

## EIA Screening Determination

The Agency has, as part of its consideration of the Waste Water Discharge Authorisation (WWDA) review application referenced below, determined whether the application should be made subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The determination, and the main reasons for the determination, are detailed below.

### Application Details:

<b>Reg No.</b>	D0423-02
<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Irish Water
<b>Location of agglomeration:</b>	Whitegate-Aghada, Cork
<b>Authorisation Type</b>	Licence
<b>Authorisation Application Date:</b>	06 December 2021
<b>Date of EIA Screening Determination:</b>	10 February 2022

### EIA Screening Determination:

There is no real likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development comprising or for the purposes of a waste water discharge and EIA is not required for the authorisation to which the above application relates.

This determination has been made following an examination of the nature, size and location of the development, having considered the information provided by the applicant and having regard to the requirements of Regulation 18(10)(a) of the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020.

The following features of the development and measures provided by the applicant which are envisaged to avoid or prevent what might otherwise have been significant adverse effects on the environment are as follows:


1. The provision of primary settlement tanks and a stormwater holding tank to prevent the discharge of untreated wastewater into Cork Harbour.
2. The provision of a long marine outfall (295m) to discharge treated effluent from the proposed wastewater treatment plant.

The main reasons and considerations on which this determination is based are as follows:

1. The limited scale of the waste water discharges from the wastewater treatment plant. The wastewater treatment plant serves an agglomeration with a population equivalent (p.e) of 2,479 which is significantly below the 10,000 p.e mandatory threshold for EIA.

2. The waste water discharge from the waste water treatment plant is domestic in nature and readily biodegradable. There is no industrial or commercial inputs into the waste water.
3. Wastewater is treated in primary settlement tanks prior to discharge to Cork Harbour via a long marine outfall of 295m.
4. The potential effects of the waste water discharges, alone and cumulatively with other discharges, on WFD status and environmental objectives will be assessed and should a waste water discharge licence be granted for the agglomeration, emission limit values will be set in the licence to contribute to meeting the objectives for the receiving waterbody.
5. There are no bathing waters in the vicinity likely to be affected by the discharge.
6. There are no shellfish waters in the vicinity likely to be affected by the discharge.
7. The proposed primary discharge is directly into the Cork Harbour SPA. With regard to this European site, the potential effects the waste water discharges may have on European Sites and their qualifying interests will be assessed under the Habitats Directive (Appropriate Assessment).

Submissions on a WWDA review application can be made before an authorisation is granted. Information on the public participation process is available on the Agency's website at [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie).



Date: 10/02/2022

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Office of Environmental Sustainability