

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

	Environmental Licensing Programme Memorandum
To:	Dr. Eimear Cotter, Director
From:	Yvonne English, Inspector, Environmental Licensing Programme
Date:	5 June 2020
RE:	Request for a Technical Amendment to Waste Water Discharge Certificate of Authorisation Register Number A0336-01, for the Freemount agglomeration.

1. Introduction

A Waste Water Discharge Certificate of Authorisation (COA) for the Freemount agglomeration was first granted by the Environmental Protection Agency on the 16/06/2011, Reg. No. A0336-01.

2. Request for Technical Amendment

In correspondence to the Agency dated 03/02/2020, the licensee requested that a technical amendment of this COA (Reg. No. A0336-01) be undertaken in order to remove any requirements in the COA related to the discharge point from Freemount <u>water treatment plant</u> sludge holding tank. The technical amendment request outlines that the discharge point does not contain any domestic wastewater and is not classified as a wastewater discharge as defined in the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 as amended and therefore should not be included in the COA.

The overall purpose of the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 as amended is to prevent and reduce the pollution of waters by waste water discharges. Waste water discharge is defined in the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 as amended, as a discharge of a pollutant to water from a waste water works. Waste water works are defined as sewers and their accessories (or any part thereof) and all other associated structural devices, including waste water treatment plants which are owned by vested in, controlled or used by a water services authority for the collection storage, treatment or discharge of waste water.

The Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 as amended do not require the authorisation of discharges from *water treatment works*.

Following examination of the information submitted by Irish Water, the Certificate of Authorisation (Reg. No. A0336-01) and examination of the original Certificate of Authorisation application, it is determined that a technical amendment of the COA is not necessary.

The original COA application made reference to the discharge from the sludge holding tank at the Freemount Water Treatment Plant. However, further information received by the Agency on the 31/01/2011, as part of the certificate of authorisation application process, updated the COA application to remove all references of this discharge.

The Certificate of Authorisation, Reg. No. A0336-01, makes no reference to the discharge from the sludge holding tank at Freemount Water Treatment plant and as the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007 as amended do not require the authorisation of discharges from water treatment works, it is concluded that there is no requirement for a technical amendment to be carried out.

3. Recommendation

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

Signed

Yvonne English

Inspector

OES – Environmental Licensing Programme