



Comhshaol, Oidhreacht agus Rialtas Áitiúil
Environment, Heritage and Local Government



14th June 2010

PM Group
Killakee House
Belgard Square
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Signature	File No:
Date:	16 JUN 2010
Copy:	
Action:	

Your Ref: IE0310150-22-080

Our Ref: G2010 311

Re: proposed Derryclure Energy Centre at Derryclure, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

A Chara,

I refer to your letter of 31st May scoping for an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed Derryclure Energy Centre at Derryclure, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. Please find below the archaeological observations of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. Architectural heritage and nature conservation observations, if any, will issue in due course.

Archaeology

As part of an environmental review of the project this office will require a full archaeological impact assessment to be carried out and the results of the same to be forwarded to this office.

In assessing impacts on the archaeological heritage regard must be had to the following:

The area's monuments can be identified from the Record of Monuments and Places, County Offaly. Those monuments that are National Monuments in State ownership or guardianship and monuments subject to Preservation Orders should be identified and zones of visual amenity defined for them. It should be noted that and direct impact on national monuments in State or Local Authority care or subject to a preservation order will require the consent of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government under section 14 of the National Monuments Act 1930 as amended by Section 5 of the National Monuments (Amendment) Act 2004. Areas of high archaeological potential including subsurface archaeological structures should be identified. A pointer to the potential for the occurrence of subsurface archaeology is the annual Excavations Bulletin which contains brief accounts of excavations conducted in Ireland each year; these reports are also at www.excavations.ie. Information on occurrences of chance finds of archaeological objects is also a useful indicator of archaeological potential – information may be obtained from the National Museum and local museums. Any potential impacts on archaeological heritage should be subject to full archaeological assessment.

Please note – our new address for all correspondence is:
The Manager,
Development Applications Unit,
Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government,
Newtown Road,
Wexford



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Kindly forward any further information to the following address:

The Manager,
Development Applications Unit,
Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government,
Newtown Road,
Wexford.

In addition, please acknowledge receipt of this submission and forward the relevant receipt to the above address.

Finally, the above observations and recommendations are based on the papers submitted to this Department on a pre-planning basis and are made without prejudice to any observations the Minister may make in the context of any consultation arising on foot of any development application referred to the Minister, by the planning authority, in his role as statutory consultee under the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended.

Is mise le meas,

David Tuohy
Development Applications Unit
053 9117380
David.tuohy@environ.ie

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*Please note – our new address for all correspondence is:
The Manager,
Development Applications Unit,
Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government,
Newtown Road,
Wexford*



RE: Derryclure Energy Centre, Tullamore, Co Offaly

Dear Mr O'Loughlin,

Thank you for your enquiry. Unfortunately, the Groundwater Section does not have the resources to assess, or make observations on, specific EIAs/EISs.

However, we do advise that when considering environmental impacts of planned activities/developments that all of the Groundwater Section's datasets are taken into consideration. These data comprise:

- 1) **National Maps**, which can be obtained from the GSI's website (www.gsi.ie), and include:
 - *Generalised Bedrock Map*, which groups the different Irish bedrock formations (>1000) into 28 classes based on their stratigraphy and the main lithological and structural properties that influence their groundwater flow properties;
 - *Bedrock Aquifer Map*: subdivides Irish bedrock into three main categories and seven sub-categories depending on their specific aquifer properties;
 - *Gravel Aquifer Map*: identifies the Irish sand/gravel deposits that function as aquifers and sub-divides them into two categories depending on their specific properties;
 - *Interim Vulnerability Map*, which is a composite map comprising (i) full¹ and interim² vulnerability mapping undertaken by the GSI for Local Authorities (i.e. the Groundwater Protection Schemes – 11 available digitally) and (ii) interim vulnerability mapping undertaken by consultants working for one or more of each of the seven River Basin Districts (RBDs);
 - *Source Protection Areas Map*, which constitute the outer (zone contributing groundwater to the abstraction point) and inner (estimated 100 day time of travel of the groundwater to the abstraction point) source protection areas delineated by the GSI (120 sources) and other consultants (5 sources).
- 2) **National Data**, which can be requested from Groundwater Section enquiries desk (Groundwaterinfo@gsi.ie), and include:
 - *Groundwater Body (GWB) Delineation and Descriptions*: subdivision of the aquifers based on their flow regime and no-flow boundaries. Each GWB is fully described, with all available data and information sources referenced.
 - *Wells Database*: c.36,000 wells and boreholes, from different sources, with varying amounts of information e.g. location, depth to bedrock, yields.
 - *Karst Features Database*: c.4,000 recorded features with varying amounts of information.
 - *Karst Tracer-Tests Database*: c.275 recorded connections with varying amounts of information.

¹ Full vulnerability maps comprise up to five vulnerability classes– E (Rock near Surface or Karst), Extreme, High, Moderate and Low).

² Interim vulnerability maps comprise three vulnerability classes – E (Rock near Surface or Karst), Extreme and undifferentiated High-Low.



3) Other Reports

- *Groundwater Protection Scheme (GWPS) Reports*: more recent (digital) GWPSs are available for 11 counties, older schemes are available for 4 counties and 2 are due to be completed in 2007 (Groundwaterinfo@gsi.ie).
- *Source Protection Reports*, which describe all available information for the particular source and how the source protection zones were delineated (Groundwaterinfo@gsi.ie).
- *Various historic reports*, which can be obtained on the Document Management System (via the GSI's Customer Centre).

It is hoped that most of these data will be soon available through the website. In the meantime, when making an enquiry, please supply a location map and/or grid coordinates in order to facilitate the data search.

Other useful and related data can be found on Water Framework Directive Ireland website (<http://www.wfdireland.ie>)

I hope that you find this information of use.

Yours faithfully,

Monica Lee.
Groundwater Section.

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Suirbhéireacht Gheolaíochta Éireann

Tor an Bhacaigh
Bóthar Haddington
Baile Átha Cliath 4



Geological Survey of Ireland

Beggars Bush
Haddington Road
Dublin 4

Tel. +353 1 6707444

Fax. +353 1 6681782

<http://www.gsi.ie>

PM Group
Killakee House
Belgard Square
Tallaght
Dublin 24

02/06/2010

RE: Derryclure Energy Centre, Tullamore, Co Offaly

Dear Mr O'Loughlin,

I would like to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 31st, 2010 concerning the above scheme.

The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) is the national earth science agency and has datasets on Bedrock Geology, Quaternary Geology, Geological Heritage Sites, Mineral deposits, Groundwater Resources and the Irish Seabed. These comprise maps, reports and extensive databases that include mineral occurrences, bedrock/mineral exploration groundwater/site investigation boreholes, karst features, wells and springs. Please see our website at <http://www.gsi.ie> for data availability.

Please note that some maps/databases are available on the GSI website under "Online Mapping" or "Web Mapping"- direct link: <http://www.gsi.ie/Mapping.htm>
Data currently available is for Bedrock, Groundwater, Karst, Geotechnical boreholes, Mineral locations and the Quarry Directory. Geological Heritage data is in the process of being migrated to this website, but please continue to contact Sophie Preteseille at sophie.preteseille@gsi.ie or Sarah Gatley at sarah.gatley@gsi.ie, directly.

Please note that it would greatly facilitate our database search if the site location in all EIS and related planning enquiries is given in Irish National Grid (ING) co-ordinates, i.e. as six-digit Eastings (X) and six-digit Northings (Y) [For example, O'Connell Bridge, Dublin would be X 315988 Y 234396].

Co-ordinates in this format can be obtained from GSI's online mapping service at <http://www.gsi.ie/Mapping.htm>

There is currently a 1-2 week turnaround for answering EIS enquiries. We will endeavour to meet your closing date. However, we would like to bring to your attention the frequent late arrival in this office of requests for input into EIS, etc for proposed developments, rendering GSI unable to comment within the specified timeframe.

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours sincerely,

John Butler/Ronnie Creighton
Senior Geologist, Head Geotechnical Programme

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Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Environmental Health Department
Community Services
Dublin Mid - Leinster
Health Centre
Arden Road
Tullamore
Co. Offaly
Tel: 057 - 9359550 Fax: 057 - 9359565

28th June 2010
Mr Niall O'Loughlin
Associate Director
PM Group
Killakee House
Belgard Square
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Re: Derryclure Energy Centre, Tullamore

Dear Mr O'Loughlin,

Your letter of 31st May 2010 refers


The Environmental Impact Statement being drawn up regarding the above should include the following:

1. Details of source of municipal waste materials – is all the municipal waste from the nearby Derryclure Landfill and if not the method of transportation of such waste
2. Details of source and transportation of biomass
3. The proposed technology – pyrolysis involves heating in the absence of air / oxygen which reduces emissions, odours etc. Full details of emissions etc should be supplied in the EIS. These details should be in the format of the EPA Standards / Guidance

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4. Full details of odour control measures to be provided as the proposed location is beside a landfill which can emit odours and a second source of odour is undesirable
5. Details of rodent / vermin control at the proposed facility
6. Details of welfare facilities e.g. canteen, drinking water and sanitary facilities for employees at construction stage of the proposed facility
7. Details of welfare facilities e.g. canteen, drinking water, shower and sanitary facilities for employees when the proposed facility is in operation
8. Details of the water supply to the proposed facility. If this supply is to be a well or borehole on site then results of a chemical and microbiological analyses are to be provided to determine its fitness for human consumption
9. Details of any impacts on both surface and ground water during construction, operation and decommissioning phase to include any cumulative impacts and mitigation of significant adverse impacts. Particular consideration should be given to any potential impact on surface and ground water used for the abstraction of water for human consumption in the region of the site

Yours sincerely


Dympna O'Grady
Environmental Health Officer


Declan Mulhare
Principal Environmental Health Officer

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ÚDARÁS EITLÍOCHTA NA HÉIREANN
IRISH AVIATION AUTHORITY

FOIRGNEAMH na hAMANNNA, 11-12 SRÁID D'OLIER
BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH 2, ÉIRE
THE TIMES BUILDING, 11-12 D'OLIER STREET
DUBLIN 2, IRELAND
T: (01) 671 8655 F: (01) 679 2934
www.iaa.ie

10 June 2010

Mr. Niall O'Loughlin, Associate Director
PM Group
Killakee House
Belgard Square
Tallaght, Dublin 24

Proposed Derryclure Energy Centre, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Dear Mr. O'Loughlin

I refer to your pre-planning query of 31 May 2010 to the Irish Aviation Authority concerning the proposed Derryclure Energy Centre, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

I wish to advise that we have no observations on the project unless flues in excess of 90m above ground level are proposed which would then require aviation obstacle warning lighting.

Yours sincerely

Tom Cooney
Corporate Affairs

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AM Rec'd	Original to File No:
Date: 10 JUN 2010	
Copy to:	
Action:	





IRISH PEATLAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL

COMHAIRLE CHAOMHNATHE PHORTAIGH NA hÉIREANN

Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare, Ireland
Liolach Mór, Rath Iomgáin, Co. Chill Dara, Éire

Tel/Foist: +353-(0)45-860133 Fax/Faics: +353-(0)45-860481
e-mail/ríomhphost: bogs@ipcc.ie web/idirlíon: www.ipcc.ie

Mr Niall O'Loughlin
Associate Director
PM Group
Kilakee House
Belgard Square
Tallaght
Dublin24

20th July 2010

Re: Derryclure Energy Centre, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Dear Mr O'Loughlin,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your consultation letter regarding the above proposed development.

As your letter does not contain any information on the habitats present within the proposed development area I can not make a comment on the likely impact of the proposed development on the habitats present. However, the proposed development area does not appear to contain any areas designated for nature conservation.

Please be aware the National parks and wildlife designations map viewer (available at www.npws.ie) indicates the presence of 4 species of conservation concern within the 10km grid in which you propose to develop.

The European otter, *Lutra lutra* is a protected species in Ireland, being an Annex II & IV species under the European Habitats Directive [92/43/EEC], as well as being covered under the Wildlife Act, 1976, and the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000. The fallow deer, *Dama dama*, is protected under the Wildlife Act, 1976, and the Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000, while the same protection is given to the stoat, *Mustela erminea*.

Opposite leaved pondweed, *Groenlandia densa*, is protected under the Flora Protection Order 1987.

These species need to be considered and their presence investigated in any Environmental Impact Assessment carried out on the site.

Thank you for consulting with IPCC on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Tadhg O'Corcora MSc
Conservation Officer, IPCC.

25 YEARS TAKING ACTION FOR BOGS AND WILDLIFE

Charity No/Uimhir Carthanacht: CHY6829 Registered in Ireland No/Uimhir Clártha in Éirinn: 116158 Registered Office/Oifig Clártha: Lullymore, Rathangan, Co. Kildare, Ireland

Company Secretary/Rúnaí Comhlacht: Ruth McGrath

Directors/Stiúrthóirí: Miles Newman, Martin Kelly, Catherine O'Connell, Ruth McGrath, Kieran Hall, Jenni Roche, Sean O'Farrell

Patrons/Pátrúnaí: Pauline Bewick, Don Conroy, Éamon de Buitéar, William Finlay, Seamus Heaney, HRH Princess Irene of the Netherlands, Eanna Ní Lamhna, Matthijs Schouten

**PM Group
Killakee House
Belgard Square
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Dublin 24**



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St. Martin's House / Waterloo Road / Dublin 4
Teil: / Tel: + 353 1 660 2511 Facs: / Fax: + 353 1 668 0009

Dáta | Dthth June 2010

Ar dTag. | Our Ref. NRA10-78832

Bhur dTag. | Your Ref.

Re: EIS Scoping for proposed Derryclure Energy Centre, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Dear Sirs,

The Authority wishes to advise that it is not in a position to engage directly with planning applicants in respect to proposed developments. The Authority will endeavour to consider and respond to planning applications referred to it given its status and duties as a statutory consultee under the Planning Acts. The approach to be adopted by the Authority in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidelines as outlined in NRA Circular 6/2006 "*Policy Statement on Development Management and Access to National Roads*" and other relevant circulars, which are available at www.nra.ie.

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice the NRA's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals following the examination of any valid planning application referred.

The applicants for any subsequent planning application should be aware of the planning history of the subject site, An Bord Pleanála refused permission for intensification of waste intake at Derryclure under case reference PL 19.JA0013. It is noted that the Planning Inspectors Report, in relation to this case, considered roads issues and noted a number of road safety concerns.

The applicants for any subsequent planning application will be aware that section 1.2 of the Development Management Guidelines (DoEHLG, 2007) outlines that pending the preparation of Departmental Guidelines concerning policy on development and national roads, relevant policy is as set out in the National Roads Authority's Circular Letter 7/2004.

Circular 7/2004 outlines that developments concerning established farm activity along national roads or extensions to commercial or industrial development outside the 30/40 m.p.h. (equivalent to 50 – 60km/h) (as applicable) speed limits on such roads should, inter alia, be subject to the requirement that no additional traffic would be generated by the development concerned or increased road safety hazard created.

The Authority reserves the right to submit observations in relation to any detailed application referred by Offaly County Council or An Bord Pleanála in this regard and the following merely details recommendations in relation to an EIS Scoping request.

With respect to EIS scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of EIS, which may affect the National Roads Network.

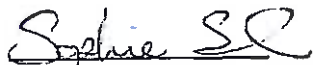
The developer should have regard, *inter alia*, to the following;

- Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office with regard to locations of existing and future national road schemes.
- The Authority would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the development would have on any national roads in the proximity of the proposed development, N80;
- The developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads;
- The developer should have regard to any Environmental Impact Statement and all conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála regarding road schemes in the area. The developer should in particular have regard to any potential cumulative impacts;
- The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to the NRA DMRB and the NRA Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works;
- The developer, in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment, should have regard to the NRA's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the *Guidelines for the Treatment of Air Quality During the Planning and Construction of National Road Schemes* (National Roads Authority, 2006);
- The EIS should consider the Environmental Noise Regulations 2006 (SI 140 of 2006) and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see *Guidelines for the Treatment of Noise and Vibration in National Road Schemes* (1st Rev., National Roads Authority, 2004));
- It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria or in accordance with best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines and best practice, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads. As indicated above, the Authority are not in a position to engage directly with applicants in respect to proposed developments, however, it is advised that the Authority's Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines (2007) should be referred to in this regard. It is important that TTA would consider the cumulative impact of developments in the area and in addition, the applicant team should also consider Table 2.3 of the Guidelines which advise on circumstances where sub-threshold TTA may be warranted;
- The designers are asked to consult the National Roads Authority's DMRB *Road Safety Audit* (NRA HD 19/09) to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required.

Notwithstanding, any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practise.

I hope that the above comments are of use in your scoping process.

Yours faithfully,



Michael McCormack
Planning Section

PP

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Ceann Oifig
Baile Átha Throim
Co. na Mí

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Suíomh gréasáin/website: www.opw.ie

Our Ref: 0611-2010
Your Ref: IE0310150-22-080

Mr. Niall O'Loughlin
Associate Director
PM Group
Killakee House,
Belgard Square,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.

Re: Derryclure Energy Centre, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

Dear Mr. O'Loughlin,

I refer to your correspondence dated 31st May 2010 in relation to the above matter.

This office has no records of flooding at this location. The proposed development is located outside the area defined as benefiting land from the Brosna Drainage Scheme. See attached map and summary report from the Flood Hazard Mapping website. www.floodmaps.ie

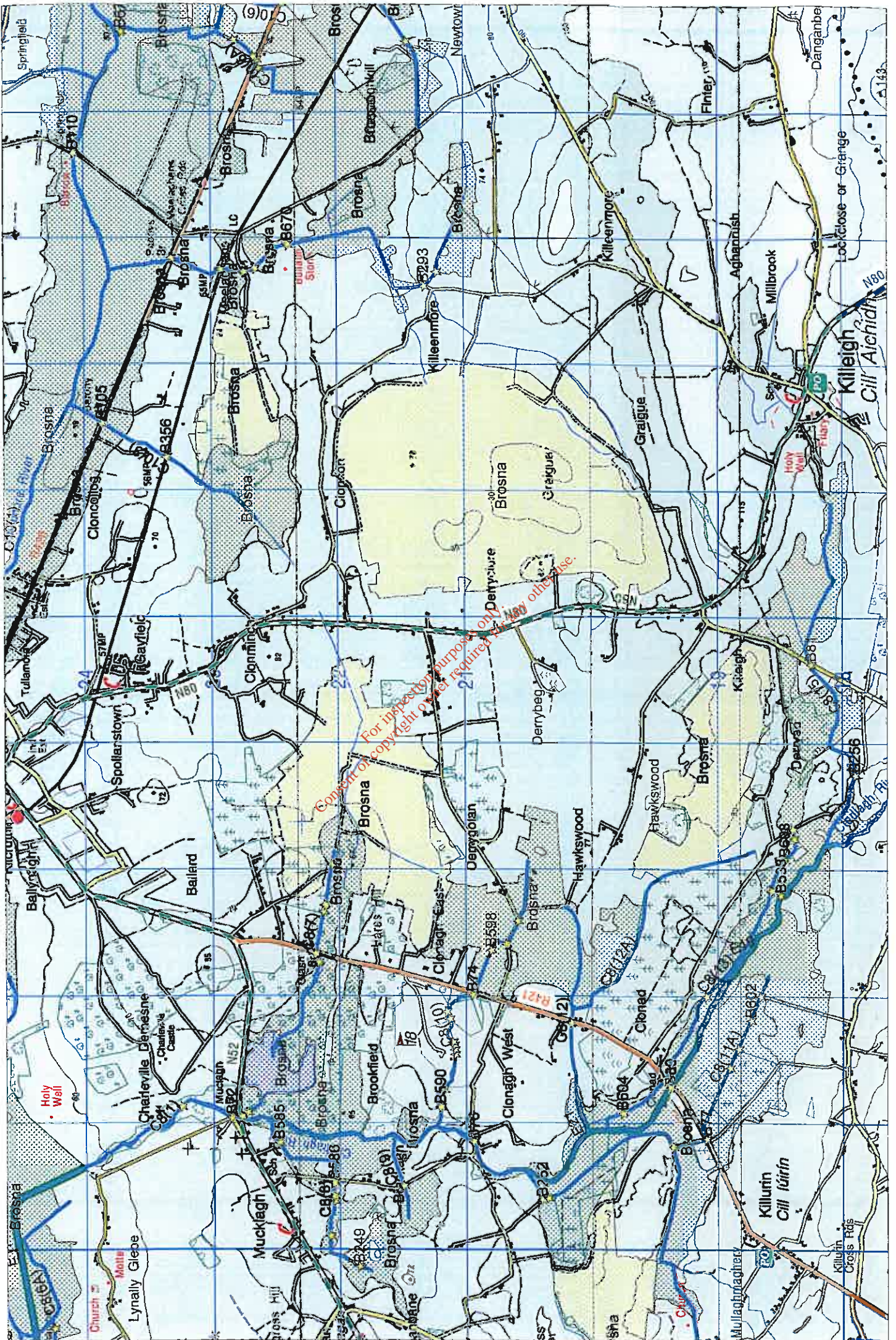
Benefiting land: (Marked green on attached map)

The definition of Benefiting land is: A dataset prepared by the Office of Public Works identifying land that might benefit from the implementation of Arterial (Major) Drainage Schemes (under the Arterial Drainage Act 1945) and indicating areas of land subject to flooding or poor drainage.

Yours sincerely,



Christine McCann
Engineering Services
16th June 2010.



Summary Local Area Report

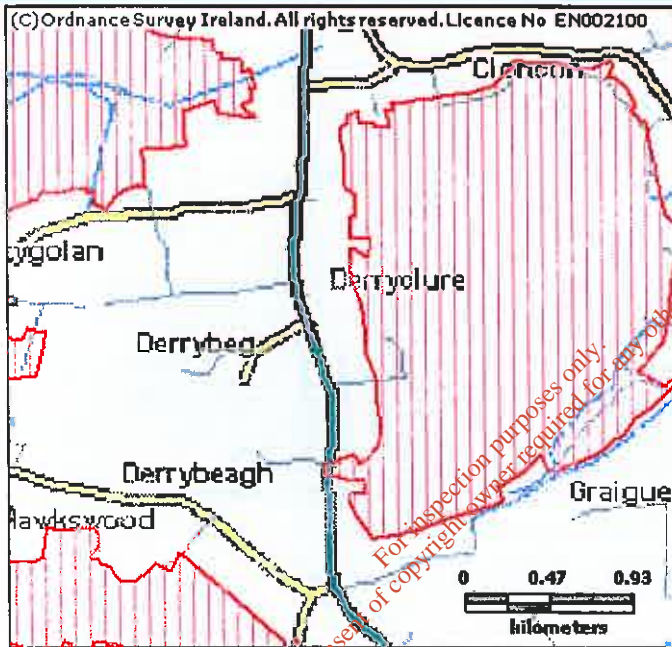
This Flood Report summarises all flood events within 2.5 kilometres of the map centre.

The map centre is in:

County: Offaly

NGR: N 351 205

This Flood Report has been downloaded from the Web site www.floodmaps.ie. The users should take account of the restrictions and limitations relating to the content and use of this Web site that are explained in the Disclaimer box when entering the site. It is a condition of use of the Web site that you accept the User Declaration and the Disclaimer.



Map Scale 1:38,545

Map Legend	
	Flood Points
	Multiple / Recurring Flood Points
	Areas Flooded
	Hydrometric Stations
	Rivers
	Lakes
	River Catchment Areas
	Land Commission *
	Drainage Districts *
	Benefiting Lands *

* Important: These maps do not indicate flood hazard or flood extent. Their purpose and scope is explained in the Glossary.

0 Results