

## EPA Update on Odour in the Carrigtwohill Area relating to Merck Millipore P0571-04

### Update 12/06/20

Since the EPA's last web update dated 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2020, EPA held another Compliance Meeting with the licensee on 09/06/20. The following is noted:

- The licensee has indicated that all short-term measures to address odour have been completed.
- The information provided by the licensee so far indicates that the effluent streams to the WWTP have been reduced by 20% which appears to have improved conditions in the WWTP tanks and reduced the odours arising from the tanks.
- Medium term measures are due for completion at the end of July 2020, which include the installation of additional carbon bed unit(s).
- Long term measures will require further infrastructural work, which could take upwards on 10 months to complete. This timeline assumes that no further authorisation such as planning permission or a licence alteration will be required. The licensee has been advised by the EPA that if further authorisation is required, the licensee should initiate this process as soon as possible and that any changes to the proposed works and timelines shall be communicated to the EPA in advance. The long term solution will likely comprise a larger biofilter and additional odour treatment before and after the biofilter.

The EPA requires the licensee to take all possible actions to reduce the odour generated to the greatest possible extent while awaiting the more long-term solution. We are closely scrutinizing the effectiveness of the current measures by the licensee in eliminating offsite odour impacts, and will impose tighter limitations as soon as we determine it might be needed. During the most recent odour assessment carried out by the EPA (08/06/20), no odours were detected downwind of the installation. The EPA will continue to carry out odour assessments periodically in the Carrigtwohill area.

The EPA is also carrying out monitoring for H<sub>2</sub>S and ammonia in the Carrigtwohill area, and the results of this monitoring will be available on the public file in due course.

Air dispersion modelling and odour modelling reports have also been submitted by the licensee. These reports assess the impact of the odours experienced in Carrigtwohill in April, before the recent short-term measures were completed.

- The odour modelling report outlines that the odour plume spread in April was significant, with a large number of sensitive receptors located within the odour plume. A further model will be run in due course to demonstrate the improvement, if any, in the odour since the recent works were carried out on-site.
- The air dispersion modelling found that the levels of the compounds present in the odour in April were well below the relevant air quality standards by the time they reached ground level in Carrigtwohill.

These reports are currently under review by the EPA.

### ***Making Environmental Complaints***

Environmental complaints can be made **directly to the Merck Millipore Limited site on 021 4883666**.

Alternatively, the Environmental Complaints section of the EPA website can be used to make complaints of an environmental nature using this Form:

[Online Complaint Form](#)

All complaints reported this way are captured by our internal enforcement system and are immediately viewable by enforcement inspectors. By using this method, you are guaranteed that your complaint will be received and acted upon quickly by the relevant enforcement team.