

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

06 May 2011

D0464-01

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 Smithboro. 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

- Clarify whether the name of the agglomeration and address is Smithboro or Smithborough.
- Provide details on how much of the current load to the WWTP is from a domestic source and how much is from a non-domestic source.
- Resubmit Drawing No. 3 entitled 'Waste Water Treatment Plant Location of Primary Discharge Point' and Drawing No. 4 entitled 'Waste Water Treatment Plant Monitoring and sampling locations associated with primary discharge point' with the correct grid references.
- Submit a drawing with the waste water treatment plant site plan and boundary.
- 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 (750 p.e.).
- Provide design details for the *grass plots*. Include details on the frequency of use, clarify where the effluent ultimately discharges, and clarify if there is any discharge to groundwater.

- The Agency notes that monitoring data provided in Table D.1 (i)(b) for the Smithboro primary discharge point SW1(P) for suspended solids (S.S) is 26 mg/l and for BOD is 22 mg/l, which exceeds the design limit of the WWTP of 10 mg/l BOD and 10 mg/l S.S. Explain the cause of the exceedances and 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 S.S and BOD with timescales for implementation.
- In storm conditions, to where does the storm water overflow when the waste water treatment plant is at full capacity.

Section E: Monitoring

- Provide effluent, influent, upstream and downstream monitoring data from May 2009 to date.
- Confirm the hardness (as CaCO₃) 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.

Section F: Existing Environment & Impact of the discharges (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.
- Reference is made to the river Blackwater in Section F.1 and G.2 of the application. Please clarify the name of the receiving water to which the primary discharge point discharges.
- Determine if there is likely to be a significant impact from the waste water discharges from the Smithboro 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 (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.

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

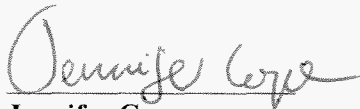


a list of drawing titles, drawing numbers and revision status, which correlates the revised drawings with the superseded versions.

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 D0464-01. 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