

OFFICE OF CLIMATE, LICENSING & RESOURCE USE.

INSPECTORS REPORT ON A WASTE WATER DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORISATION APPLICATION

| То: | Frank Clinton, Programme Manager, ELP | | |
|-------|---|----------------------------|-----------|
| From: | Yvonne English | Environmental Programme | Licensing |
| Date: | 7April 2011 | | |
| Re: | Application for a Waste Water Discharge Authorisation from Cork County Council, for the agglomeration named Halfway, Reg. No. A0443-01. | | |

| Application Details | |
|--|---|
| Schedule of Discharge Authorised: | Discharges from agglomerations with a population equivalent less than 500 |
| Certificate of Authorisation Application Received: | 18 November 2010 |
| Submission(s) Received: | No |

This application relates to the Halfway Agglomeration agglomeration in County Cork. The agglomeration currently has a population equivalent (p.e.) of 230. The agglomeration is serviced by one waste water treatment plant (WWTP). The WWTP provides secondary treatment, consisting of screens, an anoxic tank, phosphorus removal and a membrane bio-reator, and has a design capacity of 450 p.e.

The WWTP discharges to the Owenboy River. Based on the nearest EPA water quality monitoring station, 8 meters downstream, the biological Q-value is Q3 (sampled in 2005).

The receiving water has been identified as being less than good status (Biological Q value <4). It is acknowledged that the discharge(s) from the agglomeration may not be the only cause of the waterbody being less than good status. The Recommended Certificate of Authorisation (RCoA) states that within twelve months the authorisation holder shall identify appropriate improvements to the wastewater works, including a waste water treatment system necessary to ensure all discharge(s) from the agglomeration contribute towards achieving at least good status in accordance with the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 and/or the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010.

The certificate of authorisation applicant was required to complete a screening of the potential impact of the discharge(s) from the agglomeration on the designated European Site(s) downstream of the agglomeration. The certificate of authorisation applicant carried out a screening which identified that the discharge(s) was not likely to have a significant impact on a European site.

The discharge(s) from the agglomeration are considered not likely to have a significant impact on the receiving waterbody subject to the Certificate of Authorisation Holder complying with the conditions of the RCoA.

Recommendation

I recommend that a Final Certificate of Authorisation be issued subject to the conditions and for the reasons as set out in the attached Recommended Certificate of Authorisation.

Signed

vonne English

Inspector

Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use