

## Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination

In accordance with Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, the Agency has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the site, if the industrial plant, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on European Sites. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites listed below.

### Consent Details:

<b>Appeal Register No.</b>	E0010-01
<b>Local Authority Register No.</b>	AP20-01
<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Roadstone Ltd.
<b>Type of Consent:</b>	Licence under the Air Pollution Act, 1987
<b>Location of industrial plant:</b>	Clasheen, Killarney, Co. Kerry
<b>Licence Grant Date:</b>	18 May 2021
<b>European Sites assessed:</b>	Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC (000365)
	Sheheree (Ardagh) Bog SAC (000382)
	Killarney National Park SPA (004038)
<b>Date of AA Screening Determination:</b>	05 May 2022

### AA Screening Determination:

That the industrial plant is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site and that it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the industrial plant, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the industrial plant is required. This determination was made in light of the following reasons:

- Due to the proximity of the industrial plant to three European Sites. The proposed plant is located ca. 600m from Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC (site code 000365), ca. 2.9km from Sheheree (Ardagh) Bog SAC (000382) and ca. 3.5km from Killarney National Park SPA (004038). It is noted from the application that air emissions from the plant will extend to a section of the Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC and as such it is within the zone of influence of the plant.
- The plant will emit nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) and sulphur oxides (SO<sub>x</sub>) to air. These emissions will give rise to atmospheric nitrogen and sulphur which could adversely impact qualifying interests at European Sites through nitrogen deposition and acidification. Killarney National Park, Macgillicuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC (site code 000365) includes a number of habitats listed as qualifying interests that are sensitive to nitrogen deposition. With regard to Sheheree (Ardagh) Bog SAC (000382), nitrogen deposition is an attribute of the

Conservation Objectives for habitat 7110 Active raised bogs\*. Information in relation to European Sites is available on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie) (\* indicates a priority habitat under the Habitats Directive).

- The licence application documents including the Air Impact Assessment Report (October 2020), Appropriate Assessment Screening Report prepared by SLR (February 2021), Response to request for clarification of further information (March 2021) and the Appropriate Assessment Screening determination (dated 16 April 2021) of Kerry County Council for the Air Pollution Licence Application (where it was determined that Appropriate Assessment was not required) were considered as part of this Appropriate Assessment screening. Account has also been taken of information on the European Sites in question on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie) and on the Agency's expertise.
- Taking all of the foregoing into account it is considered that significant effects on European Sites and their qualifying interests due to emissions to air from the plant cannot be ruled out at the screening stage and based on the precautionary principle this determination is that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required.

Documents relating to the Air Pollution Licence appeal are available on [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie)

  
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Jim Johnson

Office of Environmental Sustainability

Date: 05 May 2022