

# Comhairle Contae Chorcaí Cork County Council

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Mr Brendan Wall  
OEE Office of Environmental Enforcement  
Environmental Protection Agency  
PO Box 3000  
Johnstown Castle Estate  
Wexford

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY

12 NOV 2013

11<sup>th</sup> November 2013

**Subject: Technical Amendment request to Midleton WWDL Licence Reg. No D0056-01**

Dear Mr Wall,

Cork County Council was issued with Waste Water Discharge Licence D0056-01 for the Agglomeration of Midleton on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011. Cork County Council now requests a Technical Amendment under Section 33 1.A of SI 684 of 2007, the Waste Water Discharge Authorisation Regulations, to rectify Schedule A.4 of the Licence relating to Storm Water Overflows. The following changes to Schedule A.4 are hereby proposed;

1. The grid reference location for SW07 MIDL (Dwyer's Road) is incorrectly recorded. The amended grid reference is 187516E, 72901N.
2. With regard to the designated storm water overflows, a proposed increase in the Control Limit Value (CLV) from a frequency of six spills/annum to 10 spills/annum.
3. With regard to the designated storm water overflows, a proposed increase in the 1.5% limit, of total storm water collected in the relevant section of waste water works on the discharge volume for a storm overflow event, to 20%.

In relation to item 2 above, the stormwater overflows for the Midleton Agglomeration discharge to the Owenacurra Estuary. This, in turn, discharges to the north east of Cork Harbour, with a potential impact on the designated shellfish waters within Cork Harbour. The most recent Irish guidance document available on storm water overflows is the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive, which dates back to 1991. This document does



not provide any specific guidance on allowable frequency of overflows to shellfish waters. Reference is made to the Scottish EPA guidance document, Regulatory Method (WAT-RM-07) 2013. Section 4.3.2, Spill Frequency, states that design criteria should be such that spills to shellfish waters do not exceed 10 significant spill events per annum. This document has been used as a basis for justification of the proposed change.

In relation to item 3, it is proposed to increase the 1.5 % limit on discharge volumes to a limit of 20%. In Section 3.3 of the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive, which refers to Sensitive Areas, it proposes that an 80% volume reduction in storm sewage spill as being reasonable. "That is, the volume overflows as a percentage of rainfall run-off volume to the foul sewer would be a maximum of 20%." This document has been used as a basis for justification of the proposed change.

We await your response on the above.

Yours sincerely,



John Conroy,  
S/Senior Engineer,  
Waste Water Operations,  
Cork County Council.

CC/ John Feehan, EPA.

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