



**OFFICE OF
& RESOURCE USE**

This report has been cleared for submission to the Director by Senior Inspector Leo Sweeney
Signed Maifay Date 22/01/2014

ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSING PROGRAMME MEMORANDUM

TO: Dara Lynott

FROM: EO Project Team

DATE: 22nd January 2014

RE: Technical amendment of Waste Water Discharge Licences to bring licences into compliance with the *European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009*, as amended.

Introduction

The Agency is obliged to examine the terms of all relevant Waste Water Discharge licences (WWDL's) with a view to determining whether they address the obligations laid down in the *European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations, 2009* (S.I. No. 272 of 2009) (Surface Waters Regulations). The Agency must declare that the licence is compliant or technically amend/review the licence by 22nd December 2012.

The Surface Waters Regulations came into force on 30 July 2009. The examination of the WWDL's was carried out following the 'Procedure for the examination of WWDL's issued prior to the EO Regulations coming into force', to determine whether a licence needs to be reviewed, technically amended or issued a declaration stating compliance with the Regulations.

This memo provides a list of proposed technical amendments of WWDL's completed by the Environmental Licensing Programme to bring them into compliance with the Surface Waters Regulations.

Examination

Waste Water Discharge licences granted by the Agency prior to 30 July 2009 have been examined and the Agency has determined that there were 26 WWDL's issued with discharges to surface waters prior to the Surface Waters Regulations coming into force. Following examination of all 26 WWDL's issued, 11 required a technical amendment, in respect of any discharges liable to cause water pollution, to bring the licence into compliance with the Surface Waters Regulations.

Article 33(2) of the *Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007*, as amended) allows for consultation with the licensee before amending a licence. The Agency sent notification letters to all relevant licensees in August 2013. Further consultation with D0025-01 Roscrea was had and revised proposed emission limit values (ELVs) are reflected in the proposed technical amendment.

The amendments necessary are not considered to alter the character of the WWDL and the licence will continue to comply with and not contravene any of the requirements of Article 6(3) of the *Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007*, as amended).

The WWDL's have been amended in one or more of the following ways to ensure compliance:

- A reduction in an emission limit value (ELV) for BOD, Ammonia or Ortho P, as appropriate.

- An insertion of an ELV (Ammonia and Ortho P as appropriate).

Additional Amendments

Additional amendments arose from the internal Wastewater Technical Working Group (WTWG) submitting recommended changes to the Wastewater Discharge Licence template which was approved by the Board on 29th March 2011. The rationale behind the proposed changes was based on the improved knowledge of the efficacy and enforceability of the licences, as it has developed since the first licences were issued in 2007. In addition to the changes of the WTWG, the development of LEMA requires that a number of changes be incorporated into the licences in order to ensure that LEMA will enhance Agency efficiency.

Table 1 below identifies the Waste Water Discharge Licences technically amended to bring them into compliance with the Surface Waters Regulations 2009.

Birds Directive [79/409/EEC] & Habitats Directive [92/43/EEC]

A screening for Appropriate Assessment was undertaken to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the site, if the activity, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site(s). The Agency considered that the activity is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of those sites as European Sites and that it can be excluded on the basis of objective scientific information, that the activity, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site. Accordingly the Agency determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the activity is not required

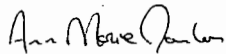
Table 1 WWDLs's Technically Amended

No.	Reg No.	Agglomeration Name
<u>1</u>	<u>D0001-01</u>	Portlaoise
<u>2</u>	<u>D0004-01</u>	Lower Liffey Valley Regional Sewerage Scheme
<u>3</u>	<u>D0008-01</u>	Mullingar Town and Environs
<u>4</u>	<u>D0025-01</u>	Roscrea
<u>5</u>	<u>D0027-01</u>	Nenagh
<u>6</u>	<u>D0043-01</u>	Blarney and Environs
<u>7</u>	<u>D0047-01</u>	Castlebar Waste Water Treatment Plant and Agglomeration
<u>8</u>	<u>D0049-01</u>	Ballincollig and Environs
<u>9</u>	<u>D0060-01</u>	Longford Town
<u>10</u>	<u>D0131-01</u>	Enfield/Johnstown Bridge and Environs
<u>11</u>	<u>D0133-01</u>	Duleek

Recommendation

I recommend that the licence amendments be approved as set out in the attached recommended Technical Amendments. Such amendments do not result in the relevant requirements of Regulation 6(3) of the *Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations, 2007*, as amended, ceasing to be satisfied.

Signed:



Date: 22nd January 2014

Ann Marie Donlon
Inspector