



Submission

Submitter:	Mr. Peter Sweetman
Submission Title:	see attached
Submission Reference No.:	S010865
Submission Received:	30 December 2022

Application

Applicant:	Mr. Eoin O'Brien
Reg. No.:	P0790-03

See below for Submission details.

Attachments are displayed on the following page(s).

Submission re P0790-03 Eoin O'Brien

The applicant is fully aware of his obligations under S.I. 113 of 2022 and he will meet all the requirements under this Directive with the proposed application.

Which is it the regulations or the directive

5.2 CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

There are other agricultural activities ongoing close to the current application site, therefore cumulative impacts arising from the operation of these farms together were considered. All farms, regardless of whether licensed by the EPA or not, are required to operate within the legalisation defined in S.I. 113 of 2022 regarding manure storage, minimisation of soiled water and general good agricultural practice, etc. Therefore, cumulative impacts arising from the combined operation of these activities with the proposed operation of the pig farm at Kilcolea Lower will be negligible.

This is based on a presumption of compliance which is not evidence legalisation defined in S.I. 113 of 2022 this is meaningless, or at best an uninformed legal opinion, without any reference to the conclusions of the CJEU

☐ Following detailed modelling and a NIS, is the process contribution (PC) $\leq 1\%$ of the critical level for ammonia and $\leq 1\%$ of the critical load for nitrogen deposition?

This threshold is exceeded at Location 8 (Blackwater River SAC – Old Oak Woodlands) for both ammonia and nitrogen, which will therefore require a cumulative/ in-combination assessment, taking into account IAI which meet the following criteria:

The threshold is exceeded at the Blackwater River SAC It is not mitigated with reasonable scientific certainty.

6 MITIGATION MEASURES

In order to minimise emissions from the pig facility at Killeagh and in order to protect certain designated sites and species, as well as local, undesignated habitats, a number of mitigation measures **should** be considered. Measures have also been **suggested** that will help to protect the local biodiversity of the surrounding area and to ensure the protection of local wildlife.

☐ The pigs **should** be fed on low protein diets, which will minimise the levels of N and ammonia in the manure. A low protein diet will result in a reduction of 25% of the ammonia emissions, as every 1% reduction in crude protein in the diet will result in approximately 10% reduction in N excretion.

☐ Techniques for the reduction of emissions from the pig houses must be employed on the farm. These are outlined in the document Best Available Techniques Reference Document for the Intensive Rearing of Poultry or Pigs (http://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/BREF/IRPP/JRC107189_IRPP_Bref_2017_publication.pdf)

Techniques for the reduction ... they don't appear to be proposed in the licence application or the EIAR

MANAGEMENT AND LAND-SPREADING OF ORGANIC FERTILISER

In order to avoid any reductions in water quality within the Blackwater (Cork) catchment as a

whole, all organic fertilisers **should** be used in accordance with S.I. 113 of 2022 European Communities (Good Agricultural Practice for Protection of Waters) Regulations, 2022). The following measures may be considered:

There is no evidence that this will work, the water quality of the Blackwater continued to worsen.

The requirement if the habitats Directive is to restore.

Has this unit caused emissions to the river?

7 CONCLUSIONS

This Natura Impact Statement has concluded that with the mitigation **measures outlined** in this document and with the operation of the facility in line with the figures used in the Ammonia Impact Report, that the proposed operation of the pig farm at Annistown will not lead to any significant impacts upon the designated sites identified, specifically the Blackwater River SAC.

This is an uninformed opinion not reasonable scientific certainty.