

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

### Update 27/04/20

Since the EPA's last web update dated 23rd April 2020, Merck Millipore Limited are to take delivery tomorrow (28<sup>th</sup> April 2020) of new media for their biofilter unit. The biofilter unit is a central part of the odour abatement unit. Microorganisms grow on the media, and it is these microorganisms that remove the odour from the air emissions from the waste water treatment plant during normal operation. The media that is currently inside the unit, pumice stone, is no longer fit for purpose. Changing this media is therefore a vital step in improving odour conditions off-site.

An installation plan has been submitted to the EPA by Merck Millipore and this plan was discussed in a compliance meeting between the EPA and Merck Millipore Limited today, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020. The replacement works will take approximately four days, **commencing tomorrow Tuesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2020, and finishing on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2020.** There is potential for additional odour to be experienced in the area during this time. Merck Millipore Limited have committed to implementing a number of measures to reduce the extent to which odour will arise off site during the works. This includes applying negative air pressure across the unit to draw any odour arising to the newly installed carbon beds. The EPA will be in the Carrigtwohill area to monitor off-site odour impacts at various stages during the replacement works.

New healthy microorganisms will be added to the biofilter at the end of the week. Once these microorganisms bed in, the biofilter will help provide additional treatment for the odours generated in the on-site waste water treatment plant and is expected to help to alleviate odour problems beyond the site boundary.

This is one of the short/medium term actions that Merck Millipore Limited are taking under EPA's compliance investigation CI001845 into odour nuisance. A more long-term plan for eliminating odour nuisance is currently under development and the EPA are closely monitoring progress in this regard.

A further update will be posted on this webpage in due course.

### ***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.