Electronic copy

Mr. Paraic Fay On behalf of Fiojo Limited



27 July 2022

Reg. No. P1147-01

## <u>Re: Appropriate Assessment in respect of a licence application from Fiojo Limited in</u> respect of the installation located at Corvoy, Ballybay, County Monaghan.

Dear Mr. Fay,

I refer to your application for a licence application in respect of the installation located at Corvoy, Ballybay, County Monaghan. A second Appropriate Assessment was carried out in respect of this licence application based on the information received on 28 February 2022 regarding an increase in the stock capacity applied for.

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 a European site. Notification of this determination is attached for your reference.

The application and all associated correspondence are available to view on the EPA website at <u>www.epa.ie</u>. 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, Philip Stack 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 activity, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site listed below.

## **Consent Details:**

Reg. No.	P1147-01
Applicant Name:	Fiojo Limited
Type of Consent Sought:	IEL
Location of installation:	Corvoy, Ballybay, County Monaghan
Licence Application Date:	03 March 2021
European Site assessed:	Magheraveeley Marl Loughs SAC (NI) (Site
	Code: UK0016621)
Date of AA Screening Determination:	27 July 2022

## AA Screening Determination:

That the activity is 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 activity, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the activity was not required.

This determination has been made in light of the following reasons:

- The closest European site is approximately 18.7 km away.
- Based on the use of the screening model, SCAIL Agriculture, ammonia emissions from this activity are not predicted to have a significant impact on sensitive receptors within the European sites listed above. Based on the model output, nitrogen deposition as a result of this activity will not have a significant effect on sensitive receptors within these European sites.
- The only surface water pathway connecting the installation to a European site is where the clean storm water from the proposed installation discharges via a series of drains, streams and rivers to a European Site (Lough Oughter and Associated Loughs SAC) more than 50 km downstream.
- The risk of surface water or groundwater contamination because of accidental emissions during washing activities, or from spillage from the wash water tanks, is minimal given the distance between the activity and the European sites.
- The quantity and type of waste produced by the activity per annum is not considered significant.

- The litter generated at the installation has high dry matter content.
- The litter remains within the concrete-floored covered broiler houses until all broilers are removed at the end of the batch. Therefore, there is no pathway between the litter and surface water/groundwater while the houses are stocked.
- When the houses are destocked, the litter is removed from the animal houses and taken offsite.
- Calculations have been supplied regarding nutrient stocking rates of the free-range areas and demonstrate that the range areas have capacity to accept the increased load when the birds are outside.
- Wash water is used as a fertiliser on lands that are not within the installation boundary, in accordance with the Nitrates Regulations. Poultry litter is transported by a contractor to composting facilities or may be used as an organic fertiliser on land in accordance with the Nitrates Regulations.
- The licence, if granted, relates to the site of the activity for which the licence application is made, i.e. the rearing of poultry within the installation boundary, and does not extend to the lands on which organic fertiliser may be used as fertiliser.
- Activities which can take place within European sites are restricted by legislation. All persons must obtain the written consent from the relevant Minister before performing particular operations on, or affecting, particular habitats where they occur on lands/waters within the SAC and/or SPA.
- Noise levels from poultry installations are very low and as the nearest European Site is approximately 18.7 km west of the installation (Magheraveeley Marl Loughs SAC), it is considered that noise will not impact on the qualifying interests within that, or any other European Site.
- Given the small scale of emissions associated with this activity, it is considered that the activity in combination with other plans or projects will not have a significant effect on any protected sites.

Information in relation to European Sites is available on <u>www.npws.ie.</u>

Documents relating to the licence application are available on the Agency's website at <u>www.epa.ie</u>

Philip Stack Environmental Licensing Programme Office of Environmental Sustainability Date: 27 July 2022