

Attachment E2 Cobh Application

Cork County Council currently do not perform monitoring on the discharges to waters from the Cobh area . There are a large number of small discharges which all discharge directly to the harbour . There is no treatment plant in place to date however there is a proposed scheme for the lower Harbour area. The discharges to waters from Cobh are primarily domestic effluent and there are no industrial discharges in the Cobh application from the agglomeration. This is also evident by the results obtained as part of the dangerous substances screening as part of the licence process

Cork County Council propose to monitor the discharges from Cobh on a bi- annual basis and to perform analysis for dangerous substances on an annual basis

It is not possible to collect samples from upstream and downstream locations of the discharge locations due to the depth of water that the pipes are discharged into the harbour .

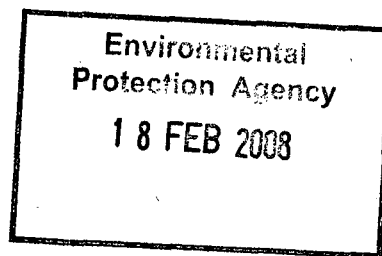
There is no safe access for personnel in these locations for upstream and downstream samples due to the depth of the water in Cobh . The water body adjacent to Cobh is part of the deepest water regions in the harbour as is evident by the use of the port area for large passenger cruise ships during the summer season..

Cork harbour which is the receiving water body is monitored on a less frequent basis using harbour surveys by the agency ,the department of marine and previously on occasions the local authorities . The harbour is an extremely large extremely complex tidal system and in light of the volume of discharge relative to the receiving waters the impact of the discharge is drastically reduced at this location.

There is no drinking water abstraction point down stream of Cobh therefore the Abstraction directive does not apply , neither is there designated shellfish waters downstream of the pipe discharges in this area of the harbour nor are there designated bathing waters downstream of the discharge locations.

Samples will be analysed for BOD,COD, Ammonia, pH ,Suspended Solids, Total Nitrogen Total Phosphorus ,Sulphate ,Ortho phosphate(in recent times) and Metals (in recent times). The wastewater Laboratory of Cork County Council are accredited for a number of analytical tests under the Irish National Accreditation Board (INAB) under the ISO 17025 international standard . We currently are accredited for the following parameters under the ISO 17025 system

- pH
- Biochemical Oxygen Demand
- Chemical Oxygen Demand
- Suspended Solids
- Ammonia
- Ortho Phosphate
- Total Phosphate
- Chloride
- Sulphate



The laboratory perform a number of analytical tests e.g. Fats Oil, Grease & Metals using an ICP-OES system and while we are not currently accredited for extra tests the analytical procedures and protocol are adhered to by the laboratory as if the tests are accredited,. The laboratory also participate in proficiency testing schemes which measure the accuracy of results and performance of the laboratory in both the EPA scheme and the WRC Aquacheck scheme from the UK. The performance of the laboratory in these schemes is excellent and the non accredited tests are within the performance criteria for the schemes as evaluated by the scheme coordinators.

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