



**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 Ballincurrig & Lisgoold, Reg. No. A0361-01.		

Application Detail	
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:	Yes

This application relates to the Ballincurrig & Lisgoold agglomeration in County Cork. The agglomeration currently has a population equivalent (p.e.) of 400 (Ballincurrig septic tank - 150 p.e, the old WWTP in Lisgoold - 125pe and the new WWTP in Lisgoold - 125pe). The agglomeration is serviced by three waste water treatment plants (WWTP). The Ballincurrig septic tank provides primary treatment, and the other two plants provide secondary treatment. The old WWTP in Lisgoold consists of aeration, clarification and percolation and the new WWTP in Lisgoold consists of sequencing batch reactor, phosphorus removal and filtration. The new WWTP in Lisgoold is not fully operational yet and is currently acting as a holding tank. The final effluent from Ballincurrig septic tank and the old WWTP in Lisgoold discharges to ground. The new WWTP in Lisgoold will discharge to the Owennacurra River.

There is a drinking water abstraction point located within 10 km downstream of the discharge(s) from the agglomeration. The Recommended Certificate of Authorisation (RCoA) includes a condition whereby the Certificate of Authorisation holder shall immediately notify the group responsible for downstream abstraction points of any incidents in the agglomeration. The RCoA also specifies that the Authorisation holder shall prepare a risk assessment for the protection of downstream abstraction points within 12 months of the date of grant of the Certificate of Authorisation, the risk assessment shall address as a

minimum the identification and minimisation of risks. The measures identified shall be implemented within twelve months thereafter.

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.

Submissions

A submission was received from Mr. Keith McSweeney, Lisgoold, Leamlara, Co. Cork on the 20 May 2010. This letter details areas of concern for Mr. McSweeney in relation to the Lisgoold WWTP. Mr. McSweeney outlines that there is a proposal by Cork County Council for the full activation of a new WWTP a couple of hundred metres from his house. Mr. McSweeney outlines that in general he has no objection to the activation of the new WWTP, however he objects to the lack of clarity from the Council concerning their intentions as regards the current WWTP. Mr. McSweeney makes his submission in relation to the County Councils practice in the area of health and safety, i.e. the safe operation of and discontinuation of the WWTP.

Response

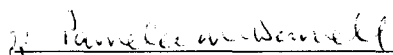
The purpose of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations, 2007 is to prevent and reduce the pollution of waters by waste water discharges. The waste water discharge authorisation process regulates discharges of waste water from a waste water works but does not regulation the waste water treatment plant itself.

Therefore it is not appropriate to deal with Mr. McSweeney's submission as part of the waste water certificate of authorisation process. This submission has been forward to the Office of Environmental Enforcement Waste Water Team for appropriate follow up to be undertaken.

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