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Sheelagh Flanagan
On behalf of Irish Water



04 October 2022

Reg. No. D0299-02

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

Dear Sir or Madam,

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

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 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 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 Sites listed below.

Consent Details:

Reg. No.	D0299-02
Applicant Name:	Irish Water
Type of Consent Sought:	Review of a wastewater discharge licence
Location of agglomeration:	Ballymakeery and Ballyvourney, Co. Cork
Review Licence Application Date:	22/12/2021
European Sites assessed:	Cork Harbour SPA (Site Code: 004030)
	Great Island Channel SAC (Site Code: 001058)
	St Gobnet's Wood SAC (Site Code: 000106)
	Mullaghanish Bog SAC (Site Code: 001890)
	The Gearagh SAC (Site Code: 000108)
	Blackwater River SAC (Site Code: 002170)
	Killarney National Park, Maggilycuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC (Site Code: 000365)
	Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA (Site Code: 004162)
The Gearagh SPA (Site Code: 004109)	
Date of AA Screening Determination:	04/10/2022

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:

1. The Sullane River (IE_SW_19S020200), the receiving water for waste water discharges from the agglomeration, is currently assigned 'High' water quality status under the 2013-2018 Water Framework Directive (WFD) reporting period.

2. The proposed treated discharges, which are of a small scale due to the Ballyourney/Ballymackeery agglomeration's low population equivalent (p.e.) (projected 10-year load of 968 p.e.), will also result in a positive impact on the receiving water quality due to the removal of untreated wastewater discharges.
3. The qualifying interests of St Gobnet's Wood SAC, Mullaghanish to Musheramore Mountains SPA, the Mullaghanish Bog SAC, the Blackwater River SAC and Killarney National Park, Maggillycuddy's Reeks and Caragh River Catchment SAC have no hydrological or hydrogeological connection with the proposed discharges.
4. The Gearagh SAC and the Gearagh SPA are located approximately 10km upstream of the proposed discharges. The proposed discharges will not impact on the qualifying interests of these European sites due to the lack of hydrological and hydrogeological connection and due to the distance between the discharges and the sites.
5. Cork Harbour SPA and Great Island Channel SAC are hydrologically connected to the proposed discharges but the proposed discharges are considered to have no impact on the qualifying interests of the European sites due to the large distance (approximately 50km) between the discharges and the sites.



Christine Murphy
Office of Environmental Sustainability

Date: 04/10/2022