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Mr. Ken Conroy
On behalf of Irish Water



3 September 2021

Reg. No. D0297-02

Re: Appropriate Assessment in respect of a licence review from Irish Water in respect of the agglomeration named Castletownbere

Dear Sir,

I refer to your application for a licence review in respect of the agglomeration named Castletownbere.

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 EPA has made a determination that an Appropriate Assessment is not required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is not likely to have a significant effect on European sites. Notification of this determination is attached for your reference.

The application and all associated correspondence are available to view on the EPA website at www.epa.ie. You are advised to refer to the website for information on the progress of the application.

If you have any further queries, please contact licensing@epa.ie.

Yours faithfully,

Environmental Licensing Programme
Office of Environmental Sustainability
Tel: 053 – 9160600

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 activities, 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.	D0297-02
Applicant Name:	Irish Water
Type of Consent Sought:	Review of a waste water discharge licence
Location of agglomeration:	Castletownbere, Cork
Review Licence Application Date:	19 February 2021
European Sites assessed:	Beara Peninsula SPA (Site Code: 004155)
	Kenmare River SAC (Site Code: 002158)
	Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC (Site Code: 000090)
	Glanmore Bog SAC (Site Code: 001879)
	Sheep's Head SAC (Site Code: 000102)
	Caha Mountains SAC (Site Code: 000093)
	Sheep's Head to Toe Head SPA (Site Code: 004156)
Date of AA Screening Determination:	3 September 2021

AA Screening Determination:

That the activities are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site and that it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the activities, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on any European site and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the activities was not required.


This determination is based on the fact that there is no hydrological or hydrogeological connection between the proposed discharges and the qualifying interests of Glanmore Bay SAC, Sheep's Head SAC, Caha Mountains SAC and Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland SAC and due to the distance between these SACs and the proposed discharges. Kenmare River SAC is hydrologically connected to

the proposed discharges but the discharges are too distant (22km) to affect qualifying interests of the site.

This determination is also based on the fact that the proposed discharges will not affect the population trend or the productivity rate of any qualifying interest species of the Beara Peninsula SPA or the Sheep's Head to Toe Head SPA. The breeding sites and habitats of the qualifying interest species will not be disturbed due to the proposed discharges.

This determination is also based on the fact that Berehaven coastal waters (IE_SW_180_0000) into which the proposed wastewater treatment plant will discharge is currently assigned 'Good' water quality status under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and the proposed discharges will result in a positive impact the receiving water quality.

This determination is also based on the small volume of proposed discharges from the agglomeration into a coastal environment with a positive dilution factor.



Christine Murphy
Office of Environmental Sustainability

Date: 3 September 2021