Sligo County Council submitted an application for a Waste Water Discharge Licence (WWDL) for the Rosses Point agglomeration (D0249-01) on 26/02/2009. The application was made in the 1,001 - 2,000 population equivalent (p.e.) category. The application was transferred to Irish Water on 01/01/2014 under the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013.

On 14/04/2015, the Agency received a request from Irish Water to withdraw the Rosses Point WWDL application. In their letter of request, Irish Water explained that wastewater from the Rosses Point agglomeration is to be catered for in the Sligo wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). Sligo County Council was granted a licence on 03/03/2010 for the discharges from the Sligo and Environs agglomeration. This licence was transferred to Irish Water on 01/01/2014. In their letter Irish Water states that it intends to regularise the Sligo and Environs WWDL (D0014-01) to accommodate the acceptance of the wastewater from the Rosses Point agglomeration.

**Recommendation**

I am satisfied that the withdrawal of the licence application is appropriate on the basis that the discharge from the Rosses Point agglomeration is to be transferred to the Sligo and Environs agglomeration for treatment and discharge. I therefore recommend that the Agency agree to the withdrawal of the licence application, Reg. No. D0249-01.

I recommend on the basis of the scale of additional p.e. (1,409) to be included within the Sligo and Environs agglomeration, that Irish Water apply for a review of the Sligo and Environs WWDL to regularise the acceptance of wastewater from the Rosses Point agglomeration.

Sligo County Council paid a fee of €15,000 to the Agency as part of the Rosses Point WWDL application. Whilst no recommendation or decision on the WWDL application has been made by the Agency, and the applicant has stated their intention to regularise the Sligo licence, the Agency has expended significant resources (administration and technical assessment) processing the Rosses Point WWDL application to date. Therefore, a refund of any of the
WWDL application fee is not considered appropriate. I recommend that the €15,000 fee should be retained by the Agency.

An application fee of €22,500 will be required to accompany the review licence application for Sligo and Environs WWDL.

No submissions have been received to date in relation to the WWDL applications. Statutory Bodies will be notified that the application has been withdrawn and a review application for is expected from Irish Water, submissions can be made in respect of the review application when received by the Agency.

Signed

Máire Buckley

Environmental Licensing Programme