



Headquarters  
P.O. Box 3000  
Johnstown Castle Estate  
County Wexford  
Ireland

## Waste Water Discharge Certificate of Authorisation

### Recommended Decision

<b>Certificate of Authorisation Number:</b>	<b>A0433-01</b>
<b>Certificate of Authorisation Holder:</b>	<b>Cork County Council</b>
<b>Agglomeration:</b>	<b>Coole East</b>

## Glossary of Terms

All terms in this Certificate of Authorisation should be interpreted in accordance with the definitions in the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended, unless otherwise defined in this section.

<b>Agglomeration</b>	An area where the population or economic activities or both are sufficiently concentrated for a waste water works to have been put in place.
<b>Agreement</b>	Agreement in writing.
<b>Application</b>	The application for this Certificate of Authorisation.
<b>Biannually</b>	All or part of a period of six consecutive months.
<b>Certificate of Authorisation Holder</b>	<b>Cork County Council, County Hall, Carrigrohane Road, Cork.</b>
<b>Discharge Point</b>	The point from which a waste water discharge occurs.
<b>Documentation</b>	Any report, record, result, data, drawing, proposal, interpretation or other document, in written or electronic form, that is required by this Certificate of Authorisation.
<b>Environmental Damage</b>	As defined in Directive 2004/35/EC.
<b>Environmental Pollution</b>	Means, in relation to waste water discharges, the direct or indirect introduction, as a result of human activity, of waste water discharges, substances (including any explosive, liquid or gas) or polluting matter (including any poisonous or noxious matter) into waters which may endanger human health or harm the aquatic environment, and in particular – <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) create a risk to waters, sediment, plants or animals,</li><li>(b) deleteriously interfere with the quality of aquatic ecosystems or terrestrial ecosystems directly depending on aquatic ecosystems including by –<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) rendering those or any other waters poisonous or injurious to fish, shellfish, spawning grounds or the food of any fish, or</li><li>(ii) impairing the usefulness of the bed and soil of any waters as spawning grounds or impairing their capacity to produce the food of fish or shellfish,</li></ul></li><li>(c) impair or interfere with amenities and other legitimate uses of the water, or</li><li>(d) result in the water failing to meet any environmental quality standards prescribed in regulations for the purpose of giving effect to the requirements of any Directive relating to the quality or use of water for the time being in force.</li></ul>

<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency.
<b>Incident</b>	The following shall constitute an incident for the purposes of this Certificate of Authorisation:  any event or occurrence with the potential for environmental contamination of surface water or groundwater, or requiring an emergency response by the relevant Water Services Authority.
<b>Licensing Regulations</b>	Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 (S.I. No. 684 of 2007), as amended.
<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Cork County Council.</b>
<b>Maintain</b>	Keep equipment, plant and infrastructure in a fit state, including such regular inspection, servicing, calibration and repair as may be necessary to perform its function.
<b>National Environmental Complaints Procedure</b>	As established under the National Environmental Enforcement Network.
<b>Population Equivalent</b>	A measurement of organic biodegradable load and a population equivalent of 1 (1 p.e.) means the organic biodegradable load having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD <sub>5</sub> ) of 60g of oxygen per day; the load being calculated on the basis of the maximum average weekly load entering the waste water works during the year, excluding unusual situations such as those due to heavy rain.
<b>Primary Discharge</b>	The discharge with the largest volume being discharged from the waste water works.
<b>Secondary Discharge</b>	A potential, occasional or continuous discharge from the waste water works other than a primary discharge or a storm water overflow.
<b>Storm Water Overflow</b>	A structure or device on a sewerage system designed and constructed for the purpose of relieving the system of excess flows that arise as a result of rain water or melting snow in the sewered catchment, the excess flow being discharged to receiving waters.
<b>The Agency</b>	Environmental Protection Agency.
<b>Waste Water</b>	Domestic waste water or the mixture of domestic waste water with industrial waste water.
<b>Waste Water Works</b>	Sewers and their accessories (or any part thereof) and all associated structural devices, including waste water treatment plants, which are owned by, vested in, controlled or used by a water services authority for the collection, storage, treatment or discharge of waste water.
<b>Water Services Authority</b>	<b>Cork County Council.</b>
<b>WWTP</b>	Waste water treatment plant.

## PART I SCHEDULE OF DISCHARGES AUTHORISED

In pursuance of the powers conferred on it by the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended, the Environmental Protection Agency (the Agency), under Regulation 30 of the said Regulations grants this Waste Water Discharge Certificate of Authorisation to **Cork County Council, County Hall, Carrigrohane Road, Cork**. The Certificate of Authorisation authorises the discharge of waste water from the waste water works servicing the **Coole East** agglomeration described below, subject to conditions listed in Part II.

*Authorised Discharges, in accordance with Regulation 5(2) of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended*

Discharges from agglomerations with a population equivalent less than 500

## PART II CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO THIS CERTIFICATE

### Condition 1. Scope

#### 1.1 Statutory Obligations

This Certificate of Authorisation is for the purposes of Waste Water Discharge authorisation under the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended, only and nothing in this Certificate of Authorisation shall be construed as negating the Certificate of Authorisation holder's statutory obligations or requirements under any other enactments or regulations.

1.2 The agglomeration is the area outlined in **red** on **Attachment A1. Agglomeration (received 25 February 2011)** of the application. Any reference in this Certificate of Authorisation to agglomeration shall mean the area thus outlined in **red**.

1.3 For the purposes of this Certificate of Authorisation, the location(s) of the waste water discharge(s) authorised by this Certificate of Authorisation are as presented on **Attachment B3. Location of Primary Discharge Point** of the application. The primary discharge point is located at 169925E 79266N and discharges to ground.

1.4 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall make an application for a licence under Regulation 15 of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended, where there is an increase in the population equivalent to 500 or greater.

#### 1.5 Treatment Capacities

The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall maintain such available capacity within the waste water works as is necessary to ensure that there is no environmental risk posed to the receiving water environment as a result of the discharge(s). The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall upgrade the waste water works where the Certificate of Authorisation holder determines that there is inadequate treatment capacity available.

## **Condition 2. Notifications, Records and Reports**

- 2.1 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall notify the Agency by webform or by any other means as may be specified by the Agency as soon as practicable after the occurrence of any incident. The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall include as part of the notification, the date and time of the incident, summary details of the occurrence and where available, the steps taken to minimise any discharges. The incident notification shall be provided in a format as may be specified and in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Agency.
- 2.2 In the case of any incident relating to a discharge to water, the Certificate of Authorisation holder shall notify Inland Fisheries Ireland and the relevant downstream Water Services Authority as soon as practicable after such an incident.
- 2.3 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall as a minimum keep the following documents at the headquarters of the relevant Water Services Authority or such office as may be agreed by the Agency:
- 2.3.1 The Certificate of Authorisation application and all associated documentation;
  - 2.3.2 The Certificate of Authorisation relating to the discharge(s) to waters from the waste water works;
  - 2.3.3 Records of all sampling, analyses, measurements, examinations, calibrations and maintenance carried out in accordance with the requirements of this Certificate of Authorisation and guidance produced by the Agency;
  - 2.3.4 Records of incidents, including the nature, extent, and impact of, and circumstances giving rise to, the incident, and all corrective actions taken to manage the incident, to minimise the effect on the environment, and to avoid recurrence;
  - 2.3.5 Records of all complaints of an environmental nature related to the discharge(s) to waters from the waste water works in accordance with the national environmental complaints procedure. A record shall also be kept of the response and remediation action taken in the case of each complaint;
  - 2.3.6 Relevant correspondence with the Agency;
  - 2.3.7 Up to date drawings/plans showing the location of key process and environmental infrastructure, including monitoring locations and discharge points;
  - 2.3.8 Up to date operational procedures for all monitoring and control equipment necessary to give effect to this Certificate of Authorisation.

This documentation shall be available to the Agency for inspection at all reasonable times.

- 2.4 All reports shall be certified accurate and representative by the relevant Director of Services or a nominated, suitably qualified and experienced deputy.
- 2.5 Where a discharge from the waste water works has ceased permanently, the Certificate of Authorisation holder shall notify the Agency, within 3 months of cessation.
- 2.6 Environmental Liabilities

The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall prepare on an annual basis, a statement as to the measures taken or adopted in relation to the prevention of damage to the environment, and the financial provisions in place in relation to the underwriting of costs for remedial actions following anticipated events (including closure) or accidents/incidents, as may be associated with discharges or overflows from the waste water works. The statement of measures shall be prepared in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Agency. The report on the statement of measures shall be available for inspection on request by authorised persons in the Agency.

- 2.7 The licensee shall pay to the Agency a contribution or such sum, as the Agency from time to time determines having regard to variations in the extent of reporting, auditing, inspections, sampling and analysis or other functions carried out by the Agency, towards the cost of monitoring the discharges as the Agency considers necessary for the performance of its functions under the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended.

### **Condition 3. Discharges**

- 3.1 No discharge from the waste water works is permitted save under and in accordance with this Certificate of Authorisation.
- 3.2 The discharge(s) to waters from the waste water works shall comply with the conditions set out in this Certificate of Authorisation.
- 3.3 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall operate the waste water works in accordance with best practice to ensure that discharges from the works do not cause environmental pollution or a deterioration in the status of the receiving surface water body or groundwater body on either a temporal basis or a spatial basis.
- 3.4 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall, within twelve months of the date of grant of this Certificate of Authorisation, identify appropriate improvements to the sewerage system, including the waste water treatment plant, which are 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.
- 3.5 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall, within twelve months of the date of grant of this Certificate of Authorisation, identify the possible presence of organic compounds and/or metals from the primary discharge point (and any secondary discharge point within the agglomeration) and prepare a risk assessment. In identifying organic compounds and/or metals to be monitored, the risk assessment shall have regard to:
- (i) the results of analysis of any previous effluent screening undertaken,
  - (ii) the results of analysis of any screening undertaken in the receiving waters,
  - (iii) the results of any analysis and licence limitations to authorised discharge(s) to the waste water works.

The identification of the presence of organic compounds shall be repeated at intervals requested by the Agency and in accordance with any specific guidelines issued by the Agency. Report(s) on the identification shall be available for inspection on request by authorised persons of the Agency.

- 3.6 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall prepare an inventory of all secondary discharge points, storm water overflows and emergency overflows and assess all secondary discharge points, storm water overflows and emergency overflows within the agglomeration, to identify and determine the integrity, effectiveness of operation and improvements necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Certificate of Authorisation. The assessment shall clearly identify and describe the improvement works necessary and shall include a timeframe for implementation and completion. The assessment shall be undertaken and prepared in accordance with any relevant guidance issued by the Agency. Report(s) on the assessment of the waste water works undertaken shall be available for inspection on request by authorised persons of the Agency.
- 3.7 Having regard to the assessment carried out under Condition 3.6 the Certificate of Authorisation holder shall carry out the necessary improvement works in the timeframe(s) specified in the assessment report(s).

- 3.8 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall, as a minimum, biannually sample and analyse the discharge from the primary discharge point for BOD, Suspended Solids and COD. Results shall be available for inspection on request by authorised persons of the Agency.
- 3.9 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall ensure that waste water discharges from the agglomeration covered by this Certificate of Authorisation does not result in environmental pollution as defined in Article 3 of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended.
- 3.10 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall ensure that gross solids or litter associated with the discharges from the waste water works do not result in an impairment of, or an interference with, amenities or the environment.
- 3.11 Storm Water Overflows shall comply with the definition of a storm water overflow as set out in the DoEHLG *"Procedures and Criteria in relation to Storm Water Overflows"*, 1995 and any other guidance as may be specified by the Agency.
- 3.12 The location, frequency, methods and scope of monitoring, sampling and analyses, as set out in this Certificate of Authorisation, may be amended with the agreement of the Agency following evaluation of test results.
- 3.13 The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall prepare a risk assessment for the protection of the downstream drinking water abstraction point(s). The risk assessment shall address as a minimum; the identification and minimisation of risks to the quality of water abstracted at the downstream drinking water abstraction point(s) from the discharge(s) from the agglomeration covered by this Certificate of Authorisation. The risk assessment shall be undertaken within twelve months of the date of grant of this Certificate of Authorisation. All measures identified to minimise risks shall be undertaken within twelve months of completion of the risk assessment. The risk assessment and the report on the measures undertaken shall be available for inspection on request by authorised persons of the Agency.
- 3.14 Where a discharge permitted under this Certificate of Authorisation is located upstream of a drinking water abstraction point, the Certificate of Authorisation holder shall immediately notify the Water Services Authority and/or other groups responsible for the downstream abstraction of drinking water, of any relevant incident as defined in the Glossary of Terms.

**Sealed by the seal of the Agency on this the \*\* day of \*\* 201\*.**

**PRESENT when the seal of the Agency  
was affixed hereto:**

XXXX

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorised Person