

# OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

	Environmental Licensing Programme Memorandum
To:	Eimear Cotter, Director
From:	Yvonne English, Inspector, Environmental Licensing Programme
Date:	13 February 2018
RE:	Request for a Technical Amendment to Waste Water Discharge Licence Register Number, D0034-01, held by Irish Water, for the Greater Dublin Area Agglomeration.

### Introduction

A Waste Water Discharge licence (Register Number D0034-01) was first granted for the Greater Dublin Area agglomeration (Ringsend) by the Environmental Protection Agency on 27/07/2010.

## **Request for Technical Amendment**

In a letter to the Agency dated 14<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Irish Water requested a technical amendment to the licence under Regulation 33(1) of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 as amended.

Irish Water is requesting the addition of a Storm Water Overflow (SWO) to be included into *Schedule A.4 Storm Water Overflows* of the licence.

Irish Water intends to install 4 underground storage tanks to balance combined sewer flows before controlled discharge into the existing sewer network. It is expected that this storm water overflow will be operational by Q4 2020. The tanks will provide a SWO to the River Tolka and any discharge will be screened before discharge. The overflow will be fully compliant with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government "Procedures and Criteria in relation to Storm Water Overflows", 1995.

# Birds Directive [79/409/EEC] & Habitats Directive [92/43/EEC]

The Greater Dublin Area agglomeration discharges directly into the North Dublin Bay SAC (Site Code: 000206), the South Dublin Bay SAC (Site Code: 000210), the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (Site Code: 004024) and the North Bull Island SPA (Site Code: 004006).

A Stage 1 screening for Appropriate Assessment of discharges from the agglomeration was undertaken to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the site, if the discharges, individually or in combination with other plans or projects are likely to have a significant effect on the European sites at North Dublin Bay SAC,

the South Dublin Bay SAC, the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA and the North Bull Island SPA.

The discharges are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European Site and it is considered, for the reasons set out below, that it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the discharges, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European Site and accordingly it was determined that an Appropriate Assessment was not required.

This determination is based on the fact that the proposed amendments will not result in a material change to the nature or volume of the discharges from the agglomeration.

### Recommendation

I recommend that the licence amendment be approved as set out in the attached recommended Technical Amendment. This amendment does not result in the relevant requirements of Regulation 6(3) of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 as amended, ceasing to be satisfied.

Signed

Yvonne English

Environmental Licensing Programme