

Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

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7th November, 2008

Re: Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 – Application for reduction/rebate on fees paid.

Dear Mr. Nolan,

I refer to the 16 discharge licence applications submitted by the council on the 22nd September last together with the earlier batch of 9 license applications submitted in December last year. The full list of agglomerations covered by these applications is as follows;

Applications submitted 22nd September, 2008 (i.e. 2000 --- 10000 P.E.)

Charville	Kanturk	Mitchelstown
Rathcormac	Watergrasshill	Castlemartyr
Macroom	Bandon	Passage West/Monkstown
Youghal	Kinsale	North Cobh
Bantry	Skibbereen	Dunmanway
Rosscarberry/Owenahincha		

Applications submitted 14th December, 2007 (i.e. > 10000 P.E.)

Clonakilty	Fermoy MH	Mallow
Ballincollig	Blarney JV	Midleton
Cobh	Carrigtwohill	Ringaskiddy

License application fees totalling €400,000 at € 25k X 16 have been paid to the Agency in respect of the September 2008 applications with a total of € 270,000 at €30K X 9 having been paid in December of last year. Thus the total amount paid to date by the council in respect of discharge licence application fees is € 670,000



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It is noted that Art 38 (3) of the Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations allows the Agency to:

“at its discretion, reduce, by whatever amount it considers appropriate, a fee payable under paragraph (1) in the case of multiple applications from a water services authority within a 3-month period.”

Accordingly on behalf of the council, I wish to apply for a reduction and rebate of the fees paid by us in respect of applications submitted to date. In considering the application, we would ask that the following be taken into account;

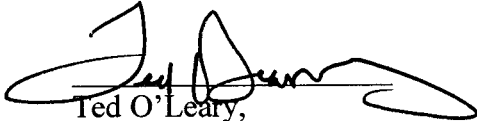
- The quality of the applications submitted to date has been of a high standard.
- In terms of the first batch there were multiple applications to the same receiving waters.
- The applications for Mallow and Fermoy are both relative to the River Blackwater
- The applications for Blarney and Ballincollig are relative to the River Lee and the greater area of Cork Harbour which also encompasses the Cobh ,Ringaskiddy, Midleton and Carrigtwohill applications.
- In the second batch the applications relative to the river Blackwater were Youghal and Kanturk while the River Bandon was common to 3 application , Dunmanway Bandon and Kinsale. For Cork Harbour- Passage West/Monkstown and North Cobh and for the River Bride the applications were Rathcormac Watergrasshill
- As we work on further applications the rivers will be replicated in particular in a number of instances especially the River Blackwater, Bandon ,Lee ,Northern Bride, Ilen and the Argideen. To date between the applications submitted to date a total of 8 applications are directly relevant to Cork Harbour. In fact the same EIS for the lower harbour main drainage scheme was submitted with 4 of these applications.
- With a combination of discharges to the same river catchment or harbour area the assessment workload is reduced for multiple applications from the same authority.
- Information has been provided in a legible and traceable method to assist the assessor as part of the process.
- The priority for each area has been identified in terms of the key issue with respect to future protection measures.

It is our belief that on the basis of numbers alone there is a case for a rebate. While we obviously acknowledge the significant investment of resources required of your authority

in assessing these applications, it is our contention that in addition to the numbers there is, for the reasons outlined above, a very strong case for a substantial rebate on the fees paid to date.

We look forward to an early response, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me,

Yours Faithfully,



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