

This report has been cleared for submission to the Board by David Flynn, Programme Manager

Signed *Graeme Power*, Date 25.10.2017



**OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY**

**INSPECTORS REPORT ON A WASTE WATER DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE OF  
AUTHORISATION APPLICATION**

To:	Directors		
From:	YVONNE ENGLISH	Environmental Programme	Licensing
Date:	07/11/2017		
Re:	Application for a Waste Water Discharge Authorisation from Irish Water, for the agglomeration named Mogeely, Reg. No. A0558-01.		

Application Details	
Schedule of Discharge Authorised:	Discharges from agglomerations with a population equivalent less than 500
Certificate of Authorisation Application Received:	24/03/2017
Submission(s) Received:	None

This application relates to the Mogeely agglomeration in County Cork. The agglomeration currently has a population equivalent (p.e.) of 299. The agglomeration is serviced by one waste water treatment plant (WWTP). The WWTP provides tertiary treatment, consisting of an aeration tank, clarifier and sand filter, and has a design capacity of 1200 p.e.

The WWTP discharges to the Kiltha River (Womanagh IE\_SW\_19W011000). Based on the nearest EPA water quality monitoring station, 1.5 km downstream, the biological Q-value is Q3-4 (Moderate Status). The Kiltha River (Womanagh IE\_SW\_19W011000) is currently assigned 'Moderate' water quality status under the Water Framework Directive. The IPPC licensed site 'Dairygold Co-operative Society Limited' (P0817-01) is located approximately 500 meters upstream of the Mogeely WWTP.

Condition 3.13 of the Recommended Certificate of Authorisation (RCoA) specifies that the Authorisation holder shall prepare a risk assessment for the protection of any drinking water abstraction points within six months of date of grant of the Certificate of Authorisation, the

risk assessment shall address as a minimum the identification and minimisation of risks. The measures identified shall be implemented within twelve months thereafter.

The receiving water has been identified as being less than good status (Biological Q value <4) and as mentioned above the Kiltia River (Womanagh IE\_SW\_19W011000) is currently assigned 'Moderate' water quality status under the Water Framework Directive. 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 RCoA states that within twelve months the authorisation holder shall identify appropriate improvements to the wastewater works, 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 and/or the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 as amended.

### **Birds Directive [2009/147/EC] & Habitats Directive [92/43/EEC]**

Table 1 lists the European Sites assessed, their associated qualifying interests and conservation objectives.

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 any European Site. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site(s) at Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pilmore) SAC and Ballymacoda Bay SPA.

The activity is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European Site and the Agency considered, for the reasons set out below, 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 any European Site and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the activity was not required.

This determination is based on the following reasons:

- The water quality of the Womanagh\_010 River improves approximately 1.4km downstream of the Mogeely primary discharge point from 'Moderate Status' to 'Good Status' under the Water Framework Directive.
- The level of treatment in the Mogeely WWTP (tertiary treatment), which is capable of achieving high quality effluent standards.
- There has been no deterioration of water quality downstream of the agglomeration under the Water Framework Directive.
- The distance from the Mogeely agglomeration to the downstream European Sites.

### **Submissions**

No submissions were received in relation to this application.

### **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

*Yvonne English*

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Yvonne English

Inspector

Office of Environmental Sustainability

Table 1: List of European Sites assessed, their associated qualifying interests and conservation objectives.

	<b>European Site (site code)</b>	<b>Distance/ Direction from discharge(s)</b>	<b>Qualifying interests</b> (* denotes a priority habitat)	<b>Conservation objectives</b>
1	Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC (000077)	14.6 km downstream of the discharge(s).	<b>Habitats:</b> Estuaries Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand Atlantic salt meadows ( <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i> ) Mediterranean salt meadows ( <i>Juncetalia maritimi</i> )	As per NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives: Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC 000077. Version 2. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (dated 19/02/2015).
2	Ballymacoda Bay SPA (004023)	13.8 km downstream of the discharge(s).	<b>Habitats:</b> Wetlands <b>Species</b> <i>Wigeon (Anas penelope)</i> <i>Black-tailed Godwit (Limosa limosa)</i> <i>Teal (Anas crecca)</i> <i>Black-headed Gull (Chroicocephalus ridibundus)</i> <i>Sanderling (Calidris alba)</i> <i>Redshank (Tringa totanus)</i> <i>Lapwing (Vanellus vanellus)</i> <i>Curlew (Numenius arquata)</i> <i>Ringed Plover (Charadrius hiaticula)</i> <i>Common Gull (Larus canus)</i> <i>Bar-tailed Godwit (Limosa lapponica)</i> <i>Turnstone (Arenaria interpres)</i> <i>Lesser Black-backed Gull (Larus fuscus)</i> <i>Golden Plover (Pluvialis apricaria)</i> <i>Grey Plover (Pluvialis squatarola)</i> <i>Dunlin (Calidris alpina)</i>	As per NPWS (2015) Conservation objectives: Ballymacoda Bay SPA 004023. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (dated 19/02/2015).