

This Report has been cleared for submission to the Director by Marie O'Connor, Programme Manager

Signed: 

Dated: 10 July 2019



**OFFICE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY**

**Environmental Licensing Programme Memorandum**

<b>To:</b>	Eimear Cotter, Director
<b>From:</b>	Yvonne English, Inspector
<b>Date:</b>	10 July 2019
<b>RE:</b>	Request from Irish Water to withdraw a Waste Water Discharge Licence Application for the Grenagh Agglomeration, Reg. No. D0544-01

Irish Water submitted an application for a waste water discharge licence (WWDL) for the Grenagh agglomeration (D0544-01) on 11/09/2017. The application was made in the 500 – 1,000 population equivalent (p.e.) category and was accompanied by the appropriate fee of €10,000.

The Grenagh agglomeration is currently authorised under a Certificate of Authorisation (A0524-01) issued to Irish Water by the Agency on 30/04/2015.

On 12/12/2018, the Agency received a request from Irish Water to withdraw the Grenagh WWDL application. In their letter of request, Irish Water explained that the agglomeration p.e. provided with the original WWDL (592 p.e.) no longer applies.

Irish Water has determined that the current population equivalent for the Grenagh agglomeration is 467 p.e. This figure is based on Irish Water's refined Interim Load Methodology (ITM), an approach which has been agreed with the Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE). This model takes account of commuter effects and realistic commercial usage in small settlements.

Irish Water has identified that the recalculated population equivalent figure is below the 500 p.e. waste water discharge licensing threshold and therefore that the current Certificate of Authorisation (A0524-01) is the appropriate form of authorisation for the waste water discharges from the Grenagh agglomeration.

The Agency has commenced the assessment of the WWDL application for the Grenagh agglomeration. The Agency has issued a Regulation 18(3)(b)<sup>1</sup> Notice requesting further information in support of the WWDL application and a site visit to the waste water treatment plant had been undertaken.

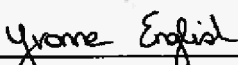
### **Recommendation**

I am satisfied that the withdrawal of the Grenagh licence application is appropriate on the basis that the Grenagh agglomeration has a p.e. below the 500 p.e. WWDL threshold. I therefore recommend that the Agency agree to the withdrawal of the Licence Application, Reg. No. D0544-01.

Having regard to the fact that no recommendation or decision on the WWDL application has been made by the Agency, although the Agency has expended resources (administration and technical assessment) processing the WWDL application to date, I consider that a partial refund of the WWDL application fee is considered appropriate. Therefore, I recommend that half of the WWDL fee be retained by the Agency.

One submission has been received to date in relation to the WWDL application. This was received from the Health Service Executive (HSE) on 25/10/2017. This submission stated that the HSE had no adverse comments to make on the application once the proposed control and monitoring measures are implemented. Statutory Bodies will be notified that the application has been withdrawn.

Signed

  
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Yvonne English  
Inspector  
Environmental Licensing Programme

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<sup>1</sup> Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations, 2007, as amended.