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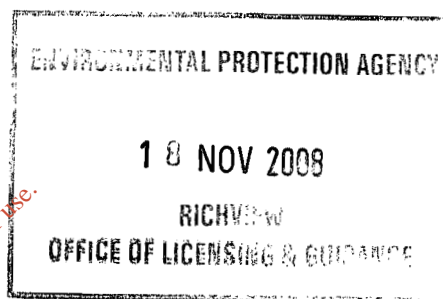
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17 November 2008

Our Ref: 20285/pmca/17112008

National Parks and Wildlife Service
7 Ely Place
Dublin 2

RE: EPA WASTE WATER DISCHARGE LICENCE
NPWS Assessment Recommendation



Dear Sir/Madam,

We have recently prepared Wastewater Discharge Licences for six wastewater treatment plants in County Meath;

Agglomeration Name	Receiving Waters	Designation	E.I.S.
Athboy WWTP	Athboy River	SAC	No
Duleek WWTP	River Nanny	Not Applicable	No
Enfield-Johnstownbridge WWTP	Blackwater (Longwood)	Not Applicable	No
Castletown Tara (Dúnshaughlin) WWTP	River Boyne	SAC	Yes
Kells WWTP	Blackwater (Kells)	SAC	No
Trim WWTP	River Boyne	SAC	Yes

All of the above waste water treatment plants are existing and fully operational. The licence applications include information on waste assimilative capacity, storm overflows, design population equivalents, flows and treatment standards etc. There are approved Environmental Impact Statements available for the larger plants at Trim and Castletown Tara. As the licences are quite large documents, a CD-ROM copy of each of the submitted licence applications is attached and can also be accessed at the following address; <http://www.epa.ie/terminalfour/wwda2/index.jsp>. A hardcopy can be provided if necessary.

The licence applications were submitted to the EPA on the 22nd of September.

The EPA have since written to us requesting that we state categorically whether or not an appropriate assessment is required in the case of each of the waste water discharge license applications.

The EPA guidelines for the waste water discharge licence application state that;

Information on the receiving waters should be given with details of;

- Discharges, either from the waste water works or in proximity to the waste water works, likely to have a significant effect on a European site. If deemed likely to have a significant effect an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of the sites conservation objectives must be carried out. **The determination of the likely effect on a European site shall be carried out in consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Evidence of this consultation process shall be provided as part of the application documentation.**
- Any specific correspondence from the National Parks and Wildlife Service in relation to the European site, i.e., correspondence in relation to the extent of the designated area, the rationale for such a designation and details of the flora and fauna protected.
- **Where no EIS has been prepared for a waste water works it is necessary for Water Services Authorities to liaise with NPWS to determine whether an appropriate assessment is required for the site.**

We had contacted the Regional NPWS office in Navan regarding the above. However, the reply was not accepted by the EPA as it did not definitively state whether an appropriate assessment was required.

Given the full licence applications we would like to enter into consultation with you as to whether the discharges are deemed likely to have a significant effect on a European Site and the requirement for Appropriate Assessment for each of the schemes.

We are available to meet with you to discuss each of the schemes and provide additional information as required or please feel free to contact the undersigned, or Pauline McAree also at Nicholas O'Dwyer LTD, to discuss further

Yours faithfully,



Fiona Lane
Senior Engineer
for NICHOLAS O'DWYER LTD.

Copy to:
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