"Determination of Aquaculture Licensing application –T06-202

Silver King Seafoods Limited has applied for authorisation to cultivate Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo Salar*) at site T06-202 east of Deenish Island, between Ballinskelligs Bay and Kenmare Bay, Co. Kerry.

The Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine has determined that it is in the public interest to grant the licence sought. In making his determination the Minister considered those matters which by virtue of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, and other relevant legislation, he was required to have regard. Such matters include any submissions and observations received in accordance with the statutory provisions. The following are the reasons and considerations for the Minister's determination to grant the licence sought: -

a. *Scientific advice is to the effect that the waters are suitable;*
b. *Public access to recreational and other activities will not be impacted by this project;*
c. *The proposed development should have a positive effect on the economy of the local area;*
d. *All issues raised during Public and Statutory consultation phase;*
e. *There are no effects anticipated on the man-made/environment heritage of value in the area;*
f. *No significant effects arise regarding wild fisheries;*
g. *An Appropriate Assessment was carried out in relation to the aquaculture activities. The Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine has previously determined, in accordance with Regulation 42(11) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended, that the proposed project, either alone or in combination with projects and with application of appropriate mitigation measures, will not adversely affect the integrity of European sites, in view of the sites conservation objectives*
h. *No significant impacts on the marine environment and the quality status of the area will not be adversely impacted. An Environmental Impact Assessment was carried out in relation to the aquaculture activities. The Environmental Impact Assessment of the Application concluded that:*

    - *The EIAR and application documents submitted, along with the Marine Institute report, constitutes an adequate basis for a reliable assessment by the Minister, and that the proposed project meets the requirements of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive (2011/92/EU), as amended by Directive (2014/52/EU).*
    - *The likely significant effects of the project have been identified and the supplied information facilitates a reasoned conclusion to be drawn, of these significant effects on the environment.*
    - *Considering the likely significant effects identified, and the measures envisaged to avoid, prevent, reduce, or offset significant adverse effects, it can be concluded that the proposed development is not likely to have significant adverse effects on the environment;*

i. *The Aquaculture licence contains terms and conditions which reflect the environmental protection required under EU and National law."*