

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Licensing Programme Memorandum

TO: Dara Lynott, Director

FROM: Yvonne English

DATE: 02/12/2016

Request for a Technical Amendment to Waste Water Discharge

Licence Register Number **D0132-01**, for **Kinsale** agglomeration.

Introduction

A Waste Water Discharge Licence (WWDL) for the Kinsale agglomeration was first granted by the Environmental Protection Agency on the 3/07/2014, Reg. No. D0132-01.

Request for Technical Amendment

In correspondence to the Agency dated 14/10/2016, the licensee requested that a technical amendment of this licence (Reg. No. D0132-01) be undertaken to amend Schedule A.3 Storm Water Overflows. Irish Water has identified five storm water overflows (SWOs) which are not currently specified in the licence and are now seeking to include these SWOs in the licence by way of a Technical Amendment.

Following examination of information supplied by Irish Water in the 2015 Annual Environmental Report (AER) for the Kinsale agglomeration, the Agency is not satisfied that a number of the requested additional SWOs comply with the criteria set out in the DoECLG '*Procedures and Criteria in Relation to Storm Water Overflows*', 1995.

The 2015 AER for Kinsale states that compliance with the criteria set out in the DoECLG '*Procedures and Criteria in Relation to Storm Water Overflows*', 1995 for a number of the requested SWOs is unknown. The AER also states that one of the requested SWOs causes significant visual and or aesthetic impact on the receiving environment and gives rise to public complaints.

If a SWO cannot be demonstrated to operate as it is designed to do so and comply with the DoECLG '*Procedures and Criteria in Relation to Storm Water Overflows*', 1995 the Agency may take the view, in accordance with the precautionary principle, that the discharge point is operating as a secondary discharge point.

As outlined in the 'EPA Guidance for Irish Water on Requests for Alterations to a Waste Water Discharge Licence or Certificate of Authorisation' document as agreed between the EPA and Irish Water, the introduction of a new primary or secondary discharge point would require a WWDL review.

Recommendation

It is for the reasons outlined above that I recommend the Technical Amendment requested by Irish Water for the Kinsale agglomeration be refused.

Signed

Yvonne English

OES – Environmental Licensing Programme