Rathowen Agglomeration Wastewater Treatment Plant

Waste Water Certificate of Authorisation Application (Register Number A0070-01)

Regulation 24 Compliance Requirements

County Buildings
Mullingar
Co. Westmeath

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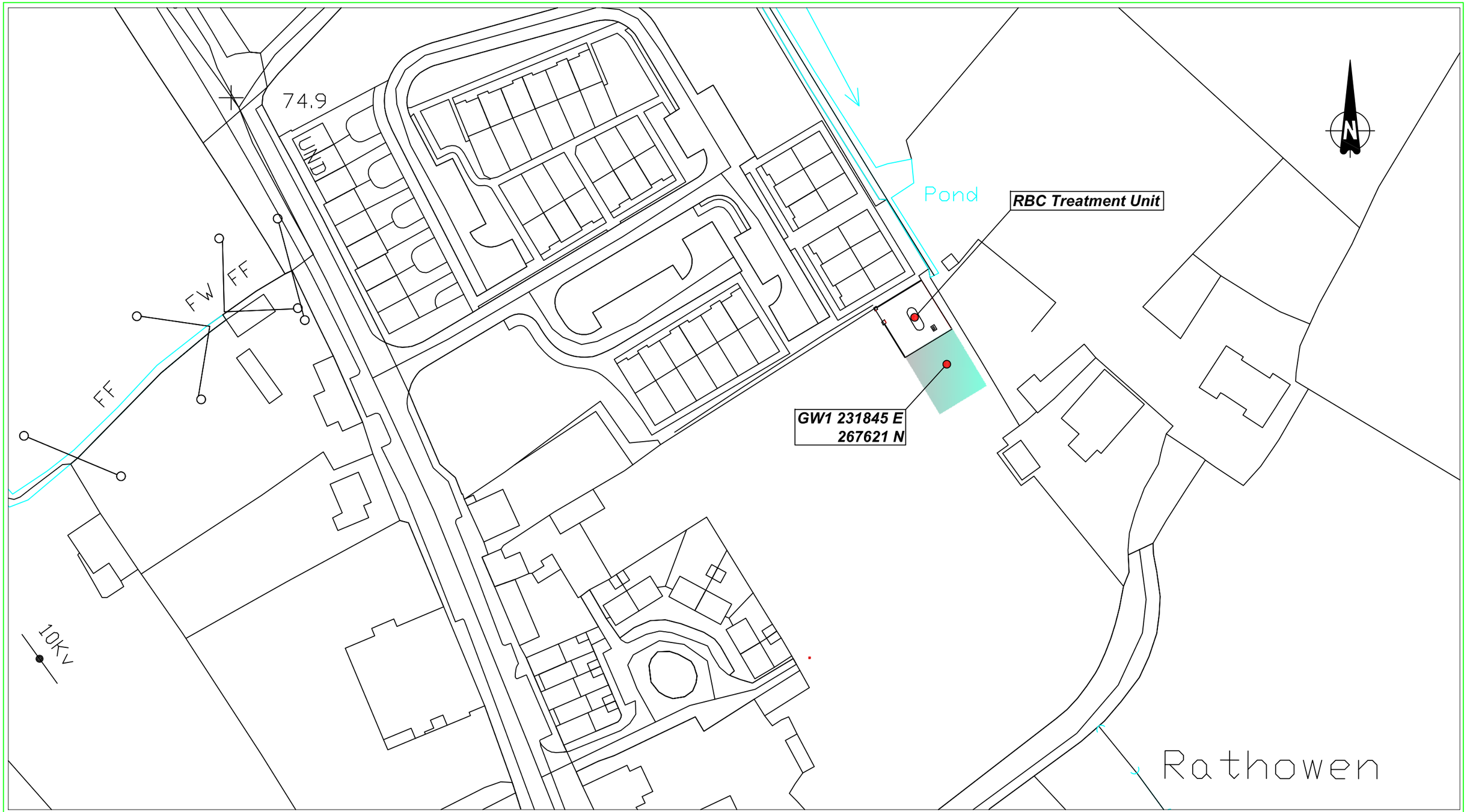
working together
ag obair le chéile



REVISION	DESCRIPTION	DATE

WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL

PROJECT

Rathowen WWTP
Certificate of Authourisation Application

DRAWING TITLE

Groundwater Discharge Point
GW1

SURVEYED: ---
DRAWN: ---
CHECKED: MC
APPROVED: MC

SCALE: 1:1000@A3
DATE: 16/11/2010
DATUM: Malin

DRAWING NO.
Drawing No.3

DESIGN DEPARTMENT
COUNTY BUILDINGS
MULLINGAR. TEL (044) 32000

FILE NAME & DIRECTORY
Drawing No.aa-GW1.dwg
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Rathowen WWDC of Authorisation

Revised Non-Technical Report

(November 2010)

Westmeath County Council is applied to the Environmental Protection Agency for a Waste Water Discharge Certificate of Authorisation for the existing Waste Water plant at Rathowen, Co. Westmeath, National Grid Reference 231837E, and 267491N on 22nd December 2009. A correspondence reply was sent by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) dated 7th April 2010 requesting additional information in relation to the Rathowen agglomeration. A further information response was sent to the EPA on 17th November 2010 indicating the location of the primary discharge point.

The Rathowen waste water network comprises of a small combined gravity sewer and the associated waste water treatment works. The waste water treatment plant (WWTP) consists of one RBC treatment unit. The unit incorporates a primary settling chamber, rotating drum for mixing and aeration, final settlement area/clarifier and return sludge pump.

The Rathowen Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP) was constructed in 2003 to serve a small local authority housing scheme. The plant serves 11 domestic dwellings and a community centre that was later constructed to the southeast of the WWTP site. The WWTP is designed to accept and treat effluent from a population equivalent of 90 p.e with plant currently accepts waste from a population equivalent of 41.

Currently the treated effluent concentrations are as follows, average BOD concentrations of 16.6mg/l, COD concentration of 82mg/l, Total Nitrogen concentration of 16.1 mg/l N, Total Phosphorus concentration of 3.2 mg/l P and an average suspended solids concentration of 12.5 mg/l.

The Primary discharge for the plant flows directly to an adjacent percolation area at National Grid Reference (NGR) 231845E, 267621N in the townland of Rathowen, Co. Westmeath. There is no emergency overflow or storm water overflow facility located within the treatment plant site boundary. All discharges form the plants are directed through the primary discharge point to the percolation area.

Ground water quality in the townland of Rathowen is recorded as having a “Good” status however there are no groundwater monitoring locations sited within close proximity or upstream and downstream of the treatment site.

There are two designated sites located within five kilometres of the waste water treatment site. These are Lough Garr (National Heritage Area) and Garriskil Bog (Special Area of Conservation & Special Protection Area). Both Lough Garr and Garriskil Bog are sited to the east of the plant and incorporate areas of raised bogland that is increasingly becoming a rarity within Europe.

This designated sites are important in terms of supporting a variety of wildlife and in the conservation of wild birds notably Garriskil Bog, which is recorded two Annex 1 species under the Bird Directive at the site, namely the Canadian White fronted Goose and Merlin. Following appropriate assessment screening in accordance with Waste Water Discharge Licencing – Appropriate Assessment and The DoEHLG Circular L8/08 – Protection of Natural Heritage and National Monuments it was deemed that there is no negative impact upon either designated site. It is deemed that discharges from the Rathowen WWTP are not environmentally affecting both protected sites.