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13 June 2019

<u>Historic Landfill Certificate of Authorisation Application by Limerick City & County Council in</u> respect of Churchtown Landfill

Dear Mr O Carroll

I am to acknowledge receipt on 12 July 2018 of documents pertaining to your application for a Historic Landfill Certificate of Authorisation Application Reg No H0291-01, by Limerick City & County Council, in respect of Churchtown Landfill.

I am to advise you in accordance with Regulation 42(8)(a) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, 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 European sites. Notification of this determination is attached for your reference.

In carrying out an Appropriate Assessment the Agency shall take into account each of the matters specified in Regulation 42(12) of the European Communities (Birds and Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, where applicable.

The application and associated correspondence, including acknowledgements, notifications and general correspondence are available to view on the Agency website at www.epa.ie. You are advised to refer to the website for information on the progress of the application.

Please direct any further correspondence in relation to this matter to Administration, Office of Environmental Sustainability, Environmental Protection Agency, Headquarters, P.O. Box 3000, Johnstown Castle Estate, County Wexford.

Yours sincerely

Eve O'Sullivan

Programme Officer

**Environmental Licensing Programme** 

File of Seology

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## **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 European Sites. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites listed below.

## **Consent Details:**

Reg. No.	H0291-01
Applicant Name:	Limerick City & County Council.
Type of Consent Sought:	Certificate of Authorisation.
Location of Facility:	Churchtown Landfill, Churchtown, Newcastle West, County Limerick.
Certificate of Authorisation Application Date:	27 <sup>th</sup> June 2018
European Sites assessed:	Lower River Shannon SAC (Site Code: 002165)
	Askeaton Fen Complex SAC (Site code: 002279)
	Stack's to Mullaghareirk Mountains, West Limerick Hills and Mount Eagle SPA (Site code: 004161)
	River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA (Site code: 004077)
Date of AA Screening Determination:	10 <sup>th</sup> June 2019

## **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.

The reason for this determination is as follows:

 Although there is no discharge to surface waters from the closed landfill, it cannot be certain that the landfill leachate which infiltrates into the underlying aquifer does not ultimately reach a surface waterbody that is hydrologically connected to the above European Sites.

Date: 10th June 2019

Ewa Babiarczyk

Office of Environmental Sustainability