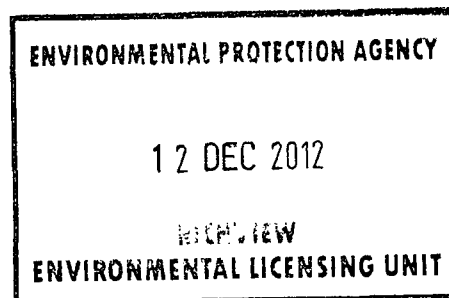




Iascach Intíre Éireann
Inland Fisheries Ireland

Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use,
Environmental Protection Agency,
Regional Inspectorate,
McCumiskey House,
Richview,
Clonskeagh Road,
Dublin 24.



Our Ref: MK/2i

11th December, 2012

Re: Review of licence - Gypsum Industries Limited
Reg No: P0519-03

Dear Sir/Madam,

We refer to the review of IPPC licence for Gypsum Industries Ltd., for a facility in the townlands of Lisnabow, Kilmainham, Kells, Co. Meath and Knocknacran, Magheracloone, Drummond, Derrynascobe, Derrynaglah, Ballycartan, Enagh, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan.

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) is a Statutory Body established on the 1st July 2010. Under section 7(1) of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010 (No. 10 of 2010) *the principal function of IFI is the protection, management and conservation of the inland fisheries resource.*

Having examined the documents we have the following observations to make regarding emissions to water and monitoring of the receiving water:

Monitoring Points:

We have no objection to the proposal to reduce the number of monitoring points at both the Mine site and the Process site.

Monitoring Frequency:

We are concerned about the proposal to reduce monitoring frequencies for a number of parameters at MSE-1, B and CP1, in particular for Total Ammonia, Total Phosphorus, Nitrate and BOD. Annual sampling of these parameters does not reflect the water quality status over the year. We would suggest if monitoring of these parameters is limited to once a year that biological sampling should also be carried out annually to provide a more accurate assessment of the impact of the facility on the receiving environment.

Biological data

We are concerned about the lack of current biological data provided in the documents. We note Q-values for the River Burske up to November 2006 has been provided as have Q-values for the Lagan/Glyde up to 2003. We also note that an SSRS assessment carried out in 2010 showed no significant impact (Note: no details of this assessment have been provided).

The receiving water, the River Burske, at the Mine site and the un-named tributary at the Process Site are tributaries of the River Lagan. Both tributaries contain salmonid spawning and nursery habitat. The River Lagan, also known as the River Glyde is a valuable fishery resource. The river holds good stocks of Brown Trout, Salmon and Sea Trout, among other species. It is important to ensure that the facility does not have a negative impact on the receiving environment and that monitoring data is current and provides an accurate reflection of conditions.

Yours faithfully,

Michael Kiwan S.F.E.O.

p.p.

William Walsh

Director – Eastern River Basin District

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