



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

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

<b>To:</b>	Frank Clinton, Programme Manager, ELP
<b>From:</b>	Aoife Loughnane / Loretta Joyce <b>Environmental Licensing Programme</b>
<b>Date:</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2014
<b>Re:</b>	Application for a Waste Water Discharge Certificate of Authorisation from Irish Water for the <b>Scotshouse</b> agglomeration, County Monaghan, Reg. No. A0518-01.

Application Details	
Schedule of Discharge Authorised:	Discharges from agglomerations with a population equivalent less than 500
Certificate of Authorisation Application Received:	16/05/2012
Submissions Received:	None

This application relates to the Scotshouse agglomeration in County Monaghan. The application was originally made by Monaghan County Council and subsequently transferred to Irish Water on 1st January 2014 under the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013.

The Scotshouse agglomeration currently has a population equivalent (p.e.) of 330 p.e. The agglomeration is served by a waste water treatment plant (WWTP) which provides tertiary treatment. The WWTP consists of a package secondary treatment plant followed by a horizontal reed bed which acts as a polishing filter, and has a design capacity of 600 p.e.

The WWTP discharges to the Scotshouse River, a tributary of the River Finn. Based on the nearest EPA water quality monitoring station, RS36F011000 Wattle Bridge located 11.5 km downstream on the River Finn, the biological Q-value was Q3 (moderately polluted) in 2013.

There are no designated or protected areas (i.e., drinking water abstractions, bathing waters, shellfish waters, salmonid waters or *Margaritifera margaritifera*) downstream of the discharge(s) from the agglomeration. Condition 3.3 of the Recommended Certificate of Authorisation (RCoA) states that the discharge(s) from the waste water works shall not cause a deterioration in the status of the receiving surface water body

The receiving water has been identified as being less than good status (Biological Q value <4). It is acknowledged that the discharge(s) from the agglomeration may not

be the only cause of the waterbody being less than good status. The 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.

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. In this context, particular attention was paid to Lough Oughter and associated Loughs SPA (site code 000007).

The Agency considered, for the reasons set out below, that the activity is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site as a European Site 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, and accordingly the Agency determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the activity was not required.

It has been determined that the activity does not have the potential for significant effects on a European Site due to the level of treatment provided at Scotshouse WWTP.

### **Submissions**

No submissions were received in relation to this application.

### **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



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Aoife Loughnane  
Inspectors  
Environmental Licensing Programme  
Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use