



**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>	Loretta Joyce <b>Environmental Licensing Programme</b>
<b>Date:</b>	20/04/2015
<b>Re:</b>	Application for a Waste Water Discharge Certificate of Authorisation from Irish Water for the Annyalla agglomeration, County Monaghan, Reg. No. A0519-01.

Application Details	
Schedule of Discharge Authorised:	Discharges from agglomerations with a population equivalent less than 500
Certificate of Authorisation Application Received:	02/07/2012
Submission(s) Received:	Inland Fisheries Ireland, 03/02/2014

This application relates to the Annyalla 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 The application was originally made by Monaghan County Council and subsequently transferred to Irish Water on 1st January 2014 under the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013.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 Annyalla agglomeration currently has a population equivalent (p.e.) of 200. The agglomeration is served by a secondary treatment level waste water treatment plant (WWTP) with a design capacity of 600p.e. The WWTP was taken in charge by Monaghan County Council in 2009 and consists of primary settlement tanks, an aeration tank, and a final settlement tank. The treated effluent discharges to three ponds prior to being discharged through an outfall pipe to a tributary of the Carrickaslane Lough Stream. The confluence of the tributary and Carrickaslane Lough Stream is approximately 600m downstream of the primary discharge.

Based on the nearest EPA water quality monitoring station, 4km downstream the biological Q-value is Q3, poor status (2012).

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 Recommended Certificate of Authorisation (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, as amended and/or the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010, as amended.

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, 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 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 lack of hydrological connectivity to 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**

One submission was received in relation to this application. The main issues raised in the submission are summarised below. However, the original submission should be referred to at all times for greater detail and expansion of particular points. For clarity, the issues raised by the submitter are followed by the Inspector's response.

- (i) Ms. Michaela Kirrane, Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer, Inland Fisheries Ireland, 03/02/2014

*Ms. Kirrane is concerned about the limited assimilative capacity that may be available in the receiving water for the discharge. She notes that the Carrickaslane Lough Stream is part of the River Fane catchment which is a very valuable fisheries resource. She urges compliance with Article 5 of EC Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations, 2009 'A public authority shall not, in performance of its functions, undertake those functions in a manner that knowingly causes or allows deterioration in the chemical or ecological status (or ecological potential as the case may be) of a body of surface water'.*

Response: 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 Recommended Certificate of Authorisation (RCoA) also 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, as amended and/or the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010, as amended.

**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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Loretta Joyce  
Inspector  
Environmental Licensing Programme  
Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use