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APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

STAGE 1 SCREENING

STARRUS ECO HOLDINGS LTD

MILLENNIUM BUSINESS PARK

FINGAL

Prepared For: -

Starrus Eco Holdings Ltd
Millennium Business Park
Fingal

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Project		Stage 1 Screening Assessment License Boundary Extension		
Client		SEHL Millennium Business Park		
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1. INTRODUCTION

Starrus Eco Holdings Ltd (SEHL) operates a Materials Recovery & Transfer facility (MRF) at Millennium Business Park, Ballycoolin, Dublin 11 under Industrial Emissions Licence (IED) (W0183-01) issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) in April 2004.

The licence authorises the acceptance of 270,000 tonnes of commercial/industrial non-hazardous waste, municipal waste and construction and demolition wastes, subject to the provision of the required infrastructure which includes a waste recovery and transfer building and a biowaste treatment building. The biowaste treatment building has not been constructed and currently the annual waste intake is capped at 220,000 tonnes.

The existing waste recovery and transfer building is designed to accommodate distinct waste handling areas for the Commercial and Industrial (C&I) waste, Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) and Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste. Each area has separate access for loading and unloading, waste sorting, processing and storage.

SEHL has obtained planning permission to construct a second waste recovery and transfer building in the footprint of the biowaste building. This will allow SEHL to increase the annual waste intake to 270,000 tonnes. The operation of the new building requires a Technical Amendment of the current licence and this requires the completion of an Appropriate Assessment Screening report.

The European Union (EU) Habitats Directive (92/43/EC) and the EU Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) identify designated areas (Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA) respectively), are collectively known as European Sites and otherwise as Natura 2000 Sites.

The Habitats Directive, which is implemented under the European Communities Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 (S.I. No 477 of 2011), requires an “appropriate assessment” of the potential impacts any proposed development that may have an impact on the conservation objectives of any Natura 2000 site.

Article 6(3) of the Directive stipulates that *any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a Natura 2000 site, but likely to have a significant effect thereon...shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site’s conservation objectives.*

Guidance documents issued by Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government (DEHLG) and the National Parks and Wildlife Services (NPWS) recommend that the assessment be completed in a series of Stages, which comprise:

Stage 1: Screening

The purpose of this Stage is to determine, on the basis of a preliminary assessment and objective criteria, whether a plan or project, alone and in combination with other plans or projects, could have significant effects on a Natura 2000 site in respect of the site’s conservation objectives.

Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment

This Stage is required if the Stage 1 Screening exercise identifies that the project is likely to have a significant impacts on a Natura 2000 site.

Stage 3: Assessment of Alternative Solutions.

If Stage 2 determines that the project will have an adverse impact upon the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, despite the implementation of mitigation measures, it must be objectively concluded that no alternative solutions exist before the plan can proceed.

Stage 4: Compensatory Measures:

Where no alternative solutions are feasible and where adverse impacts remain but imperative reasons of overriding public interest require the implementation of a project an assessment of compensatory measures that will effectively offset the damage to the Natura 2000 Site is required.

1.1 Methodology

The Screening Assessment was based on a site inspection and the proposed changes to facility operations. It followed the guidance presented in The DEHLG (2009, revised February 2010) Appropriate Assessment of Plans and Projects in Ireland and the NPWS (2010) Circular NPW 1/10 & PSSP 2/10 Appropriate Assessment under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive: Guidance for Planning Authorities.

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2. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

2.1 Site Location

The installation occupies 4.45 hectares (ha) in the east of the Millennium Business Park, Ballycoolin, Dublin 11.

2.2 Environmental Setting

2.2.1 Hydrology

The site is located in the catchment of the Tolka River, whose main channel is approximately 3km to the south of the site. The closest significant water feature is a tributary of the Tolka which is approximately 1km to the west of the site.

The River Tolka is part of the IE_EA_Tolka Water Management Unit (WMU) designated in the ERBD Management Plan prepared under the EU Water Framework Directive (WFD). The WMU comprises various Water Bodies and the site is in the Tolka Lower River Water Body.

Reports have been prepared on the 'Status' of each water body. Status means the condition of the water in a watercourse and is defined by its ecological and chemical status, whichever is worse. Water bodies are ranked in one of five classes, High, Good, Moderate, Poor and Bad. The WFD requires measures to ensure waters achieve at least 'Good Status' by 2015 and that their current status does not deteriorate. Where necessary, for example in heavily impacted or modified watercourses, extended deadlines (2021 and 2027) can be set for achieving the following objectives:

- Prevent Deterioration
- Restore Good Status
- Reduce Chemical Pollution
- Achieve Protected Areas Objectives

The objectives for particular watercourses are based on Pressure and Impact Assessments of human activity, including point and diffuse emissions, land use and morphological conditions on surface waters to identify those water bodies that are 'At Risk' of failing to meet the WFD objectives.

The Lower Tolka Water Body Status Report states that the overall status is "Poor", and is considered 'At Risk' of not achieving its restoration objective of at least 'Good' status by 2027.

2.2.2 Geology & Hydrogeology

Geotechnical site investigations undertaken at the Business Park indicate that the subsoils range in thickness from less than 1.3m to 8.45m thick. At the installation, the thickness is thin in the north-western portion of the site and thickens to the east and south. The subsoils comprise sandy gravelly boulder clays.

The bedrock locally comprises calcareous, shale, limestone, conglomerate of the Tober Coleen Formation. Based on data obtained from the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) the bedrock aquifer is a locally important (Lm) aquifer that is productive in local zones. The aquifer vulnerability rating is Extreme (E).

The aquifer is part of the Dublin Area Groundwater Body (IE_EA_G_005). The condition of a groundwater Water Body is defined by its chemical and quantitative status, whichever is worse, and groundwater quality is ranked in one of two status classes: Good or Poor. The Dublin Area Water Body is categorised as being of 'Good' status, but is 'At Risk' of achieving its objective of protecting the existing status.

2.3 Surrounding Land Use

The installation is located within an existing business park. The installation is bound to the north and east by a quarry operated by Roadstone Wood and to the west and south by other business premises within Millennium Business Park. The site is traversed from north-west to south-east by the Finglas to Woodlands high voltage (220kV) overhead power lines. The Finglas to Macetown high voltage (100kV) overhead power line runs from east to west along the southern site boundary.

2.4 Site Layout

The site comprises two waste recovery and transfer buildings (4,388m² and 4809m²), administration building/staff amenity (625m²), maintenance building (286m²), two weighbridges and associated control rooms, fuel tanks and bund walls, hard standings, skips storage, vehicle parking, vehicle wash area and all other associated site works.

2.5 Site Operations

The first waste recovery and transfer building is designed to accommodate distinct waste handling areas for the C&I, MSW and C&D waste. The plant and equipment originally used included bag openers, trommels, overband magnets, optical and ballistic separators, conveyors and compaction units. Over time in response to market conditions the types of waste accepted and the method of processing changed.

In 2014 the C&D and C&I processing line were removed. The site continues to accept C&D waste, primarily household skip waste and residual household/commercial MSW and food waste (brown bin). These wastes are processed and/or bulked up and sent to other waste management facilities for treatment. Loose and baled solid recovered fuel (SRF) produced at other waste management facilities is accepted and stored before consignment to authorised outlets. The C&D and C&I skip operations will be moved to the new recovery and transfer building. The C&D and C&I will be subjected to basic manual sorting and sorting via mobile plant such as track machine and loading shovels.

2.6 Operational Hours

The licence authorises operations 24 hours, 7 day weeks a day.

2.7 Drainage

2.7.1 Foul Water

Process wastewater (dust/odour suppression mist) and yard run-off from areas that are susceptible to contamination is discharged to the foul sewer serving the business park via a silt trap and oil interceptor. Sanitary waste water is discharged directly to the park's foul sewer. The foul sewer connects to the Irish Water municipal foul sewer.

2.7.2 Surface Water

Rainwater run-off from the building roofs, car parks and areas of the yard where wastes are not stored, used to discharge to the municipal storm water sewer and the quality was monitored at two locations. In 2013, the surface water monitoring identified contamination. As part of the investigation, SEHL contacted the Millennium Business Park Management Company who informed it that there was a problem with the flow in the sewer system serving the Business Park, which was causing back flow into the installation resulting in stagnant and nutrient rich water collecting at the monitoring locations.

Responsibility for addressing the drainage problems rests with the Management Company and, pending the resolution, the surface water run-off from the site has been diverted to the foul sewer under permission from Irish Water. Therefore, there are currently no emissions to surface water; however it is intended to recommence emissions to the surface water sewer serving the Business Park once the Management Company has resolved the drainage problems.

2.8 Chemicals/Oil

The materials/products used on-site include diesel, hydraulic and engine oils, and odour control additive. There are two 2,500 litre self-bunded plastic tanks containing diesel. Relatively small volumes of chemicals and hydrocarbons are stored on site, such as paints or white spirit for maintenance purposes, drums of hydraulic oils for maintenance of machinery, engine oils and anti-freeze etc. These materials are stored on pallets in the maintenance shed.

2.9 Emissions

Site operations are a source of noise and the licence specifies emission levels for the nearest noise sensitive locations. Operations are also a potential source of dust emissions and the licence specifies measures to control odour and dust emissions. Surface water and waste water emissions discharge to the Irish Water foul sewer.

2.10 Emergencies

An emergency is an accident/incident that has the potential to result in environmental pollution and harm to human health & safety. SEHL has adopted an Emergency Response Procedure (ERP) that identifies potential hazards at the site that may cause damage to the environment and also specifies the roles, responsibilities and actions required to deal quickly and efficiently with all foreseeable major incidents and to minimise environmental impacts.

2.11 Proposed Development

The proposed development involves relocating the C&I and C&D skip operations from the existing to the new building. This will not result in any new emission point or any material change increase in:

- The nature and quantity of the authorised emissions;
- The existing abatement/treatment or recovery systems;
- The range of processes to be carried out, and
- The fuels, raw materials, intermediates, products or wastes generated.

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3. NATURA 2000 SITES

SACs are selected for the conservation and protection of habitats listed on Annex I and species (other than birds) listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive, and their habitats. SPAs are selected for the conservation and protection of bird species listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive and regularly occurring migratory species, and their habitats, particularly wetlands. The selected habitats and species are termed Qualifying Interests.

A statement of Conservation Objectives is prepared for each designated site which identifies the qualifying interests or conservation features. The Conservation Objectives are intended to ensure that the relevant habitats and species present on a site are maintained, and where necessary restored, at a Favourable Conservation Status. Favourable Conservation Status of a habitat, as defined in 2011 Birds and Natural Habitats Regulations, is when:

- its natural range, and area it covers within that range, are stable or increasing, and
- the specific structure and functions which are necessary for its long-term maintenance exist and are likely to continue to exist for the foreseeable future, and
- the conservation status of its typical species is favourable

Conservation Status of a species is when:

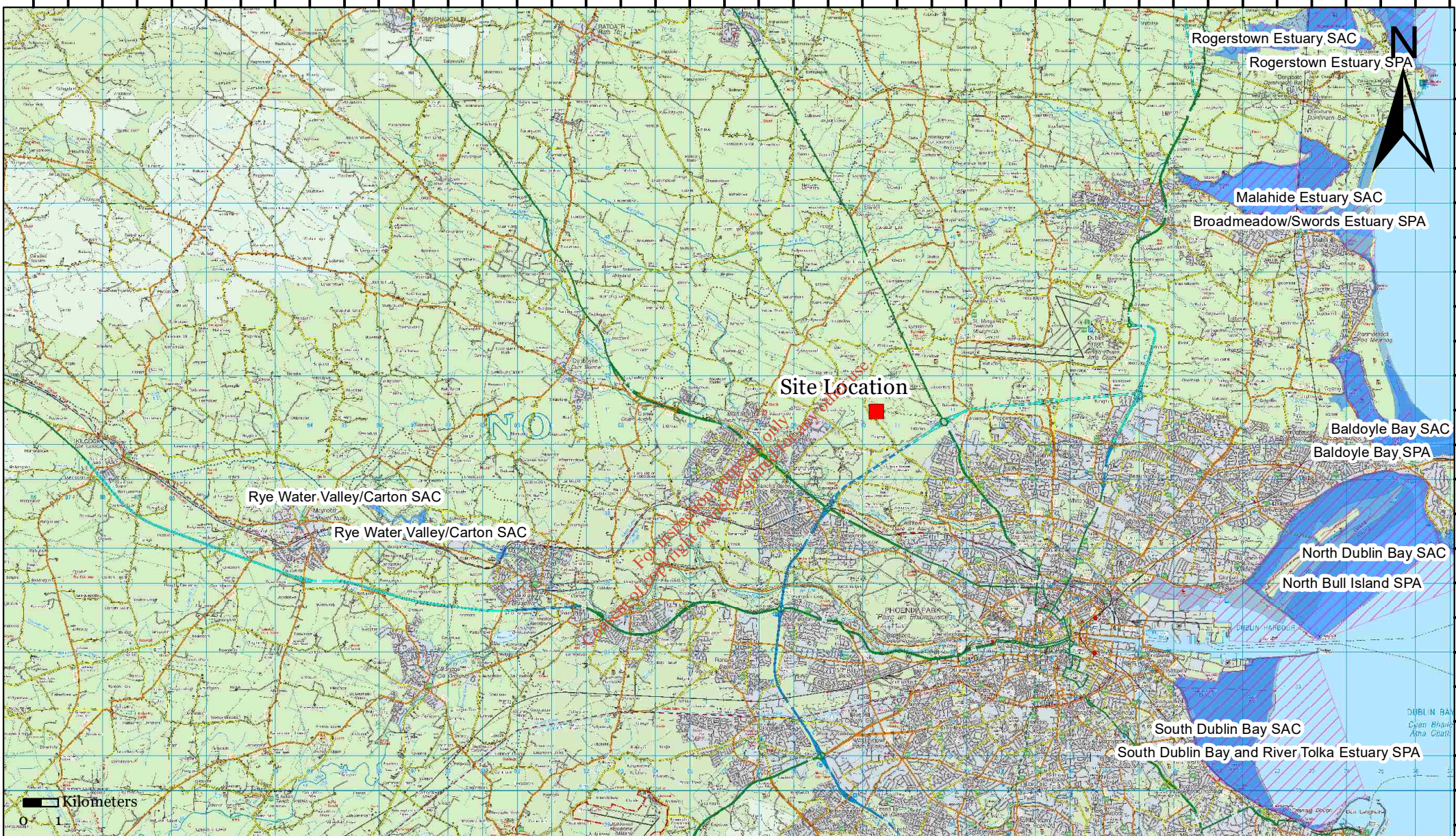
- the favourable population dynamics data on the species concerned indicates that it is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitats,
- the natural range of the species is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future, and
- there is, and will probably continue to be, a sufficiently large habitat to maintain its populations on a long-term basis.

The designated SACs and SPAs within 15km of the site that could potentially be affected by the proposed changes are listed in Table 3.1 and shown on Figure 3.1. The closest site is the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, which is 9.1km southeast of the facility.

Table 3.1. Natura 2000 Sites within 15 km of the SEHL Facility

Site	Code	Distance
SPA		
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary	004024	9.1 km southeast
Malahide Estuary (Broadmeadow/Swords) SPA	004025	11.2 km northeast
North Bull Island SPA	004006	11.7 km east
Baldoyle Bay SPA	004016	13.2 km east
Rogerstown Estuary SPA	004015	14.6 km northeast
SAC		
River Water Valley/Carton SAC	001398	10.9 km southwest
Malahide Estuary SAC	000205	11.1 km northeast
South Dublin Bay SAC	000210	11.7 km southeast
North Dublin Bay SAC	000206	11.8 km east
Baldoyle Bay SAC	000199	13.1 km east
Rogerstown Estuary SAC	000208	13.9 km northeast

286000 288000 290000 292000 294000 296000 298000 300000 302000 304000 306000 308000 310000 312000 314000 316000 318000 320000 322000 324000 326000



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CLIENT
 Starrus Eco Holdings Ltd.

TITLE
 Natura 2000 Sites

Details:

- Site Location
- ▨ SPA
- SAC

Figure 3.1

3.1 SPA

South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA

The South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA comprises a substantial part of Dublin Bay. It includes the intertidal area between the River Liffey and Dun Laoghaire, and the estuary of the River Tolka to the north of the River Liffey, as well as Booterstown Marsh. A portion of the shallow marine waters of the bay is also included.

The Site Synopsis for the SPA, listing the full Qualifying Interests, and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004024> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

The site consists of a variety of bird species and wetland habitats, as listed;

Species/Habitat	Code
Light Bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	A046
Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)	A130
Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>)	A137
Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	A141
Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)	A143
Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>)	A144
Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>)	A149
Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	A157
Redshank (<i>Tinga tetanus</i>)	A162
Black headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>)	A179
Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>)	A192
Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>)	A193
Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>)	A194
Wetlands	A999

The site is an SPA for the following species: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Oystercatcher, Ringed Plover, Grey Plover, Knot, Sanderling, Dunlin, Bar-tailed Godwit, Redshank, Black-headed Gull, Roseate Tern, Common Tern and Arctic Tern. The E.U. Birds Directive pays particular attention to wetlands, and as these form part of the SPA, the site and its associated waterbirds are of special conservation interest for Wetland & Waterbirds.

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objective is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Malahide Estuary (Broadmeadow/Swords) SPA

Malahide Estuary is situated in north Co. Dublin, between the towns of Malahide and Swords. The site encompasses the estuary, saltmarsh habitats and shallow subtidal areas at the mouth of the estuary. The Site Synopsis for the SPA, listing the full Qualifying Interests, and the Conservation

Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004025> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

The site consists of a variety of bird species and wetland habitats, as listed;

Species/Habitat	Code
Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>)	A005
Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	A046
Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	A048
Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	A054
Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>)	A067
Red-breasted Merganser (<i>Mergus serrator</i>)	A069
Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)	A130
Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	A140
Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	A141
Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)	A143
Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>)	A149
Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	A156
Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	A157
Redshank (<i>Tinga tetanus</i>)	A162
Wetlands	A999

The site is an SPA for the following species: Great Crested Grebe, Light-bellied Brent Goose, Shelduck, Pintail, Goldeneye, Red-breasted Merganser, Oystercatcher, Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Knot, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit and Redshank. The E.U. Birds Directive pays particular attention to wetlands and, as these form part of this SPA, the site and its associated waterbirds are of special conservation interest for Wetland & Waterbirds.

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objective is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA

North Bull Island SPA

This site covers all of the inner part of north Dublin Bay, with the seaward boundary extending from the Bull Wall lighthouse across to Drumleck Point at Howth Head.

The Site Synopsis for the SPA, listing the full Qualifying Interests, and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004006> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

The site consists of a variety of bird species and wetland habitats as listed;

Species/Habitat	Code
Light Bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	A046
Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	A048
Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)	A052
Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)	A054
Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>)	A056
Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)	A130
Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	A140
Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	A141
Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)	A143
Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>)	A144
Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>)	A149
Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	A156
Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	A157
Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)	A160
Redshank (<i>Tinga tetanus</i>)	A162
Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>)	A169
Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>)	A179
Wetlands	A999

The site is an SPA for the following species: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Shelduck, Teal, Pintail, Shoveler, Oystercatcher, Golden Plover, Grey Plover, Knot, Sanderling, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit, Bar-tailed Godwit, Curlew, Redshank, Turnstone and Black-headed Gull. The site is also of special conservation interest for holding an assemblage of over 20,000 wintering waterbirds. The Birds Directive pays particular attention to wetlands and, as these form part of this SPA, the site and its associated waterbirds are of special conservation interest for Wetland & Waterbirds.

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objective is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA

Baldoyle SPA

Baldoyle Bay, located to the north and east of Baldoyle and to the south of Portmarnock, Co. Dublin, is a relatively small, narrow estuary separated from the open sea by a large sand dune system. Two small rivers, the Mayne River and the Sluice River, flow into the inner part of the estuary.

The Site Synopsis for the SPA, listing the full Qualifying Interests, and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004016> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

The site consists of a variety of bird species and wetland habitats as listed;

Species/Habitat	Code
Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	A046
Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	A048
Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>)	A137
Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	A140
Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	A141
Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)	A157
Wetlands	A999

The site is an SPA for the following species: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Shelduck, Ringed Plover, Golden Plover, Grey Plover and Bar-tailed Godwit. The E.U. Birds Directive pays particular attention to wetlands and, as these form part of this SPA, the site and its associated waterbirds are of special conservation interest for Wetland & Waterbirds.

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objective is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA.

Rogerstown Estuary SPA

Rogerstown Estuary is situated about 2km north of Donabate in north County Dublin. It is a relatively small, funnel shaped estuary separated from the sea by a sand and shingle peninsula; the site extends eastwards to include an area of shallow marine water.

The Site Synopsis for the SPA, listing the full Qualifying Interests, and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/spa/004015> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

The site consists of a variety of bird species and wetland habitats, as listed;

Species/Habitat	Code
Greylag Goose (<i>Anser anser</i>)	A043
Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>)	A046
Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)	A048
Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>)	A056
Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)	A130
Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>)	A137
Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>)	A140
Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)	A141
Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)	A143
Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>)	A149
Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>)	A156
Redshank (<i>Tinga tetanus</i>)	A162
Wetlands	A999

The site is an SPA for the following species: Greylag Goose, Light-bellied Brent Goose, Shelduck, Shoveler, Oystercatcher, Ringed Plover, Grey Plover, Knot, Dunlin, Black-tailed Godwit and

Redshank. The E.U. Birds Directive pays particular attention to wetlands and, as these form part of this SPA, the site and its associated waterbirds are of special conservation interest for Wetland & Waterbirds.

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objective is to maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA

3.2 SAC

Rye Water Valley/Cartron SAC

Rye Water Valley/Cartron SAC is located between Leixlip and Maynooth, in Counties Meath and Kildare, and extends along the Rye Water, a tributary of the River Liffey.

The Site Synopsis, which lists the full Qualifying Interests and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/001398> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

Species/Habitat	Code
Narrow-mouthed Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo angustior</i>)	1014
Desmoulin's Whorl Snail (<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>)	1016
Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)*	7220

* Denotes a priority habitat

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objectives are to maintain or restore the favorable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:

Malahide Estuary SAC

Malahide Estuary is situated immediately north of Malahide and east of Swords in Co. Dublin. It is the estuary of the River Broadmeadow. The site is divided by a railway viaduct which was built in the 1800s.

The Site Synopsis, which lists the full Qualifying Interests and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000205> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

Species/Habitat	Code
Tidal Mudflats and Sandflats	1140
<i>Salicornia</i> Mud	1310
Atlantic Salt Meadows	1330
Mediterranean Salt Meadows	1410
Marram Dunes (White Dunes)	2120
Fixed Dunes (Grey Dunes)*	2130

* Denotes a priority habitat

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objectives are to maintain or restore the favorable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:

South Dublin Bay SAC

This site lies south of the River Liffey in Co. Dublin, and extends from the South Wall to the west pier at Dun Laoghaire. It is an intertidal site with extensive areas of sand and mudflats. The sediments are predominantly sands but grade to sandy muds near the shore at Merrion Gates. The main channel which drains the area is Cockle Lake.

The Site Synopsis, which lists the full Qualifying Interests and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000210> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

Species/Habitat	Code
Tidal Mudflats and Sandflats	1140
Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210
<i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand	1310
Embryonic shifting dunes	2110

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objectives are to maintain or restore the favorable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected.

North Dublin Bay SAC

This site covers the inner part of north Dublin Bay, the seaward boundary extending from the Bull Wall lighthouse across to the Martello Tower at Howth Head. The North Bull Island is the focal point of this site.

The Site Synopsis, which lists the full Qualifying Interests and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000206> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

Species/Habitat	Code
Tidal Mudflats and Sandflats	1140
Annual vegetation of drift lines	1210
<i>Salicornia</i> Mud	1310
Atlantic Salt Meadows	1330
Mediterranean Salt Meadows	1410
Embryonic shifting dunes	2110
Marram Dunes (White Dunes)	2120
Fixed Dunes (Grey Dunes)*	2130
Humid Dune Slacks	2190
Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>)	1395

* Denotes a priority habitat

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objectives are to maintain or restore the favorable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:

Baldoyle SAC

Baldoyle Bay SAC extends from just below Portmarnock village to the west pier at Howth in Co. Dublin. It is a tidal estuarine bay protected from the open sea by a large sand-dune system. Two small rivers, the Mayne and the Sluice, flow into the bay.

The Site Synopsis, which lists the full Qualifying Interests and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000199> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

Species/Habitat	Code
Tidal Mudflats and Sandflats	1140
<i>Salicornia</i> Mud	1310
Atlantic Salt Meadows	1330
Mediterranean Salt Meadows	1410

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objectives are to maintain or restore the favorable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:

Rogerstown Estuary SAC

Baldoyle Bay SAC extends from just below Portmarnock village to the west pier at Howth in Co. Dublin. It is a tidal estuarine bay protected from the open sea by a large sand-dune system. Two small rivers, the Mayne and the Sluice, flow into the bay.

The Site Synopsis, which lists the full Qualifying Interests and the Conservation Objectives are accessible at <https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites/sac/000208> and the information is summarised below.

Qualifying Interests

Species/Habitat	Code
Estuaries	1130
Tidal Mudflats and Sandflats	1140
<i>Salicornia</i> Mud	1310
Atlantic Salt Meadows	1330
Mediterranean Salt Meadows	1410
Marram Dunes (White Dunes)	2120
Fixed Dunes (Grey Dunes)*	2130

Conservation Objectives

The conservation objectives are to maintain or restore the favorable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:

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4. LIKELY EFFECTS

4.1 Direct Effects

The installation is not located within or adjoining to a Natura 2000 Site and the proposed development will not result in any direct habitat loss or fragmentation of any SPA or SAC.

4.2 Indirect Effects

The proposed development will not result in any new processes, there will be no changes to the existing emissions and it will not give rise to any new direct or indirect emission to air, surface water, ground or the foul sewer. There will be no change to the authorised operational hours.

4.3 Assessment of Effects

The assessment of the effects was based on the source- pathway- and receptor model. The source, is the location where an effect can arise i.e. the installation. The pathway is the means by which the effect can travel through the environment e.g. atmosphere, surface water and groundwater. The receptors are the Natura 2000 Sites. There are no viable ecological pathways between the installation and any Natura 2000 Sites.

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5. SCREENING CONCLUSION & STATEMENT

5.1 Conclusion

The proposed changes will not have any direct or indirect effects on a Natura 2002 Site.

5.2 Statement

The proposed development does not present a risk of significant effects on the Qualifying Interests and Conservation Objectives of any Natura 2000 Sites.

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