 UTC
LOCATION	54.151 -10.904
DEPTH	3 km
MAGNITUDE	4.0
LOCALITY	WEST COAST OF IRELAND
OFF W COAST OF IRELAND	

Location is approximately 60km west of Belmullet, County Mayo. Felt in the Counties of Mayo, Sligo and Galway.

Gerry Stanley PGeo
 Head, Minerals Programme
 Geological Survey of Ireland
 Beggars Bush
 Haddington Road
 Ballsbridge
 Dublin 4
 Tel. + 353 1 678 2863
 Fax + 353 1 678 2589
 e-mail. gerry.stanley@gsi.ie

Please see the latest GSI newsletter

<http://www.gsi.ie/Newsletters/Introduction.htm>

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Orla Ryan

From: Michael Manley
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:09
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: Re: Corrib
Text

From: Orla Ryan
To: Michael Manley
Sent: Wed Jun 06 12:07:20 2012
Subject: RE: Corrib

Michael – on phone with Agnes – will call you in a minute.

Orla

From: Michael Manley
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:05
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: Re: Corrib

Can't contact you, but is there any update from Corrib in light of earthquake this morning + have only been able to send messages to Ciaran and Jim

Orla Ryan

From: Jim Whelan
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:15
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Jim Whelan
Petroleum Affairs Division
01 6782691

-----Original Message-----

From: Press Office DCENR
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:06
To: Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Gerry Stanley
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon; Press Office DCENR
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - [REDACTED] looking for comment

Koen / Ciaran

[REDACTED] has come back with a follow on question -

Could you confirm the location of the seismic work being undertaken by SEPIL and whether this was connected to the earthquake..?

If you could assist please, thanks!

Regards
Jade

-----Original Message-----

From: Koen Verbruggen
Sent: 06 June 2012 11:05
To: Press Office DCENR; Gerry Stanley; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Clodagh

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See http://www.earthquakes.bgs.ac.uk/earthquakes/recent_uk_events.html

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Regards

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To: Gerry Stanley; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh
Subject: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Hi Gerry/Koen/Ciaran/Jim,

Following on from our discussion this morning with GSI regarding a query from The Ray Darcy Show re news of a possible earthquake off the West Coast, we have now received an urgent query from Lorna Siggins, Irish Times. She is looking for a comment re (1) the location of the earthquake (2) whether it is indeed an earthquake or (3) an earthquake caused by the 3D Seismic activity at Corrib. We would be grateful for a response as a matter of urgency.

Mid West Radio [REDACTED] has also phoned requesting information.

Thanks,

Clodagh O'Connor

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Orla Ryan

From: Michael Manley
Sent: 22 June 2012 13:55
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

-----Original Message-----

From: Koen Verbruggen
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:19
To: Michael Manley
Subject: Fw: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

That puts that to bed!

Koen Verbruggen,
Geological Survey of Ireland
Mobile email

----- Original Message -----

From: Jim Whelan
To: Press Office DCENR; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Gerry Stanley
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon
Sent: Wed Jun 06 12:17:49 2012
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Jade,

The seismic survey, which is due to take place over the Corrib gas field, has not yet commenced.

Jim
Jim Whelan
Petroleum Affairs Division
01 6782691

-----Original Message-----

From: Press Office DCENR
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:06
To: Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Gerry Stanley
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon; Press Office DCENR
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Koen / Ciaran

[REDACTED] s come back with a follow on question -

Could you confirm the location of the seismic work being undertaken by SEPIL and whether this was connected to the earthquake..?

If you could assist please, thanks!

Regards
Jade

-----Original Message-----

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Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon
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A quake of this magnitude at this depth is not very unusual although not common but definitely natural

Regards

Koen

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To: Gerry Stanley; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan

Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh

Subject: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Hi Gerry/Koen/Ciaran/Jim,

Following on from our discussion this morning with GSI regarding a query from [REDACTED] re news of a possible earthquake off the West Coast, we have now received an urgent query from [REDACTED] Irish Times. She is looking for a comment re (1) the location of the earthquake (2) whether it is indeed an earthquake or (3) an earthquake caused by the 3D Seismic activity at Corrib. We would be grateful for a response as a matter of urgency.

Mid West Radio (Paula Donnellan) has also phoned requesting information.

Thanks,

Clodagh O'Connor

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Orla Ryan

From: Michael Hanrahan
Sent: 20 June 2012 14:16
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: Earthquake off the west coast

From: Noel Murphy
Sent: 06 June 2012 14:24
To: Michael Hanrahan
Subject: FW: Earthquake off the west coast

fyi.

From: Gerry Stanley
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:25
To: Michael Manley; Brian McConnell; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Noel Murphy
Subject: RE: Earthquake off the west coast

Michael,

Fine, I will forward them onto Brian. I only took the call as I was the only person contactable at the time.

Regards,

Gerry

From: Michael Manley
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:19
To: Brian McConnell; Gerry Stanley; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Noel Murphy
Subject: Re: Earthquake off the west coast

Thanks for various messages - gather you're fielding media queries. I think this is Brian's area, but can you coordinate with PAD and Press Office in anything that is to be said

From: Brian McConnell
To: Gerry Stanley; Michael Manley; Everyone in GSI; Eibhlin Doyle; Wayne Cox; Brian Loughlin
Sent: Wed Jun 06 12:02:10 2012
Subject: RE: Earthquake off the west coast

Just to alert people, I've had questions, from local radio and others, on whether this could have anything to do with Corrib drilling (which it couldn't). The epicentre is located on the fault system that drops the Slyne-Rockall basins down to the west off the Irish shelf (Corrib is ~20km away to NW into the basin).

Dr Brian McConnell
Geological Survey of Ireland
Beggars Bush
Dublin 4
brian.mcconnell@gsi.ie
+353-1-6782850
www.gsi.ie

From: Gerry Stanley
Sent: 06 June 2012 11:20
To: Michael Manley; Everyone in GSI; Eibhlin Doyle; Wayne Cox; Brian Loughlin
Subject: Earthquake off the west coast

Please see the summary information from the BGS website for the earthquake this morning off the west coast.

Gerry

Summary

DATE	06/06/2012
ORIGIN TIME	07:58:13.9 UTC
LOCATION	54.151 -10.904
DEPTH	3 km
MAGNITUDE	4.0
LOCALITY	WEST COAST OF IRELAND
OFF W COAST OF IRELAND	

Location is approximately 60km west of Belmullet, County Mayo. Felt in the Counties of Mayo, Sligo and Galway.

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Head, Minerals Programme
Geological Survey of Ireland
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Tel. + 353 1 678 2863
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e-mail. gerry.stanley@gsi.ie

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Orla Ryan

From: Michael Hanrahan
Sent: 20 June 2012 14:16
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

-----Original Message-----

From: Noel Murphy
Sent: 06 June 2012 14:25
To: Michael Hanrahan
Subject: FW: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - [REDACTED] looking for comment

Fyi, the last email...

-----Original Message-----

From: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Sent: 06 June 2012 13:21
To: Michael Manley; Simon Nugent
Cc: Koen Verbruggen; Noel Murphy; Jim Whelan; Orla Ryan
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Michael\Simon

I spoke with Koen and agreed that as is already happening Brian McConnell of the GSI would provide information in relation to this seismic event. I understand that Brian has already provided some factual information and done a few interviews.

In relation to the specific follow on query below from the Times (good example of investigative journalism or paranoia?) I propose that the Department simply confirm the fact that this survey has not as yet commenced.

Ciarán

-----Original Message-----

From: Press Office DCENR
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:06
To: Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Gerry Stanley
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon; Press Office DCENR
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Koen / Ciaran

Lorna has come back with a follow on question -

Could you confirm the location of the seismic work being undertaken by SEPIL and whether this was connected to the earthquake..?

If you could assist please, thanks!

Regards
Jade

-----Original Message-----

From: Koen Verbruggen
Sent: 06 June 2012 11:05
To: Press Office DCENR; Gerry Stanley; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Clodagh

BGS website indicates , time location, depth in kilometres below surface, and strength

(4.0) as follows

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See http://www.earthquakes.bgs.ac.uk/earthquakes/recent_uk_events.html

A quake of this magnitude at this depth is not very unusual although not common but definitely natural

Regards

Koen

-----Original Message-----

From: Press Office DCENR

Sent: Wed 06/06/2012 11:02

To: Gerry Stanley; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan

Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh

Subject: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Hi Gerry/Koen/Ciaran/Jim,

Following on from our discussion this morning with GSI regarding a query from The Ray Darcy Show re news of a possible earthquake off the West Coast, we have now received an urgent query from [REDACTED] Irish Times. She is looking for a comment re (1) the location of the earthquake (2) whether it is indeed an earthquake or (3) an earthquake caused by the 3D Seismic activity at Corrib. We would be grateful for a response as a matter of urgency.

Mid West Radio ([REDACTED]) has also phoned requesting information.

Thanks,

Clodagh O'Connor

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10

Orla Ryan

From: Jim Whelan
Sent: 06 June 2012 17:27
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Jim Whelan
Petroleum Affairs Division
01 6782691

-----Original Message-----

From: Ray Scanlon
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:13
To: Press Office DCENR; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Gerry Stanley; Brian McConnell
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Hi,

Apparently the earthquake happened on about 20km away from the centre of the Corrib basin, and was associated with the fault which defines the edge of the basin. It happened at depth and could not have been associated with any seismic surveying.


For info Brian McConnell has recorded a piece for Mid West radio which is due to go out on their lunchtime show.

Ray Scanlon
Acting Principal Geologist
& GSI Tellus Manager
GSI
Geological Survey of Ireland,
Beggars Bush,
Haddington Road,
Dublin 4,
Ireland
tel. +353 (0)1 678 2740
mob. +353 (0)87 2100448
fax. +353 (0)1 668 1782
ray.scanlon@gsi.ie
www.gsi.ie
www.tellusborder.eu
See our latest newsletter www.gsi.ie/Newsletters/ View and download GSI maps and data at www.gsi.ie/mapping

-----Original Message-----

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Sent: 06 June 2012 12:06
To: Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Gerry Stanley
Cc: Mary Carter; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Ray Scanlon; Press Office DCENR
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

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 has come back with a follow on question -

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Jade

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Clodagh O'Connor

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(14)

Orla Ryan

From: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Sent: 22 June 2012 10:57
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Manley
Sent: 06 June 2012 12:15
To: Koen Verbruggen; Simon Nugent; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Cc: Press Office DCENR
Subject: Re: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Ministers before JOC right now - wonder if they should make some comment on thus.
Likely to reach NR issues in next 10 minutes

----- Original Message -----

From: Koen Verbruggen
To: Simon Nugent
Cc: Press Office DCENR; Michael Manley
Sent: Wed Jun 06 12:03:35 2012
Subject: RE: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Simon

May not be up to us to comment on another company's activities but all the evidence to date points to this being a naturally occurring earthquake along a known geological structure and while slightly larger than usual, such events are not uncommon as historic map of events shows on the BGS website.

See http://www.earthquakes.bgs.ac.uk/earthquakes/recent_events/west_coast_ireland_06_jun_2012_seis.jpg

-----Original Message-----

From: Simon Nugent
Sent: Wed 06/06/2012 11:58
To: Koen Verbruggen
Cc: Press Office DCENR
Subject: Re: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Hi Koen

So press office could give categorical confirmation this is completely unrelated to shell 3d seismic survey currently in train... ?

Thanks

S

Simon Nugent

Sent from my mobile phone

On 6 Jun 2012, at 11:07, "Koen Verbruggen" <Koen.Verbruggen@gsi.ie> wrote:

Clodagh

BGS website indicates , time location, depth in kilometres below surface, and strength (4.0) as follows

07:58:13.9
IRELAND

54.151 -10.904

3

4.0

3

WEST COAST OF

See http://www.earthquakes.bgs.ac.uk/earthquakes/recent_uk_events.html

A quake of this magnitude at this depth is not very unusual although not common but definitely natural

Regards

Koen

-----Original Message-----

From: Press Office DCENR

Sent: Wed 06/06/2012 11:02

To: Gerry Stanley; Koen Verbruggen; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan

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Subject: URGENT - Earthquake off West Coast - Irish Times looking for comment

Hi Gerry/Koen/Ciaran/Jim,

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From: Press Office DCENR
Sent: 06 June 2012 14:24
To: Brian McConnell; Gerry Stanley; Koen Verbruggen; Michael Manley; Simon Nugent; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh; Michael Hanrahan; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Orla Ryan; Ray Scanlon
Cc: Press Office DCENR
Subject: Irish Times on Earthquake

Earthquake strikes off Co Mayo

AOIFE CARR and GENEVIEVE CARBERY

A magnitude 4.0 earthquake has been recorded off the coast of Co Mayo this morning, close to the Corrib gas field.

A spokesman for the British Geological Survey, which monitors seismic activity in the UK and Ireland, said the quake happened just before 9am, 60km west of Aughleam near Belmullet. It was at a relatively shallow depth of 3km.

He said it was very unusual to have an earthquake of such magnitude in the area as it had never happened before.

Tremors were felt in counties Mayo, Sligo and Galway with some local radio stations receiving calls from listeners who described houses shaking.

Minister for Energy and Natural Resources Pat Rabbitte said all evidence so far pointed to this being a "naturally occurring earthquake". The epicentre was on a known fault line west of the Irish shelf, and was slightly larger than usual, he said.

Mr Rabbitte said there was "no link" to the Corrib gas field in Co Mayo, which was not in production.

Press Officer,
Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources,
29-31 Adelaide Rd,
Dublin 2.
+353 1 6782441
Press.office@dcenr.gov.ie
www.dcenr.gov.ie

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Orla Ryan

From: Michael Hanrahan
Sent: 20 June 2012 14:26
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: Corrib OBC latest timing

From: Mick Hanrahan [mailto:mickee.hanrahan@gmail.com]
Sent: 07 June 2012 12:36
To: Michael Hanrahan
Subject: Fwd: Corrib OBC latest timing

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Noel Murphy" <Noel.Murphy@dcenr.gov.ie>
Date: 6 June 2012 15:44:44 GMT+01:00
To: "Mick Hanrahan" <mickee.hanrahan@gmail.com>
Cc: "Oonagh O'Loughlin" <Oonagh.O'Loughlin@dcenr.gov.ie>, Ciarán Ó hÓbáin <Ciaran.OhObain@dcenr.gov.ie>, "Michael Manley" <Michael.Manley@dcenr.gov.ie>
Subject: FW: Corrib OBC latest timing

Mick

Thanks. John Conroy also called earlier to confirm that the Marlene Osterwald was still in port, so there can be no possible or imaginable link !!!

Noel

From: [REDACTED] [mailto:colm.gormley@shell.com]
Sent: 06 June 2012 15:12
To: Michael Hanrahan
Subject: RE: Call

Mick,

Sorry I missed your call...just tried ringing you now.

I was in meetings all day and I gather from John that you have received calls regarding an earthquake off Mayo!

I wasn't aware of that but just to be clear, the survey has not started yet.


Brief outlook below....

Outlook

- The Ocean Pearl continues troubleshooting the first cable before moving towards deployment of the second cable.
- The Malene Ostervold is finalizing gun wiring in port. They will remain in port until sometime tomorrow.
- The Deilginis is at prospect with the Ocean Pearl
- Weather forecast OK, bit more swell coming up.

Best regards,

Colm


Shell E&P Ireland Limited
Registered Office
Corrib House
52 Lower Leeson Street
Dublin 2
Ireland

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Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aimsíodh vireas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.



Orla Ryan

From: Press Office DCENR
Sent: 06 June 2012 17:04
To: Michael Manley; Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Orla Ryan
Cc: Press Office DCENR; Simon Nugent
Subject: Corrib - MoS took call from Radio na Gaeltachta

Hi All,

I've spoken to the MoS who has taken a call from RnaG . They quoted a statement that has been issued by a [REDACTED] Gaelige speaker and ex teacher from Drogheda, which questions if the EIA carried out on Corrib could possibly have taken account of earthquakes in the order of force 4.....and hence can only assume the pipeline is now a hazard.

As you know, R na G have followed up with us for a comment even after issuing them the briefing note. I'm guessing this query may morph throughout tomorrow so the line you're working up for R na G will be helpful.

Ta
Enda

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Orla Ryan

From: Michael Manley
Sent: 22 June 2012 13:57
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: Press Office query re co-ordinates for the Corrib GAs Field.

From: Enda Gallagher
Sent: 06 June 2012 17:46
To: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Clodagh.O'Connor; Press Office DCENR
Cc: Michael Manley; Jim Whelan; Orla Ryan; Simon Nugent; Aine McHugh
Subject: RE: Press Office query re co-ordinates for the Corrib GAs Field.

Perfect Ciaran, ta.
 Enda

Press Officer,
 Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources,
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From: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Sent: 06 June 2012 17:45
To: Clodagh.O'Connor; Press Office DCENR
Cc: Michael Manley; Jim Whelan; Orla Ryan; Simon Nugent; Aine McHugh
Subject: FW: Press Office query re co-ordinates for the Corrib GAs Field.

Clodagh\Enda

RnaG looked for the coordinates for Corrib, please see suggested response below not just giving coordinates but reasserting that this was a naturally occurring event.

The Co-ordinates for the point at the centre of Corrib Lease area are as follows:
 Lat: 54.33179 Long: -11.05162

As confirmed today by the Geological Survey of Ireland, while the location and magnitude of this event are unusual, smaller earthquakes are quite common around Ireland, although they generally cluster in northern Donegal and in the Irish Sea between Wexford and North Wales. As with today's event, which occurred in excess of 20 km from the Corrib Gas Field, these clusters are related to small movements on long-lived geological faults.

Will have a response in the morning on the query re EIA process.

Regards

Ciarán

From: Orla Ryan
Sent: 06 June 2012 17:31
To: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Subject: Press Office query re co-ordinates for the Corrib GAs Field.

Ciarán,

See below suggested response to the Press Office Query.

Orla

The Co-ordinates for the point at the centre of Corrib Lease area are as follows:
Lat: 54.33179 Long: -11.05162

As confirmed today by the Geological Survey of Ireland, while the location and magnitude of this event are unusual, smaller earthquakes are quite common around Ireland, although they generally cluster in northern Donegal and in the Irish Sea between Wexford and North Wales. As with today's event, which occurred in excess of 20 km from the Corrib Gas Field, these clusters are related to small movements on long-lived geological faults.

*Orla Ryan
Petroleum Affairs Division
Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources
29-31 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2*

*Tel: +353 1 678 2135
Fax: +353 1 678 2619
Email: Orla.Ryan@dceenr.gov.ie*

16

Orla Ryan

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 June 2012 07:56
To: Orla Ryan
Cc: Jon Hancox
Subject: RE: Corrib - Earthquake off Belmullet

Orla

I was intrigued so I did a quick search. The expected frequency of earthquakes of this magnitude in Belmullet is 1 in 50 years.

<http://www.chinci.com/travel/pax/q/2966208/Belmullet/IE/Ireland/0#>

Earthquakes are generally caused by movement of the earth's crust either side of a fault line. If we are certain that there are no fault lines crossing the pipeline route then there is no concern. Even if there are fault lines in the area the pipeline would be able to with stand considerable movement. There are many pipelines in areas prone to regular earthquakes of greater magnitude in places such as California, North Africa and Turkey.

Perhaps if more technical detail is required then Jon could find a geologist able to comment on likely maximum movement and we could calculate any impact on the tunnel or pipeline?

Regards

Peter Waite

MA(Oxon) MSc C Eng C Math FICHEM FIMA MIGEM
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www.astriduk.co.uk

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Corrib - Earthquake off Belmullet
From: "Orla Ryan" <Orla.Ryan@dcenr.gov.ie>
Date: Wed, June 06, 2012 5:05 pm
To: [REDACTED]

Peter,

Could you give me a call please?

Thanks,

Oela

*Orla Ryan
Petroleum Affairs Division
Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources
29-31 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2*

Tel: +353 1 678 2135

Fax: +353 1 678 2619

Email: Orla.Ryan@dcenr.gov.ie

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Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aimsíodh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.

Orla Ryan

From: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Sent: 22 June 2012 11:08
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: Follow on Query from RnaG re Earthquake this morning off West Coast of Ireland

From: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Sent: 07 June 2012 10:15
To: Press Office DCENR; Jim Whelan; Orla Ryan
Cc: Michael Manley; Aine McHugh; Fergus O'Dowd
Subject: RE: Follow on Query from RnaG re Earthquake this morning off West Coast of Ireland

Clodagh

The Department gave approval for the survey on 20 April. The survey has not yet commenced.

When approving seismic surveys the Department does not stipulate a commencement date as this date will be determined by a range of factors including in particular the weather along with vessel movements\availability.

Regards

Ciarán

From: Press Office DCENR
Sent: 07 June 2012 10:08
To: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Orla Ryan
Cc: Michael Manley; Aine McHugh; Fergus O'Dowd; Press Office DCENR
Subject: Follow on Query from RnaG re Earthquake this morning off West Coast of Ireland
Importance: High

Hi Ciaran/ Jim/ Orla,

Please see attached follow on query from [REDACTED] Radio Na Gaeltachta, regarding the 3D Seismic Survey over the Corrib Gas Field. We would be grateful for your assistance in responding to this query.

Thanks,

Clodagh
 Press Office

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 June 2012 08:43
To: Press Office DCENR
Subject: RE: Briefing Note re Earthquake this morning off West Coast of Ireland

Thank you Clodagh,
 I have a few more queries:

On what date did the department sanction a commencement notice to Shell E&P Ireland in relation to the 3D Ocean Bottom Cables Seismic Survey over the Corrib Gas Field?

What information has been given to the department in relation to this work to date?

Mise le meas,
Eibhlín Ní Chonghaile.

From: Press Office DCENR [Press.Office@dcenr.gov.ie]
Sent: 06 June 2012 17:49
To: Irisaniar
Cc: Press Office DCENR
Subject: RE: Briefing Note re Earthquake this morning off West Coast of Ireland

[REDACTED] chara,

We are happy to provide the following information regarding your query.

The Co-ordinates for the point at the centre of Corrib Lease area are as follows:
Lat: 54.33179 Long: -11.05162

As confirmed today by the Geological Survey of Ireland, while the location and magnitude of this event are unusual, smaller earthquakes are quite common around Ireland, although they generally cluster in northern Donegal and in the Irish Sea between Wexford and North Wales. As with today's event, which occurred in excess of 20 km from the Corrib Gas Field, these clusters are related to small movements on long-lived geological faults.

Summary of today's earthquake – source British Geological Survey

DATE	06/06/2012
ORIGIN TIME	07:58:13.9 UTC
LOCATION	54.151 -10.904
DEPTH	3 km
MAGNITUDE	4.0
LOCALITY	WEST COAST OF IRELAND
OFF W COAST OF IRELAND	

Location is approximately 60km west of Belmullet, County Mayo. Felt in the Counties of Mayo, Sligo and Galway.

All the best
Enda Gallagher
Press Officer,
Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources,
29-31 Adelaide Rd,
Dublin 2.
+353 1 6782441
Press.office@dcenr.gov.ie
www.dcenr.gov.ie

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 06 June 2012 17:04
To: Press Office DCENR

Subject: RE: Briefing Note re Earthquake this morning off West Coast of Ireland

Clodagh a chara,

What are the coordinates of the epicentre of the earthquake which struck off the coast of Mayo this morning?
What are the coordinates of the Corrib Gas field?

Mise le meas,
Eibhlín Ní Chonghaile.
086 1743946.

From: Press Office DCENR [Press.Office@dcentr.gov.ie]

Sent: 06 June 2012 16:31

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Press Office DCENR

Subject: Briefing Note re Earthquake this morning off West Coast of Ireland

Hi [REDACTED]

I refer to your telephone call of today requesting information regarding the earthquake this morning off the West Coast of Ireland. The following is a briefing note from the Department re same:-

Briefing earthquake Mayo 6/6/12, 07:58UTC

An earthquake of magnitude 4.0 struck 60km off the Mayo coast at a depth of 3km shortly before 9 o'clock this morning. The epicentre was located on a fault system that drops the Slyne-Rockall basins down to the west off the Irish shelf. These faults have had a long geological history and are related to the continuing opening of the Atlantic ocean. Seismicity of this magnitude has not been recorded previously along the fault system in this area but it is now clear that it is still geologically active. It may be anticipated that small aftershocks will follow, but there will be no long-term environmental effects to the seabed or onshore from the event.

While the location and magnitude of this event are unusual, smaller earthquakes are quite common around Ireland, although they generally cluster in northern Donegal and in the Irish Sea between Wexford and North Wales. As with today's event, these clusters are related to small movements on long-lived geological faults.

The Irish National Seismic Network is managed by the Geophysics section of the School of Cosmic Physics, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies.

6/6/12

Kind Regards,

Clodagh O'Connor
Press Office
Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources
29-31 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2
+3531 6782418

press.office@dcentr.gov.ie

www.dcentr.gov.ie

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(18)

Orla Ryan

From: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Sent: 22 June 2012 11:00
To: Orla Ryan
Subject: FW: Broadcast Alert - Earthquake - SF calls for Min Rabbitte to comment

From: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin
Sent: 07 June 2012 17:22
To: Enda Gallagher; Orla Ryan; Jim Whelan
Cc: Simon Nugent; Michael Manley; Press Office DCENR; Aine McHugh
Subject: RE: Broadcast Alert - Earthquake - SF calls for Min Rabbitte to comment

Enda

I would suggest a general response along the following lines in relation to the Corrib queries:

"The regulatory framework that applies in the case of the Corrib Gas project provides that in addition to the developer ensuring that the various elements of the related infrastructure are constructed as proposed, that a number of statutory bodies must also consent to the commissioning and operation of the infrastructure before gas could be produced. A safety permit from the Commission for Energy Regulation would be amongst the consents required. Such consents could only be granted where the relevant statutory authorities are satisfied with the integrity of the infrastructure."

While I would have thought it would be unnecessary to do so, perhaps just in case it is not understood, it should be pointed out to the Times and RnaG that there is no gas in the offshore pipeline.

As regards the Time's follow on query in relation to the distance from the epicentre of the earthquake to some other "prospects" in an area covered by a licensing option awarded to Providence Resources last year, I am totally at a loss as to what the interest could possibly be. In any event as the Times has also asked Providence for this information and as there really is a limit to how much time can justifiably be spent by the Department dealing with such "information queries" I think that it would not be unreasonable to leave this matter for Providence to respond to the journalist.

Regards

Ciarán

From: Enda Gallagher
Sent: 07 June 2012 16:55
To: Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Orla Ryan; Jim Whelan
Cc: Simon Nugent; Michael Manley; Press Office DCENR; Fergus O'Dowd; Aine McHugh
Subject: Broadcast Alert - Earthquake - SF calls for Min Rabbitte to comment

For info.

In addition, RnaG rang back again to say that Shell has announced that they will carry out a "scoping exercise" next week to ascertain if any damage has been done.

Ta

Enda

Programme: Northwest Today
Station: Ocean FM
Presenter: Niall Delaney
Broadcast Date: 07/06/2012

Broadcast Time: 09:00:00
Duration: 8:00
Subject: Earthquake

SF Councillor [REDACTED] discusses concern for the recent earthquake and a possible link to Shell testing in the Corrib gas field area. She says we need a comment from Minister Pat Rabbitte to soothe concern. [10:13]

To order a transcript, mp3, mp4, DVD or CD of this item, please email your request to broadcast@mediahub.ie or contact our Broadcast Department at (01) 661 8625.

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All other queries, please email: info@mediahub.ie

19

Orla Ryan

From: Orla Ryan
Sent: 08 June 2012 08:01
To: 'Jonathan Hancox'; 'MILES HITCHCOCK'
Subject: FW: Corrib - Earthquake off Belmullet
Jon. Miles.

Please see suggestion below from Peter Waite – if possible this might be helpful.

Thanks,

Orla

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 June 2012 07:56
To: Orla Ryan
Cc: Jon Hancox
Subject: RE: Corrib - Earthquake off Belmullet

Orla

I was intrigued so I did a quick search. The expected frequency of earthquakes of this magnitude in Belmullet is 1 in 50 years.

<http://www.chinci.com/travel/pax/q/2966208/Belmullet/IE/Ireland/0#>

Earthquakes are generally caused by movement of the earth's crust either side of a fault line. If we are certain that there are no fault lines crossing the pipeline route then there is no concern. Even if there are fault lines in the area the pipeline would be able to with stand considerable movement. There are many pipelines in areas prone to regular earthquakes of greater magnitude in places such as California, North Africa and Turkey.

Perhaps if more technical detail is required then Jon could find a geologist able to comment on likely maximum movement and we could calculate any impact on the tunnel or pipeline?

Regards

Peter Waite

MA(Oxon) MSc C Eng C Math FICHEM FIMA MIGEM
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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Corrib - Earthquake off Belmullet
From: "Orla Ryan" <Orla.Ryan@dcentr.gov.ie>
Date: Wed, June 06, 2012 5:05 pm
To: [REDACTED]

Peter,

Could you give me a call please?

Thanks,

Oela

*Orla Ryan
Petroleum Affairs Division
Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources
29-31 Adelaide Road
Dublin 2*

Tel: +353 1 678 2135

Fax: +353 1 678 2619

Email: Orla.Ryan@dcentr.gov.ie

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Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aimsíodh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.

20

Orla Ryan

From: Orla Ryan
Sent: 08 June 2012 08:31
To: 'MILES HITCHCOCK'; 'Jonathan Hancox'
Subject: FW: CCMC

Attachments: MM to OhObain 7 June 2012 earthquake hydrotest.doc



MM to OhObain 7
June 2012 eart...

Miles, Jon,

Please see attached a copy of correspondence received from [REDACTED] with particular respect to her suggestion that an independent investigation of the Corrib Development be undertaken to ensure that "all potential impacts on Flora, Fauna, Health and Safety are posing no danger to human beings or to the environment" from the recent earthquake off Belmullet. As she is linking her comments to the Department's management of the EIS/EMP, I would appreciate Environ's comments with respect to any potential impact please.

Thanks and Regards,

Orla



DCENR
PAD
Principle Officer

Dublin

07/06/2012

Re: CCMC, earth quake, operation of gas pipeline hydro testing

Dear Ciaran,

The earthquake on 6 June 2012 recorded as approx 60km west of Belmullet, Co Mayo, at a depth of 3km, at 8.58am, registered a magnitude of four on the Richter scale. The location is about 23km south to southeast of the Corrib gas wells.

It was the largest local seismic event ever recorded, according to Tom Blake of the Irish National Seismic Network (INSN) and the Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies.

A leading seismologist has said yesterday's earthquake off the west coast was "unexpected" and poses "very interesting questions for geologists"

Shell E&P Ireland said "no reason to believe that this event has had any impact on the sub-sea infrastructure".

"However, as a precautionary measure, a visual inspection of the offshore infrastructure will be carried out in the coming days," it said.

While I approve of Shell E&P Ireland's inspection of the offshore infrastructure, the company is making comments of 'no reason' without any known reason or facts.

The Department is the responsible authority for the implementation of compliance conditions and submitted information by the developer including the Environmental Impact Statement and the Environmental Impact Assessment performed by the Minister to make sure that all potential impacts on Flora, Fauna, Health, Safety are posing no danger to human beings or the environment.

The Department would be acting negligently if it did not see that an investigation was carried out by an independent consultant for the very reason Minister Rabbitte stated:

"I believe Ireland's reputation as a lightly regulated economy is precisely what has got us into so much trouble in the first place. We need to repair the damage done by our "light touch" reputation. We need to be seen as having a regulatory environment that takes investigations seriously, proceeds with them expeditiously and punishes wrongdoing effectively."

If the investigation is left to the developer as a self-regulating exercise, it would be another case of light touch regulation, which has caused so much trouble in this jurisdiction.

On a separate issue, I raise the following:

(21)

Orla Ryan**From:** Press Office DCENR**Sent:** 08 June 2012 09:10**To:** Ciarán Ó hÓbáin; Jim Whelan; Orla Ryan; Noel Murphy; Clare Morgan**Cc:** Aine McHugh; Fergus O'Dowd; Jonathan Harte; Simon Nugent; Press Office DCENR; Koen Verbruggen; Brian McConnell; Ray Scanlon**Subject:** Irish Times - Survey shows tremor struck closer to Providence territory than Corrib

Survey shows tremor struck closer to Providence territory than Corrib



The epicentre for Wednesday's earthquake off Mayo was closer to an area licensed to Providence Resources than to the Corrib gas field. The latitude and longitude pinpointed by the British Geological Survey shows the magnitude-four quake, which occurred 60km west of Belmullet, was in the Slyne basin area, where Providence has two licences. However, the Department of Energy would not comment publicly yesterday, and Providence was unavailable for comment. Providence and British firm First Oil were granted the licences in prospects between 10km and 20km south of Corrib last year. The company has described the new acreage as having "exciting gas potential". Shell E&P Ireland has said it has "no reason to believe" the earthquake had "any impact" on it.

NUI Galway geologist Mike Williams said: "The gas field is a tiny part of the Slyne basin, but there's always a possibility that an event like this could liberate gas uncontrollably, at some cost to the developer. Magnitude four is not negligible."

LORNA SIGGINS

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Orla Ryan

From: MILES HITCHCOCK [REDACTED]
Sent: 08 June 2012 09:47
To: Orla Ryan; Jonathan Hancox
Subject: Re: CCMC

Orla / Jon,

A richter scale 4 earthquake will rattle a few cups on the shelf and not cause serious damage to any structure, so therefore the Shell approach of carrying out an inspection of their assets in the area as a precaution would normally be sufficient. However, in this instance given the situation I would recommend that Shell also confirm their design criteria for the pipeline demonstrating the magnitude events that it is designed for, the amount of tolerance to movement they have in the design and the material strengths / wall thicknesses selected. This can then be analysed by an 'independent expert' to demonstrate the suitability of their design.

Jon - perhaps the guy used for the Sakhalin work would be suitable?

Hope this helps,

Miles

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From: Orla Ryan <Orla.Ryan@dcenr.gov.ie>
To: MILES HITCHCOCK <[REDACTED]>
<JHancox@[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, 8 June 2012, 8:30
Subject: FW: CCMC

Miles, Jon,

Please see attached a copy of correspondence received from [REDACTED] with particular respect to her suggestion that an independent investigation of the Corrib Development be undertaken to ensure that "all potential impacts on Flora, Fauna, Health and Safety are posing no danger to human beings or to the environment" from the recent earthquake off Belmullet. As she is linking her comments to the Department's management of the EIS/EMP, I would appreciate Environ's comments with respect to any potential impact please.

Thanks and Regards,

Orla