



**An Roinn**  
**Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta**  
**Department of**  
**Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht**

13<sup>th</sup> February 2012

Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use,  
Environmental Protection Agency,  
Headquarters,  
PO Box 3000,  
Johnstown Castle Estate,  
Co. Wexford.

**Our ref: E00005/2012**

**Your Ref: P0269-02**

**Re: In accordance with Article 20 (1) of the Environmental Protection Agency (Licensing) Regulations 1994-2008, Licence Review Ref. Reg. No. P0269-02 by Basta Parsons Limited, Gallagher Road, Tubbercurry Co. Sligo for the surface treatment of metals and plastic materials using an electrolytic or chemical process where the volume of the treatment vats exceeds 30m<sup>3</sup>.**

A Chara,

I refer to the Council notification in relation to the above licence review. Outlined below are the nature conservation recommendations of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

It is noted that the development is situated approximately 4km upstream of and in a location likely to significantly impact on the River Moy Special Area of Conservation Site No. SAC 002298. Please see a site synopsis on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie) for a description of the site.

The Department is of the view that this development:

- could significantly damage/destroy the freshwater habitat of Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*), Otter (*Lutra lutra*), Sea Lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*), Brook Lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*) and White-clawed Caryfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*), all of which are species listed in Annex II of the EU Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora) and are qualifying interests/features for the River Moy Special Area of Conservation.

The potential impacts would be caused by the:

- deterioration of the water quality downstream in the River Moy resulting from pollution/eutrophication caused by the discharge of trade effluent from the development.

There has been no assessment of the potential ecological implications arising from this development. Therefore, it is not possible to adequately assess the impacts of the proposed development to the River Moy Special Area of Conservation Site No. SAC 002298. Accordingly, prior to making any decision, it is recommended that the applicant be requested to provide additional information to address the concerns outlined above.

As the development has the potential to significantly impact on the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, the additional information should include an Appropriate Assessment as outlined in Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and

of wild fauna and flora). The Appropriate Assessment should focus on the potential impacts in view of the site's conservation objectives (qualifying interests), and should include measures that will avoid, reduce and mitigate for any such impacts. Potential impacts must be considered in combination with other plans or projects. The Appropriate Assessment must establish and conclude that the development does not pose a significant threat to the conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 site, if the licence is to be renewed. Guidance on the preparation of an Appropriate Assessment is available at [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie) (see Wildlife, Planning and the Law - Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government (2009): Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland - Guidance for Planning Authorities).

Kindly forward any further information to the following address (*NB change of address for your records & for future written communications*):

The Manager,  
Development Applications Unit,  
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,  
Newtown Road,  
Wexford.

Alternatively, documentation associated with the above can be referred electronically to the DAU at the following address:

[manager.dau@ahg.gov.ie](mailto:manager.dau@ahg.gov.ie)

In addition, please acknowledge receipt of these observations by return to the above email address, entering **G Pre00005/2012** in the 'Subject' cell.

Mise le meas,



David Tuohy,  
Development Applications Unit  
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht  
Newtown Road  
Wexford  
Tel: (053) 911 7380

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