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Ms. Ger Faughnan
Health Service Executive (EPA)
Elmwood House
Lurriga
Skibbereen
Co. Cork

31/08/2017

Re: Irish Water, D0294-02, Courtmacsherry and Timoleague agglomeration

Dear Ms. Faughnan,

I am to advise you in accordance with Regulation 42(8)(a) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No. 477 of 2011) that the Agency has made a determination that an Appropriate Assessment is required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on a European site(s). This determination is attached for your reference.

The application and associated correspondence, including acknowledgements, notifications and general correspondence is available to view on the Agency Website at <a href="www.epa.ie">www.epa.ie</a>. You are advised to refer to the website for information on the progress of the application.

Yours sincerely,

Graine Power.

OES Admin Team B Programme Officer Environmental Licensing Programme



## **Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination**

In accordance with Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, the Agency has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening 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). In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site(s) listed below.

## **Licence Application Details:**

Reg. No.:	D0294-02
Applicant Name:	Irish Water
Location of Agglomeration:	Courtmacsherry and Timoleague
Licence Application Date:	14/09/2016
European Site(s) assessed:	Courtmacsherry Estuary SAC (Site Code: 001230)
	Courtmacsherry Bay SPA (Site Code: 004219)
Date of AA Screening Determination:	22/08/2017

## AA Screening Determination:

That the activity is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European Site and that it cannot 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 any European Site and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the activity is required, and for this reason determined to require the applicant to submit a Natura Impact Statement.

This determination is based on the following:

- The poor water quality status assigned to the receiving water body, Argideen Estuary (IE\_SW\_090\_0200) and the downstream, Courtmacsherry Bay (IE\_SW\_090\_0000) under the Water Framework Directive.
- The poor quality of the effluent being discharged from the agglomeration.
- The direct discharge from the agglomeration into European Sites.

Yvonne English,
Office of Environmental Sustainability