



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Environmental Health Service,
Blackwater House,
Mallow Business Park,
Mallow,
Co. Cork.
Telephone (022) 58705
Fax (022) 31707

Date: 24th October 2019

Our reference: 1015

Report to: Environmental Licensing Programme,
Office of Environmental Sustainability,
Environmental Protection Agency,
Johnstown Castle Estate,
Co.Wexford.

Type of Consultation: Waste Water Discharge Licence, Millstreet, Co. Cork

Applicant : Irish Water, c/o Mott MacDonald Ireland Ltd., c/o Fintan McGivern,
5 Eastgate Avenue, Little Island, Cork

EPA reference: D0332-02

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find enclosed the HSE Consultation report for the above proposal.

If you have any queries regarding this report, the initial contact is Ms. Bernadine Scanlan, Principal Environmental Health Officer who will refer your query to the appropriate person

Yours faithfully,

Bernadine Scanlan
Principal Environmental Health Officer

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Report to: Environmental Licensing Programme
Office of Environmental Sustainability,
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Johnstown Castle Estate,
Co. Wexford.

EPA reference: D0332-02

Type of Consultation: Waste Water Discharge Application Review at Millstreet Waste Water Treatment Plant, Station Road, (Drominahilla and Coomlogane) Millstreet, Co. Cork.

Applicant: Irish Water, c/o Mott MacDonald Ireland Ltd., c/o Fintan McGivern,
5 Eastgate Avenue, Little Island, Cork

Reason for review: The EPA issued a waste water discharge licence for Millstreet waste water treatment plant in February 2014 (D0332-01) Schedule C of the licence requires improvement works to the existing waste water treatment plant and relocation of the primary discharge from the Tanyard stream to the Finnow River. Irish Water requests authorisation to relocate the primary outfall to the Finnow River, Finnow Bridge, which is a different location to that authorised in the licence.

Introduction

The following HSE departments were notified of the consultation request for the licence application on 27 September 2019

- Emergency Planning – David O’Sullivan
- Estates – Helen Maher
- Assistant National Director for Health Protection – Kevin Kelleher / Laura Murphy
- CHO – Ger Reaney.

A submission was received from HSE Emergency Planning and is attached.

This report only comments on Environmental Health impacts of the licence application.

General

The Environmental Health Service supports the proposal to upgrade the Millstreet waste water treatment plant in order to cater for a predicted increase in loading to the plant in future years. The proposal will be beneficial to the receiving environment and to public health.

The existing plant was constructed in the 1970's to serve a population equivalent (P.E) of 1600. A condition of the original discharge licence (ref: D0332-01) which was issued in 2014 required *'the installation of a wastewater plant with nutrient removal.'* An EPA site visit report dated 2 July 2019 stated that *'the current Millstreet WWTP is overloaded but is in the process of being replaced by a new WWTP of a larger capacity'*. The upgraded WWTP is currently under construction and will have a design capacity of 3220 P.E.

The treatment effluent from the upgraded WWTP will be pumped to a new primary discharge location at the River Finnow at Finnow Bridge. This is a different location to that stated in the discharge licence D0332-01.

All commitments to future actions, including mitigation and further testing have been taken as read and all data has been accepted as accurate. No additional investigation/measurements were undertaken in the review of this application.

The Environmental Health Service has not received any complaints regarding the existing Millstreet and Environs WWTP.

In respect of this application for a discharge licence, the areas reviewed were those of concern to Environmental Health which are:

- Any potential contamination of surface water or ground water
- Emissions to air, including noise and odour.

The area in the environs of the site was visited by two Senior Environmental Health Officers on 11 October 2019.

Site location

The Millstreet and Environs WWTP is located 0.7km north of the centre of Millstreet (population 1500 CSO 2016) and is accessed via a roadway off Station Road. It is 0.28km from the Green Glens Arena and 0.77km from Millstreet Community School. Events held at the Green Glens Arena can result in an increased loading of the plant, a consideration which has been incorporated into the design capacity of the upgraded WWTP.

The closest sensitive receptor is a residential property located approximately 50m from the site.

The primary discharge from the existing WWTP is the Tanyard Stream. It is proposed to relocate this to the Finnow River at the Finnow Bridge. This point is located within the Blackwater SAC.

1. Surface and Ground Water

The Environmental Health Service has considered any potential risk of contamination of surface water and makes the following comments:

- a) It is acknowledged that the upgraded WWTP, with new preliminary and secondary treatment works (including storm water storage) will eliminate the risk of incoming wastewater bypassing the treatment process and will result in an improvement in the quality of the receiving water (Finnow River)
- b) The nearest identified private well in the vicinity of the WWTP is located at the Green Glens Arena which is 0.28km away. The Environmental Health Service (EHS) recommends that the quality of this water supply is assessed by the applicant once prior to the commissioning of the upgraded WWTP (baseline assessment) and once within 6 months of the commencement of the operation of the plant. This is to identify if there is any potential impact on the water supply from the upgraded WWTP. If the results of sampling indicates any possible groundwater contamination from the WWTP, sampling should be expanded to include other nearby drinking water sources (e.g. Drishane Castle, Tubrid Well) Water quality should be tested against the parameters specified in the Drinking Water Regulations (S.I. No. 122 of 2014)
- c) Emission Limit Values and monitoring frequencies specified in the EPA licence shall be strictly adhered to ensure the maintenance of groundwater quality and the protection of public health.
- d) The Environmental Health Service recommends that an inspection and maintenance programme for the new underground treated effluent outfall pipeline along Station Road is put in place to ensure the early detection of defects/damage to the pipeline as its proposed location is in an area susceptible to flooding.
- e) It is noted that the proposed discharge point has been changed from the existing point at the Tanyard Stream to the Finnow River, approximately 2km from its confluence with the River Blackwater. This site is located within the Blackwater River SAC and has been identified as it provides sufficient assimilative capacity to comply with relevant regulation requirements.

2. Emissions to air including noise and odour

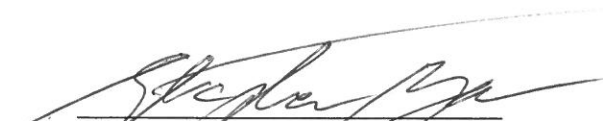
- a) It is noted that mitigation measures have been proposed to reduce potential impacts of noise on sensitive receptors, including equipping air blowers at the upgraded WWTP with noise attenuation
- b) Whilst it is noted that measures will be taken to reduce odour emissions from the plant, it is recommended that an Odour Management Plan is implemented and that regular unannounced odour audits are undertaken.

- c) The Environmental Health Service recommends that a complaints procedure is implemented and that a member of staff is designated as a point of contact to deal with any complaints or queries received from members of the public in relation to the WWTP facility.


Conclusions

The Environmental Health Service makes the following recommendations in respect of this licence application:

- That the applicant undertakes a baseline assessment of the quality of the private well at the Green Glens Arena once prior to the commissioning of the upgraded WWTP and once within 6 months of the commencement of the operation of the plant. If the results of sampling indicates any possible groundwater contamination from the WWTP, sampling should be expanded to include other nearby drinking water sources (e.g. Drishane Castle, Tubrid Well) Water quality should be tested against the parameters specified in the Drinking Water Regulations (S.I. No. 122 of 2014)
- Emission Limit Values and monitoring frequencies specified in the EPA licence shall be strictly adhered to ensure the maintenance of groundwater quality and the protection of public health.
- That an inspection and maintenance programme for the new underground treated effluent outfall pipeline along Station Road is put in place to ensure the early detection of defects/damage to the pipeline as its proposed location is in an area susceptible to flooding.
- It is recommended that an Odour Management Plan is implemented and regular unannounced odour audits are undertaken.
- The Environmental Health Service recommends that a complaints procedure is implemented and that a member of staff is designated as a point of contact to deal with any complaints or queries received from members of the public in relation to the WWTP facility.



Stephen Ryan
Senior Environmental Health Officer



Caroline Hueston
Environmental Health Officer
Environment Operational Unit



HSE South Emergency Management Consultation Report			
Report to	Bernadine Scanlan, PEHO, North Cork	Date	22 October, 2019
Type of consultation: EIS <input type="checkbox"/> Scoping <input type="checkbox"/> Screening <input type="checkbox"/> EIAR <input type="checkbox"/> EPA X			
Other (please specify): Waste Water Discharge			
Authority	EPA		
Authority Reference Number	D0332-02 EPA 043171 EHS 1015		
EM Reference Number	EMENV025		
Applicant	Irish Water, Millstreet, Co. Cork.		
Proposal	Waste Water Discharge in relation to agglomeration named Millstreet & Environs, Cork		

HSE South Emergency Management Observations:

Please be advised that the HSE South Emergency Management function does not have any specific observations to make with respect to this application. However, please note the following recommendations within the context of site operations:

1. Should an incident occur at the site and the site operator requires the assistance of the emergency services, the incident information should be provided in the `ETHANE` format (please see attached).
2. Emergency Services access to the site should be clearly identified. This should be undertaken via appropriate high visibility signage, i.e.; a green sign with a yellow border and white lettering citing the abbreviation RVP.
3. The site should have a mechanism in place to account for personnel during an evacuation in order to provide the responding emergency services with an estimate of the number of people accounted and unaccounted for.
4. The site should identify any critical / vulnerable facilities within the geographical catchment area, such as hospitals, schools, nursing homes, etc, that could be directly or indirectly affected by an incident at the site.
5. Where the `off-site` impacts of an incident at the site affects a vulnerable cohort / population such as children within crèches, schools; patients / clients / residents within nursing homes, etc; the emergency services will require assistance from the site operator in determining the impact on the local community.
6. The site operator is encouraged to develop a business continuity plan that includes a plan for severe weather. For more advice on this, please see the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation, *Business Continuity Planning in Severe Weather*.
<https://dbei.gov.ie/en/Publications/Publication-files/Business-Continuity-Planning-in-Severe-Weather-Check-List-for-Businesses.pdf>

All correspondence or any queries with regard to this report should be forwarded to Ms. Maryanne Horgan, Emergency Management Office, HSE South, Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Western Road, Cork, T12 WP62 or maryanne.horgan@hse.ie



Dial 999 / 112 – Request the service you require: An Garda Síochána, Ambulance Service and / or Fire and Rescue Service

WHEN YOU ARE CONNECTED TO THE REQUISITE SERVICE(S)

<u>GIVE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION</u>	
This is: _____ Eircode _____ (Name, Telephone Number and Eircode Address of site)	
<i>An incident has occurred at this site - standby for ETHANE message</i>	
E	
	Exact location of the incident
T	
	Type of incident, e.g. fire, explosion, gas leak, etc
H	
	Hazards – current and potential
A	
	Access and Egress – what is the safest approach route for responding emergency services and where is your emergency services meeting point (RVP)
N	
	Number of casualties and their condition – specify adult / children if known
E	
	The emergency services present and required
<i>N.B. If you require another emergency service stay on the line and repeat the steps again</i>	

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**R.V.P.
No.1**