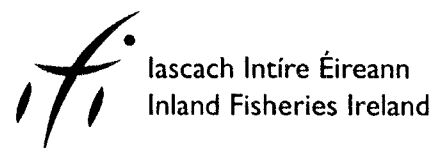
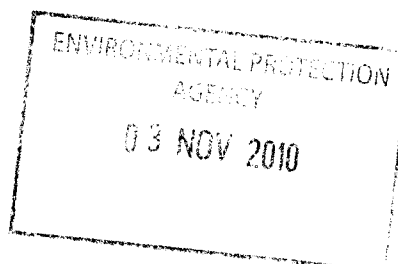


Sub N°1.

A0036-01



Administration,
Environmental Licensing Programme,
Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use,
Environmental Protection Agency,
PO Box 3000,
Johnstown Castle Estate,
Co. Wexford.



Our Ref: MK/2f

2nd November, 2010

**Re: Magheraclone Wastewater Treatment Plant, Co. Monaghan
Waste Water Discharge Certificate of Authorisation
Register No. A0036-01**

Dear Sir/Madam,

We refer to the application made by Monaghan County Council for a waste water discharge certificate of authorisation in respect of the waste water treatment plant at Magheraclone, Co. Monaghan.

Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI) is a Statutory Body established on the 1st July 2010. Under section 7(1) of the Inland Fisheries Act 2010 (No. 10 of 2010) *the principal function of IFI is the protection, management and conservation of the inland fisheries resource.*

Having examined the application documents we have the following observations to make:

Section F.I Assessment of Impact on Receiving Surface Water

We note that the applicant describes receiving water as an unnamed stream, which drains into the Magheraclone Stream. To the best of our knowledge the Magheraclone stream (EPA code O6M01) rises north of Magheraclone village, flows in a southerly direction and enters the River Lagan upstream of Cormey Bridge. The watercourse the applicant names as the Magheraclone Stream is an un-named stream, which flows into Lough Fea.

Water quality and Biological monitoring:

We note that the nearest EPA monitoring sites are located on the River Glyde main channel, which is a considerable distance downstream of the discharge point. We also note that the applicant provided river quality results from a once off sampling occasion. A detailed monitoring programme should be established in order to obtain a more accurate assessment of water quality in the receiving water.

Water quality monitoring –monitoring results of the treated effluent and river water quality upstream and downstream, are provided by the applicant in Tables 1-3, Attachment E. We note the following:

- Total P (mg/l P) results for the treated effluent varied from 0.47 to 9.92. This wide variation in results should be addressed.
- NH3-N (mg/l N) results for the treated effluent varied from 0.02 to 8.69. This wide variation in results should be addressed.
- We note the lower limit of detection for B.O.D. analysis is 2mg/l; we would suggest that a limit lower than 2mg/l should be sought given the standards set in the EC Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations, 2009.

We note that due to lack of flow data on the receiving water the applicant was unable to carry out the assimilative capacity calculations, as required in the Application Guidance Notes. This information should be sought in order to obtain an accurate reflection of the impact of the discharge on the receiving water. Assimilative capacity calculations in the application should include comparison with the EQS in the EC Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations, 2009.

Fisheries value of the receiving water

The receiving water flows into Lough Fea, which contains Bream, Roach, Rudd, Hybrids, Perch and Pike. The outflow from Lough Fea, the Bursk River flows into the Glyde, which contains Salmon, Brown Trout and Sea Trout.

Given that the value of fisheries/aquatic habitat in this catchment it is vital that appropriate discharge limits are set in this licence to protect the aquatic habitat.

We would also urge compliance with Article 5 of EC Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regs, 2009 (S.I. 272 of 2009), which includes the following provision:

- A public authority shall not, in performance of its functions, undertake those functions in a manner that knowingly causes or allows deterioration in the chemical or ecological status (or ecological potential as the case may be) of a body of surface water.

We trust you will take our observations on board when assessing this application.

Yours faithfully,

44.
Michael Kiwan SFEO

William Walsh,
Director – Eastern River Basin District

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