6. Description of the Existing Environment

6.1 Soil and Subsoil Geology

The pig farm site and the majority of the customer farmers are located in the Cavan/Ballinagh area of County Cavan. Two additional customers are located some distance away from this area. Please refer to Appendix No. 6, for a 1:50,000 map indicating the location of the customer farmlands.

6.1.1 Topographic Features and Solid Geology

(a) Site and immediate area.

The general topography and morphology of County Cavan is determined to a large extent by the underlying geology. Topographically the county can be divided into three zones:

- An upland zone stretching from the county boundary near Shercock through Ballyjamesduff and westward to Ballinagh,
- A lowland zone extending along the valley of the Erne and its Tributaries
- A mountainous zone in the northwest.

A major strike fault effectively divides Cavan into two distinct geological regions. Ordovician rocks dominate to the north of this feature while to the south of the fault Silurian rocks dominate. Generally the bedrock becomes younger as one moves in a northwesterly direction. Glacial drift deposits cover the bedrock with sediments of varying types and thickness. The drifts are composed predominantly of boulder clays, which give the county its distinctive drumlin landscape. The till deposits have a major influence on soil type and aquifer vulnerability. The thick clay soils will provide aquifers with protection from surface pollution. Gleys occur most extensively throughout the county and are found over approximately 66% of the land area. Gleys are soils in which the effects of drainage impedance dominate.

Groundwater investigations, (ref. Groundwater Resources in the NE(RDO) Region, WR/C57, An Foras Forbarthe & GSI, 1981), within Cavan and its neighbouring counties indicate that the Silurian rocks are very poor aquifers, while the Carboniferous Limestones can provide usable supplies of groundwater.

- See Fig. 6.1.1 Principal Soils of County Cavan
- See Fig. 6.1.2 Landuse Classification for County Cavan
- See Fig. 6.1.3 Potential Risk From Agriculture Map
- See Fig. 6.1.4 Run-off Risk Map
Figure 6.1.1 Principal Soils of County Cavan
(Source General Soils Map of Ireland, Teagasc)

Principal Soil Type
- Acid Brown Earths (70%)
- Acid Brown Earths (75%)
- Blanket Peat (High level)
- Gleys (50%)
- Gleys (60%)
- Gleys (75%)
- Gleys (85%)
- Grey Brown Podzolics (60%)
- Min Grey Brown Podzolics (80%)
- Peaty Gleys (70%)
- Water Body

km 0 10 km
Figure 6.1.2
Landuse Classification for County Cavan.

Landuse Classification
- Arable / Ploughed land
- Broad leaved woodland
- Coniferous woodland
- Continuous urban fabric
- Discontinuous urban fabric
- Diversity of Agriculture and
- Diversity of Arable and Pastur
- Inland marshes
- Lakes and water bodies
- Mineral Extraction sites
- Mixed Broad leaved and Conifer
- Moors and Heathland
- Natural grasslands
- Pastures
- Peat Bogs
- Sport leisure facilities
- Transitional woodland scrub
- Water Courses

km 0 10 km
Figure 6.1.4 Runoff Risk map

Runoff Risk Class
- High
- Low
- Medium
- Very Low

Catchment Boundary
6.1.2 Soil Geology

(a) Site and immediate area

The pig farm site is located in the area identified as soil association 25 on the General Soil Map of Ireland. Soil association 25 comprises Gleys (50%), Acid Brown Earths (40%), Interdrumlin Peat and Peaty Gleys (10%). The soils of this association occur mainly in counties Cavan, Monaghan, west Mayo, Longford, Clare, Donegal and Leitrim. The parent material consists of mostly Ordovician – Silurian shale, sandstone glacial till. Topography is gently rolling with uniform slopes.

The predominant soil (50%) is an imperfectly to poorly drained surface water gley of loam to clay loam texture and of medium base status. In the surface is a weak crumb, becoming massive at about 30cm. Below this soil consistence is plastic and root penetration poor.

The main associated soil (40%) consists of a moderately well drained Acid Brown Earth of loam to clay loam texture and low base status. It is usually freely-drained to about 60cm.

The profile of this soil is shown below. (Ref: General Soil Map of Ireland, and Soil Associations of Ireland and their Land use Potential, Explanatory Bulletin to Soil Map of Ireland 1980)
Proposed customer farmlands.

The following soil associations occur within the customer farmlands that have been agreed to date with the E.P.A.

- Soil Association 25
- Soil Association 28
- Soil Association 31
- Soil Association 37
- Soil Association 39

Soil Association 25
The majority of the customer farmlands are located in this area, as described in Section 6.2.1a. Please refer to Attachment 6.1.2b, section of General Soil Map, indicating the extent of the different soil associations.

Soil Association 28
Soil association 28 comprises Grey Brown Podzolics (60%), Gleys (20%) and Interdrumlin Peats and Peaty Gleys (20%). This soil association is widely distributed and occurs in counties Sligo, Clare, Mayo, Longford, Monaghan, Roscommon, and Cavan among others. The parent material of this soil consists of glacial till of mainly limestone composition, and the texture of the soil is loam with a medium base status.

Soil Association 31
Soil association 31 comprises Minimal Grey Brown Podzolics (80%), Gleys (10%), Brown Earths (5%) and Basin Peats (5%). This soil association is widely distributed and occurs in counties Tipperary, Offaly, Westmeath, Roscommon, Meath and Longford among others. The soils are formed from glacial till of mainly Carboniferous limestone composition, and the texture of the soil is loam with a high base status.

Soil Association 37
Soil association 37 comprises Grey Brown Podzolics (75%), Gleys (20%), and Brown Earths (5%). This soil association occurs mainly in Meath, Westmeath and Longford. The parent material consists of glacial till of limestone, shaly limestone and shale composition.

Soil Association 39
Soil association 39 comprises Gleys (90%) and Grey Brown Podzolics (10%). This soil association occurs widely throughout limestone till areas of the country where they occupy the more low lying positions. The principle soil is a poorly drained Gley of clay loam to clay texture and of high base status.

6.2 Ground Water

The groundwater in the area of the pig farm site is deep and overlain by a considerable depth of overburden. (Ref: Appendix No. 19) The depth of bored wells in the area confirms this fact.
The Cavan County Council Measures report indicates that the piggery site has an aquifer classification of Pu, (Poor Aquifer, generally unproductive).

See Fig. 6.2.1. (Aquifer Potential Map for County Cavan)

As can be seen from the soil profiles for the areas concerned, any ground water sources in the area are afforded considerable protection due to the depth of overburden, nature of the soils, and their associated characteristics.

6.3 Surface Water

The Pig Farm site and Customer Farmer No.'s 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20 (part of), 20a and 24 are located in the Erne Catchment, (Hydrometric Area No. 36) Customer Farmer No.'s 19 and part of 20 are located within the Shannon catchment, (Hydrometric Area 26). Farm No.30 is located within Hydrometric Area 07, i.e. the Boyne catchment. Please refer to the following figures for illustrations and statistics;

- 6.3.1 Hydrometric Areas

In addition to this see Appendix No. 10 for details on local river water quality surveys.

6.3.1 Overall Trend in River Water Quality County Cavan

The overall trend in river water quality for County Cavan, based on E.P.A. survey results for the period 1987 – 2000 is shown below, and is compared with the national trend. From this data we can see quite clearly that the river water quality in Cavan is steadily improving while on a national basis it is deteriorating for the period 1987 – 1997, however this national trend has been reversed recently with the results for 1997 – 2000.

Table 6.1.3: Comparison of Recent trends: County Cavan and National

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cavan</td>
<td>National</td>
<td>Cavan</td>
<td>National</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class A</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>53</td>
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<td>Class B</td>
<td>25</td>
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<td>27</td>
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<td>15</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class D</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aquifer Potential Map for County Cavan

Aquifer Potential
- L1
- Lm
- Pl
- Pu
- Rf
- Rk
- unkn

km 1  0  10 km

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Table 6.1.3a: River water Quality Cavan 2000 –2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>2001 - 2002 (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cavan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class A</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class B</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class C</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class D</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 1995–1997 position for Co. Cavan indicates improvement on the 1991–1994 situation and even more significant improvement on the situation during the period 1987-1990. The national trend, based on the E.P.A. publication “Water Quality in Ireland, 1995–1997(fig. 2) for the same period, in contrast, indicates a continual reduction in unpolluted waters and a corresponding increase in slight and moderate pollution.

Further improvements in Cavan were recorded in the period 1998–2000 and for the first time a national improvement was also recorded. There has been a significant improvement in water quality in Cavan in the period 2001–2002.

Over the period 1987 - 2000 we can see that there has been a 17% increase in the amount of waters classified as Class A or B in Cavan versus a 2% decline nationally. These figures show that Cavan is above the national average for the amount of waterways classified as Class A or B, 89% versus 87%. The results for the period 2000 –2002 show a further significant improvement with 97% of river waters being classified as either Class A or B. It should be noted however that the figures for Cavan from 2000 onwards were calculated using a best case scenario for the status of the rivers. This involves choosing the Chemical or Biological data whichever gives the higher classification rating, as defined in the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1997 (Water Quality Standards for Phosphorous) Regulations 1998, S.I. No. 258 of 1998.

Classification System and Beneficial Uses

Table 6.1.3b: System of Water Quality Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biotic Index Classification</th>
<th>Quality Status</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q5, Q4-5, Q4</td>
<td>Unpolluted Waters</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3-4</td>
<td>Slightly Polluted Waters</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3, Q2-3</td>
<td>Moderately Polluted Waters</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2, Q2-1, Q1</td>
<td>Seriously Polluted Waters</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unpolluted Waters

High quality waters suitable for supply and abstraction. Game fisheries and high amenity value. (Satisfactory)

Slightly Polluted Waters

Usually good game fisheries. Suitable for supply. Moderate to high amenity value. (Transitional)
Moderately Polluted Waters
Coarse fisheries. Not likely to support a healthy game fishery. Suitable for supply after advanced treatment.
(Class C)
( Unsatisfactory)

Seriously Polluted Waters
Fish absent or only sporadically present. May be used for low grade industrial abstraction. Low amenity value.
(Class D)
( Unsatisfactory)

Customer Farmlands in the Erne Catchment area

The customer farmlands located in this area are drained by the Cavan and Erne Rivers, and/or their tributaries. These rivers flow northwards into Lough Oughter, one of the lakes of the Erne Waterway. The Erne catchment is the largest catchment in Co. Cavan and the fourth largest catchment in the country.

Customer Farmlands in the Shannon Catchment area

One of the proposed farmland areas is located within the Inny sub-catchment. The River Inny drains an area of 1,197 km² which includes parts of Counties Westmeath, Cavan, Meath and Longford. The River Inny is a fast flowing, shallow river that rises near Oldcastle in County Meath and then makes its way through four lakes, the first of them being Lough Sheelin.

The second customer is located in the Brosna Sub-catchment. This catchment covers an area of 1,273 km².

Customer Farmlands in the Boyne Catchment area

The catchment of the River Boyne extends to some 2,694 km². This catchment is shown in Fig. 6.3.1 and covers 54% of Co. Meath, the southern part of Co. Louth (3%), the Lough Ramor catchment in south Co. Cavan (12%), the River Deel Catchment of Co. Westmeath (18%) and small areas of Counties Kildare and Offaly. The Kells Blackwater is the largest tributary of the River Boyne, equivalent to over one quarter of the total catchment. The Kells Blackwater rises north of Baileboro in Co. Cavan, flowing south through Virginia and Lough Ramor. It then flows in a south-easterly direction via Kells to join the Boyne main channel downstream of Navan.

The history of this development as regards surface water quality in the immediate area has been excellent. The customer farmlands selected for slurry application have been farmed well, with due care to waterways, spreading rates and nutrient requirements. As this point a significant number (17/18) of the customer farmers are well experienced at using the organic fertiliser from this pig farm in accordance with a fertiliser management plan.
Please refer to Appendix 10 for details relating to surface water quality in the area of the pig farm and farms identified for the receipt of organic manure from this farm, and Appendix No. 18 for recommendations in relation to Agricultural Activities as outlined in the Cavan County Council Measures Report. A number of these recommendations will be implemented on any customer farmlands receiving organic fertiliser from this pig farm. These include, promoting the Codes of Good Practice, applying fertilisers (inorganic and/or organic) in accordance with a Fertiliser Management Plan, Soil testing of customer farmland areas, etc. At this stage a number of these recommendations have been implemented for the past 5 – 6 years.

6.3.2 Lake Water Quality

There are three hundred and nineteen lakes in total in County Cavan each with their own individual ecology. Cavan County Council monitors eight lakes on a monthly basis. These eight lakes are those assigned a baseline trophic status in the E.P.A.’s “1995 – 1997 Water Quality in Ireland” report.

Monitoring results indicate that all eight lakes are subject to eutrophication of some degree. This farm is located in the catchment area of the Cavan River, a tributary of Lough Oughter. Tributaries of Lough Oughter drain all of the proposed customer farmlands within the Erne Catchment.


6.3.3 Beneficial uses of surface waters in the Erne/Shannon/Boyne Catchment

Beneficial uses may be defined as activities, which are dependent on the river/lake for their existence. These include,

1. Water extraction for,
   • Drinking
   • Process
   • Irrigation

2. Fisheries

3. Recreation and Water sports

4. Receiving waters for waste water discharges.
6.4 Air

Odour associated with pig farming enterprises may arise from two situations:
- The pig farm
- The slurry spreading operation.

The pig farm is located in an entirely agricultural hinterland where typical levels of farm odour are to be found and expected. This odour arises from farmyards and lands during the day to day operations such as silage feeding, slurry agitation and slurry spreading. The existing farm, using the best available practices, is already operating without a significant effect on the environment and will continue to strive to minimise all environmental impacts. Well maintained, properly ventilated, slatted floor, pig farms are practically odour free.

There are no noise/odour sensitive locations within 400m of the pig farm site, with the exception of Mr. Bogue’s dwelling and his mother’s dwelling. This pig unit is operating in a sparsely populated rural environment and hence the pig farm will cause no nuisance. The proposed landscaping as it matures will further screen the pig farm view. Please refer to information contained Appendix No. 12 identifying possible odour sensitive locations.

Mr. Bogue has advised all farmers receiving pig slurry from his farm that the low trajectory splash-plate method of spreading should be used and that adherence to the Teagasc Codes of Good Practice will help them maintain a good working relationship with their neighbours. The maintenance of a slurry register ensures that excessive application of slurry, which may lead to extra odour from surface soil saturation, will be avoided.

6.5. Climate

Climate information is useful for predicting the likely impacts that the pig farm operation and the spreading of slurry in the catchment will have upon the residents. Details of annual rainfall and wind direction can be found in Appendix 12. Wind direction at the site is critical to odour movements and rainfall is critical factor in the spreading of slurry. The prevailing wind in the Cavan area is from the south-west. Rainfall in the spreadlands ranges annually from 800mm -1000mm.

6.6. Visual Aspects and Landscape

The pig farm is located on c. 1.8 hectares of agricultural land. Previous landscaping was carried out to screen the site, however this failed to establish properly. A revised landscaping plan has been developed and is to be implemented on-site. This landscaping will help screen the piggery from the local view and help integrate it into the surrounding landscape. The pig houses are grey in colour with grey cement fibre roofs and approximately 5 - 6 metres in height. The circular feed silos are 8 metres high and are green or grey in colour.

Landscaping Plan contained in Appendix No. 16.
6.7. Noise Levels

Noise levels are measured in decibels and a weighting factor (A) is applied to approximate the frequency response of the human ear. This weighted decibel scale, dB (A), correlates well with human sensations of loudness, disturbance and annoyance. Background noise levels in rural areas of Ireland are in the 45-50 dB (A) range.

The peak noise periods on pig farms are at feeding times. This farm has state of the art buildings with high insulation standards. The proposed development will be constructed to the highest standards. Due to its remote location and the low population density in the area, this pig farm will not create a disturbance or annoyance to anyone. The results of a number of noise surveys that were carried out by Bord Na Mona on behalf of C.L.W. Environmental Planners Ltd. are contained in Appendix 15. These surveys were carried out on this existing farm and a number of similar sized and significantly larger units. These results confirm that noise emissions from this pig farm, as proposed, will have no detrimental impact on the local environment. All traffic into or out of the site will be during the normal working day and will cause no disturbance.

6.8. Traffic

The pig farm is located approximately 4 km South of Cavan Town and 3.5 Km Northeast of Ballinagh, 0.4 km from the N55 National Secondary Route between Cavan and Ballinagh. Access to the farm is via 400 metres of a private laneway. Adequate on-site space will be provided to ensure that the turning movements of all vehicles associated with the farm as proposed can be facilitated. Sufficient parking will be provided on-site for all vehicles associated with the farm. See Fig 6.8.1 County Cavan Route Classification. As can be seen from Fig. 6.8.1 the completion of the Cavan By-Pass will significantly assist with the transport of feed to this farm and the transport of slurry to the customer farmers.

6.9 Flora and Fauna

The spreading catchment is agricultural land. This land is used for:
- Grassland (grazing or cut for silage).
- Tillage (Cereals)
- Tillage (Root Crops – namely potatoes)

Traditionally animal manure has been applied to these lands. During the customer farmland survey any areas not used for commercial agricultural practice such as wooded areas, scrubland habitats etc. were all excluded from the areas for receipt of organic fertiliser. Cordon sanitaires were also applied to all watercourses. Spreading should also be avoided close to hedgerows, overgrown areas and any other habitats.

See appendix 13 for detailed flora and fauna report.
6.10 Special Policy Areas

To provide protection to heritage items Planning Authorities have designated Special Policy Areas. These areas relate to areas of important heritage items worthy of protection and conservation. Within the special policy area it is the policy of the Planning Authorities to regulate and restrict any development that may threaten the value or integrity of the asset. See Attachment No. 6.10.

Development proposals which would have an unacceptable impact on objects, items or sites included in the above lists will not be allowed. Where development is allowed the Planning Authority may include conditions to reduce or ameliorate adverse impacts.

These Special Policy Areas include:

(A) Nationally Designated Environmental areas.

- National Heritage Areas (N.H.A.’s)
The basic designation for wildlife is the National Heritage Area. The process of formal designation of N.H.A.’s is currently being undertaken. Until formal designation of sites takes place proposed H.N.A.’s are subject to limited protection, one of which included the recognition of NHA values by Planning and Licensing Authorities.

- Special Protection Areas (S.P.A.’s)
An S.P.A. is a site designated under the European Bird Directive (79/409/EEC, 2 April, 1979) in order to conserve certain categories of birds. Under this legislation Ireland is required to conserve the habitats of birds listed as rare and vulnerable species and birds which are regularly occurring migratory species.

- Special Areas of Conservation (S.A.C.’s)
Special areas of conservation are conservation areas considered to be important on a European level as well as an Irish Level. The legal basis on which Special Areas of Conservation are selected and designated is the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC), transposed into Irish law in the European Union (Natural Habitats) Regulations, 1997.

S.P.A.’s and S.A.C.’s collectively form part of ‘Natura 2000’, a network of protected areas throughout the European Union.

The pig farm and the associated land spreading activities are not expected to have any adverse affect on the conservation of these areas and the wildlife contained therein for the following reasons,

- The pig farm is located a significant distance away from any such areas.
- Strict adherence to the on-site monitoring programme.
- Strict adherence to Cordon Sanitaires.
- Spreading of slurry in accordance with an approved F.M.P.
- Strict adherence to the Codes of Good practice.

See Appendix No. 14 for further details of the aforementioned areas.
COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2003 - 2009

COUNTY CAVAN

SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS

LEGEND

Special Protection Areas
Urban Areas

ATTACHMENT NO. 10 (2)
SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS.
COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2003 - 2009

COUNTY CAVAN

SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION

**LEGEND**
- Special Areas of Conservation
- Urban Areas

**FIGURE 3**

**Cuilcagh - Aneirin Uplands**

**ATTACHMENT NO. 10 (3)**

SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION.
(B) Amenity Areas

The piggery site is not located near any of the amenity areas as listed in the Cavan County Development Plan. See Fig. 6.10 B

These areas include;
- Forest and other Parks.
- Lakeside Amenity Areas.
- Riverside Amenity Areas

(C) Archaeological Features

According to the Cavan County Development Plan there are no areas of Archaeological, Historical, Scientific, Architectural and Cultural interest listed close to the pig farm site. See Fig. 6.10 C for items of archaeological, historical, scientific, architectural and cultural interest as listed in the Cavan County Development Plan.

As can be seen from the site location and layout maps there is a Rath located to the south of the proposed development. This Rath is listed in the Archaeological Inventory of County Cavan as No. 530, and described as a “Raised Circular area (int. diam. 49m Ne-SW) enclosed by an inner fosse and a substantial earthen bank with an external fosse running from E-S-NNW. From NNW-N-E the perimeter is almost completely demolished where modern houses have encroached on the site. Original entrance not recognisable”. It should be noted that some or all of this damage is indicated on the O.S. maps for this area, indicating that this damage was not caused by the development of the existing farmyard. In any event the existing pig farm, and proposed development are located a significant distance away from this feature.

Please refer to Appendix 20 for further details on archaeological features close to the pig farm site.

(D) Walking Routes / Areas of High Landscape Value / Major Lakes and Lakeside Areas / Scenic Routes / Scenic Viewing Points.

The piggery site is not located near any of the Walking Routes, Areas of High Landscape Value, Major Lakes and Lakeside Areas, Scenic Routes or Scenic Viewing Points as listed in the Cavan County Development Plan. See Fig. 6.10 D and 6.10 E.
COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2003 - 2009
COUNTY Cavan

FIG. 6.10 D

LEGEND
- Urban Areas
- National Primary Roads
- National Secondary Roads
- Regional Roads
- High Landscape Areas
- Walking Routes
- Major Lakes (refer to text)
FIGURE 5

LEGEND

- Urban Areas
- Scenic Viewing Points
- National Primary Roads
- National Secondary Roads
- Regional Roads
  (refer to text)
6.11 Population / Employment

Cavan is and will remain an agriculturally based economy with a large rural population. The population of Cavan has changed little over the last thirty years, ranging between 52,500 to 52,900, giving an average density of twenty eight persons per square kilometre verses sixty two persons nationally. The most recent census (2002) showed an increase to 56,416, or 29.8 persons per square kilometre.

Cavan is heavily dependent on agriculture as a source of employment. The Cavan County Development Plan 2002 indicated a further reliance on agriculture with an expansion in employment in the Agri-Food Business, making it one of the largest manufacturing employers in the county.

6.12 Tourism

Mr. Bogue is very aware of the beneficial impact that tourism is having on the local economy of the Cavan area. The local tourism industry in this area is based primarily around the numerous lakes and rivers in the region and associated ancillary businesses. The piggery site itself will in no way affect the tourism industry in the area due to the fact that, it is in a remote location, will be well screened from public view, and is located away from any areas frequented by tourists.

Mr. Bogue will try, to the best of his ability, to minimise any potential effects on the local environment and tourism while still maintaining their good relationship with the permanent residents of the area. It is the farmers of the area who have the responsibility of looking after the countryside and maintaining the local environment. Mr. Bogue will inform all of his customer farmers, of the Codes of Good Practice in relation to spreading of animal manure’s and overall good farming practice so as to at least maintain, if not improve, this balance. The mitigation measures taken by Mr. Bogue to minimise any possible effects that spreading of organic manure from his piggery may have on these areas are discussed in Section 7.12.

6.13 Cumulative Effects

The density of pigs in Ireland is relatively low, especially in comparison to our E.U. counterparts. This piggery is located in County Cavan, a county well recognised for its pig population. It is the most densely populated area of Ireland in terms of its pig population/km².