



**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, D0202-01, held by Irish Water, for the Mitchelstown agglomeration.

Introduction

A Waste Water Discharge licence (Register Number D0202-01) was first granted for the Mitchelstown agglomeration by the Environmental Protection Agency on 5/07/2010.

Request for Technical Amendment

In a letter to the Agency dated 17/08/2017, 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 two Storm Water Overflows (SWOs) to be included into *Schedule A.4 Storm Water Overflows* of the licence; SW6-MITC and SW7-MITC.

The additional SWOs discharge into the same water body as the three other SWOs already included in the Mitchelstown licence.

Irish Water states that a SWO assessment was undertaken in 2011 and it is noted that both SW6-MITC and SW7-MITC were fully compliant with the requirements of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government "*Procedures and Criteria in relation to Storm Water Overflows*", 1995. However, the same assessment listed both SWOs as non-compliant in the 2016 Annual Environmental Report. Irish Water state that the non-compliance was determined based solely on the construction type. The licence for Mitchelstown states that all SWOS shall be upgraded to comply with the requirements of 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 Mitchelstown agglomeration discharges indirectly (25 km downstream) via the River Gradogue and the River Funshion into the Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC (Site Code: 002170) and the Blackwater Callows SPA (Site Code: 004094).

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 Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC and the Blackwater Callows SPA.

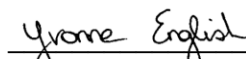
The discharges are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European Site and it is considered, for the reasons set out below, that it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the discharges, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will 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