

Mr Mark Johnston  
Senior Executive Engineer  
Monahan County Council  
The Glen  
Monaghan

06 May 2011

D0463-01

re: Notice in accordance with Regulation 18(3)(b) of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007

Dear Mr Johnston

I refer to the above referenced application for a waste water discharge licence relating to agglomeration named Knockaconny. Having examined the documentation submitted, I am to advise that the Agency is of the view that the documentation does not comply with Regulation 16 of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007.

You are therefore requested, in accordance with Regulation 18(3)(b) of the regulations, to take the steps to supply the information detailed below:

## **REGULATION 16 COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS**

### **Section A: Non-technical Summary**

- Update the non-technical summary to reflect the information provided in response to this notice.

### **Section B: General**

- Provide details on how much of the current load to the waste water treatment plant (WWTP) is from a domestic source and how much is from a non-domestic source.
- Provide an estimate of the increase in the population equivalent (p.e.) of the agglomeration, in the next six years.
- Resubmit Attachment B.3, Drawing No. 3 entitled 'waste water treatment plant location of primary discharge point' with the correct grid references for the primary discharge point.
- Confirm the grid reference for the upstream monitoring point (aSW1(P)u), as two grid references (268916E, 335782N and 268919E, 335782N) are provided in the application. Resubmit updated maps and tables accordingly.
- Clarify how wastewater is collected in the agglomeration, for example combined or separate foul sewage drainage network.

### **Section C: Infrastructure and Operation**

- Provide details, if available, on the design discharge concentration for total phosphorus and ammonia (as N) for the existing WWTP (1,000 p.e.).
- Section C.1.1 of the application states that there are no storm water overflows on the network. However, the description of the waste water treatment plant states that there is

a storm water overflow at the inlet works of the WWTP. Clarify whether there is a storm water overflow (SWO) at the WWTP. If there is a SWO at the WWTP:

- Carry out an assessment of the SWO to determine compliance with the criteria for storm water overflows, as set out in the DEHLG 'Procedures and Criteria in Relation to Storm Water Overflows', 1995.
- Provide details of the SWO including grid references, the location where such discharges enter the receiving water and the frequency of activation of the SWO.

#### **Section D: Discharges to the Aquatic Environment**

- Clarify the volume of effluent emitted per day – 75m<sup>3</sup>/day is provided in Table D.1(i)(a) and 172 m<sup>3</sup>/day is provided in Section A: Non-technical summary.

#### **Section E: Monitoring**

- Provide effluent, influent, upstream and downstream monitoring data from May 2009 to date.
- Confirm the hardness (as CaCO<sub>3</sub>) of the receiving water upstream and downstream of the primary discharge point to determine compliance with the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009, S.I. No. 272 of 2009.
  - i. The Agency notes that there are elevated levels of fluoride (550 µg/l) in the primary discharge when compared to the water quality standard of 500 µg/l in the Surface Water Regulations 2009. Explain the cause of the elevated fluoride in the primary discharge. Advise on what measures are in place to rectify this matter. The response to this matter should include details of a programme of improvements in relation to the high fluoride levels with timescales for implementation.

#### **Section F: Existing Environment & Impact of the discharge(s)**

- Demonstrate that the effluent discharge, via the primary discharge point, to the receiving water does not cause an exceedance of the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 for parameters including BOD, total ammonia and molybdate reactive phosphorus (MRP). If there is a breach of the relevant water quality standards, then review the need for a programme of improvements and submit the details accordingly.
- Determine if there is likely to be a significant impact from the waste water discharges from the Knockaconny agglomeration on the relevant *European Sites*

You are requested to use the EPA guidance note: *Waste Water Discharge Licensing – Appropriate Assessment* when completing your determination. This guidance is available on the EPA website [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie) (see Downloads\ Forms\ Licensing & Permitting\ Waste Water Discharge Authorisation). Each step of Stage 1 Screening should be completed and the results of each step recorded.

If based on the above determination (Stage 1) there is likely to be a significant effect on a *European site(s)* then an Appropriate Assessment (Stage 2) must be carried out. Where it is considered that an Appropriate Assessment is not required, provide a reasoned response.

You should also refer to Circular L8/08 'Water Services Investment and Rural Water Programmes – Protection of Natural Heritage and National Monuments' issued by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to assist in this determination, in particular, the flow diagram in Appendix 1.



**Section G: Existing Environment & Impact of the discharge(s)**

- Clarify whether there is a facility for the removal of phosphorus at the WWTP, as Section G.2 states there is no phosphorus removal at the WWTP and Section A: Non-technical summary states the WWTP provides secondary treatment with nutrient removal (phosphorus reduction).

Your reply to this notice should include a revised non-technical summary which reflects the information you supply in compliance with the notice, insofar as that information impinges on the non-technical summary.

In the case where any drawings already submitted are subject to revision consequent on this request, a revised drawing should be prepared in each case. It is not sufficient to annotate the original drawing with a textual correction. Where such revised drawings are submitted, provide a list of drawing titles, drawing numbers and revision status, which correlates the revised drawings with the superseded versions.

Please supply the information in the form of a one original plus one copy within **eight** weeks of the date of this notice. In addition please submit one copy of the requested information in electronic searchable PDF format on a CD-ROM (no file to exceed 10MB) to the Agency. Please note that all maps/drawings should not exceed A3 in size.

Please note that the application's register number is D0463-01. Please direct all correspondence in relation to this matter to *Administration, Environmental Licensing Programme, Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use, Environmental Protection Agency, Headquarters, PO Box 3000, Johnstown Castle Estate, County Wexford* quoting the register number.

Yours sincerely,



**Jennifer Cope**

**Inspector**

**Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use**