

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

Update 28/05/20

Since the EPA's last web update dated 15th of May 2020, the EPA has completed three odour assessment in the Carrigtwohill area, on 18/05/20, 20/05/20 and 24/05/20. At the times of each of the assessments, damp/musty odours associated with the Merck Millipore Ltd. waste water treatment plant were detected downwind of the site. These assessments confirm that the odour nuisance caused by Merck Millipore Ltd continues to impact the local community in the vicinity of the facility.

EPA held a Compliance Meeting with the licensee on 26/05/20. At the meeting, we observed that the measures the licensee have completed to date have not been effective in mitigating or preventing nuisance odour occurring beyond the site boundary. We also stated that the timeframes proposed for the required infrastructural and mitigation works on site are too long, and that significant action is required in the short-term to eliminate odour impact in the Carrigtwohill area.

On foot of this compliance meeting, EPA instructed Merck Millipore Limited to implement the following measures:

- Reduce the process streams discharging to the to the Waste Water Treatment Plant by 20%, to take pressure off the treatment system with a view to reducing the generation of odours within the treatment plant tanks;
- Reduce timeframes for the remaining medium to long-term odour reduction and treatment measures, and
- Improve communication with the EPA on changes or delays to any proposed works.

The licensee has been made fully aware of the requirement to comply with all conditions of the Industrial Emissions Licence Reg. P0571-04 and of their legal obligation to conduct their business without causing odour nuisance off-site. The EPA considers this issue to be a matter of priority and is closely monitoring the licensee's progress in implementing the required actions. In particular, the licensee has been informed that, if the 20% reduction in effluent streams to the waste water treatment plant is found to be insufficient to prevent odour nuisance occurring off-site, further reductions may be sought.

In addition, on foot of recent concerns raised by complainants, the EPA are addressing how Merck Millipore Limited communicate with those who make complaints directly to the facility.

Further updates on progress made by Merck Millipore Limited in implementing odour mitigation measures will be added to this web page 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.