

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:

Reg No.	D0516-02
Applicant Name:	Uisce Éireann
Location of agglomeration:	Ballycotton, Co. Cork
Authorisation Type	Waste Water Discharge Licence
Authorisation Application Date:	09 November 2022
Date of EIA Screening Determination:	30 January 2023

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 main reasons and considerations, with reference to the relevant criteria listed in Schedule 7 to the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, on which this determination is based are as follows:

1. The limited scale of the waste water discharges from the proposed wastewater treatment plant. The wastewater treatment plant serves an agglomeration with a population equivalent (p.e) of 1,082 which is below the 10,000 p.e mandatory threshold for EIA.
2. Domestic wastewater is the only contributor to the waste water treatment plant and is readily biodegradable.
3. It is proposed to treat waste water by primary treatment prior to discharge to Ballycotton Bay. The proposed development will eliminate untreated urban waste water being discharged directly into Ballycotton Bay.

4. The discharges are into Ballycotton Bay (WFD Code: IE_SW_040_0000) receiving waterbody which has significant absorptive capacity due to the immediate available dilutions.
5. The potential effects of waste water discharges will be assessed and should a revised waste water discharge licence be granted, the controls and emission limit values set in the licence will be established according to the combined approach and will not compromise the achievement of the environmental objectives and environmental quality standards for the receiving waterbody.
6. The location of waste water discharges is remote from designated bathing waters and shellfish areas.
7. The cumulative effects with other existing discharges are not likely to give rise to significant effects on the environment.

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.



Date: 30/01/2023

Aimie Cranch

Office of Environmental Sustainability