



**OFFICE OF CLIMATE,
LICENSING & RESOURCE
USE.**

**INSPECTORS REPORT ON A WASTE WATER DISCHARGE
CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORISATION APPLICATION**

To:	Frank Clinton, Programme Manager, ELP		
From:	Yvonne English	Environmental Programme	Licensing
Date:	06 May 2011		
Re:	Application for a Waste Water Discharge Authorisation from Cork County Council, for the agglomeration named Inchigeelagh, Reg. No. A0349-01.		

Application Details	
Schedule of Discharge Authorised:	Discharges from agglomerations with a population equivalent less than 500
Certificate of Authorisation Application Received:	23 November 2010
Submission(s) Received:	No

This application relates to the Inchigeelagh agglomeration in County Cork. The Inchigeelagh Agglomeration is split up into 2 catchments. The northern catchment consists of all of Inchigeelagh Village North of the River Lee. This is a combined sewer system. The sewerage from this catchment is discharged directly, without treatment, to the River Lee at the primary discharge point. The population equivalent (p.e.) from the northern catchment is approximately 159. The southern catchment consists of all of Inchigeelagh Village South of the River Lee. The sewerage from this catchment is treated in a septic tank and discharges to the River Lee. The septic tank was built in the 1960s with a capacity of 90 p.e. The current load on the septic tank is approximately 53 p.e.

Based on the nearest EPA water quality monitoring station, 1.8km downstream, the biological Q-value is Q4 (sampled in 2008).

Based on the certificate of authorisation application submitted there is currently inadequate treatment in place for the agglomeration. There is also a salmonid water downstream of the discharge(s) from the agglomeration. 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 agglomeration is discharging upstream of an area known for the presence of the pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*). The pearl mussel site is approximately 520 metres downstream. The RCoA states that the certificate of authorisation holder shall, within six months, carry out an ecological assessment of the impact of the discharge(s) from the waste water works on *Margaritifera margaritifera* (the freshwater pearl mussel) in consultation with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS). Having regard to the results of the assessment the certificate of authorisation holder, shall within six months thereafter, implement the recommendations in the assessment report.

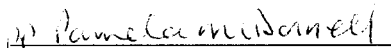
The certificate of authorisation applicant was required to complete a screening of the potential impact of the discharge(s) from the agglomeration on the designated European Site(s) downstream of the agglomeration. The certificate of authorisation applicant carried out a screening which identified that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

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



Yvonne English

Inspector

Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use