Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

Ms. Una O'Callaghan, Inspector, Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use, Regional Inspectorate, Inniscarra, County Cork.

31st May, 2010

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Re: Notices in accordance with Regulation 18(3)(b) of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007)

Dear Ms. O'Callaghan,

Your notices dated 30th April last and previous correspondence regarding the following Waste Water Discharge Licence applications refer.

Reg No.	Agglomeration Name	Date of Application
D0441-01	Ballyclough	22/06/2009
D0432-01	Ballyhooley	22/06/2009
D0448-01	Banteer	22/06/2009
D0303-01	Buttevant	27/02/2009
D0449-01	Castlelyons	22/06/2009
D0293-01	Castletownroche	27/02/2009
D0204-01	Charleville	06/10/2008
D0444-01	Churchtown	22/06/2009
D0300-01	Doneraile	27/02/2009
D0302-01	Dromahane	27/02/2009
D0058-01	Fermoy	14/12/2007
D0203-01	Kanturk	06/10/2008
D0442-01	Kildorrery	22/06/2009
D0447-01	Killavullen	22/06/2009
D0334-01	Kilworth	27/02/2009
D0052-01	Mallow	14/12/2007
D0332-01	Millstreet	27/02/2009
D0333-01	Newmarket	27/02/2009
D0200-01	Rathcormac	06/10/2008

At the meeting with your office on the 18th January last it was indicated that in the current economic climate, external procurement of ecological assessments is not an option for the council and that accordingly, we would be seeking to do the work in-house if possible.

Since then, we have with the assistance of the council's Heritage Officer drafted a screening assessment template document. This document was submitted to the National Parks & Wildlife Service (NPWS) on 15th March last seeking both comment thereon and guidance on their specific requirements in relation to council applications. Unfortunately, we have been unable to arrange a meeting with NPWS, although I would stress that their local District Conservation Officers have been most helpful in queries on specific sites.

We further refined our template screening document in the course of doing the assessment for Cloyne (Reg No D0298-01, sent to you on 15th April last). On the basis of your indication of compliance for the Cloyne application, it is now our intention to use this template to undertake screening assessments for Ballyclough, Charleville, Churchtown and Kildorrery. We hope to complete these screening assessments by the end of September next.

In relation to the agglomerations discharging directly to the Blackwater SAC or directly to other SACs in the catchment thereof, it is our understanding from DOEHLG circular L8/08 that full appropriate assessments are required in all such cases. That being the case we would ask that requests for assessments for Ballyhooley, Banteer, Buttevant, Castlelyons, Castletownroche, Doneraile, Dromahane, Fermoy, Kanturk, Killavullen, Kilworth, Mallow, Millstreet, Newmarket and Rathcormac be deferred until your requirements in relation to all licence/certificate applications for discharges to the Blackwater SAC, onto other SACs/SPAs in the catchment thereof, have been advised to us. This bundling of assessments to cover the entire Blackwater catchment area would minimise potential procurement costs and allow us to consider making budgetary provision for the cost in 2011.

Yours faithfully,

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