



Waste Water Discharge Authorisation

Attachment B6 – Compliance with EU Directives & National Regulations

Applicant Name:*

Uisce Éireann

Application I.D.:*

D0034-02

SECTION B: GENERAL

B.6. Compliance with EU Directives / National Regulations

Table B.6(a) – Confirmation of relevance and compliance with EU Directives and National Regulations

The Greater Dublin Area Agglomeration has been designed to ensure that the emissions from the agglomeration will comply with, and will not result in the contravention of, EU Directives and National Regulations.

Legislation (National and EU)	Confirm relevance (Yes/No)	Compliant with requirements (Yes/No)	Section of application / attachments which provides relevant details of compliance
Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive 91/271/EEC	Yes	Yes	<p>The design of the WwTP is greater than 15,000 p.e and is in line with Article 4 of the directive, “Member States shall ensure that urban waste water entering a collecting system shall before discharge be subject to secondary treatment or an equivalent treatment for all discharges from agglomerations of more than 15,000 p.e”.</p> <p>The upgraded WwTP will provide secondary treatment, with N & P removal. A UV disinfection process is also provided during the bathing season.</p> <p>Refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section B.2.2 for details on the Waste Water Works and associated Waste Water Treatment Plant Section B.8: Improvement Programme Attachment C.1: Discharges and Monitoring Section C.2: Measures to Prevent Unintended Discharges Section D: Impact Assessment
Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations, 2001 as amended	Yes	Yes	<p>The Lower Liffey Estuary (N and P limited) and Tolka Estuary (N limited in summer and P limited in winter) are designated as “sensitive” waterbodies in accordance with the Urban Waste Water Treatment (UWWT) Directive 91/271/EEC on Urban Waste Water Treatment and S.I. No. 254 of 2001, S.I. No. 440 of 2004 and S.I. No. 48 of 2010. Based on these designations, along with the fact that the p.e of the agglomeration is greater than 100,000, a TP ELV of 1mg/l and TN ELV of 10mg/l was set by the EPA when granting D0034-01. The upgraded WwTP will provide for secondary treatment, with N & P removal.</p> <p>Refer to:</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section B.2.2: Waste Water Works and associated Waste Water Treatment Plant • Section B.8: Improvement Programme • Attachment C.1: Discharges and Monitoring • Section C.2: Measures to Prevent Unintended Discharges • Section D: Impact Assessment
Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	Yes	Yes	<p>Uisce Éireann are committed to ensuring that water services infrastructure operates in a manner that supports the achievement of the water body objectives under the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>The proposed effluent discharge standards set out in this licence review, along with the operation of the agglomeration overflows as detailed in this review application will ensure that the operational discharges from the Greater Dublin Area agglomeration contribute towards achieving / maintaining at least Good status of the applicable receiving waterbodies by 2027, thereby ensuring compatibility with achievement of the WFD objectives of the receiving waters.</p> <p>Monitoring of priority substances in the primary discharge is carried out annually in accordance with the existing WWDL (D0034-01). The assessment considered the primary discharge relevant to Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) for priority substances in surface waters, as set out in the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009, as amended. Based on the results of the 2022 monitoring, it was concluded that priority substances detected in effluent should have no negative impacts outside the near field of the discharge due to dilution.</p> <p>Refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section B.2.2 Waste Water Works and associated Waste Water Treatment Plant • Attachment B.5: Environmental Impact Assessment Report, June 2018 • Section D: Impact Assessment • Attachment D.2.1: Impact Assessment Report, May 2023 • Attachment D.2.2: Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade NIS, May 2018

Legislation (National and EU)	Confirm relevance (Yes/No)	Compliant with requirements (Yes/No)	Section of application / attachments which provides relevant details of compliance
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attachment D.2.4: Ringsend Influent and Effluent Priority Substances Screening 2022
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Waters) Regulations 2009 as amended	Yes	Yes	See above & refer to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section B.2.2 Waste Water Works and associated Waste Water Treatment Plant Attachment B.5: Environmental Impact Assessment Report, June 2018 Attachment D.2.1: Impact Assessment Report, May 2023 Attachment D.2.2: Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade NIS, May 2018 Attachment D.2.3: 2022 Ambient Monitoring Summary
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Freshwater Pearl Mussel) Regulations 2009	No	Not applicable	Not applicable. No designated Freshwater Pearl Mussel waterbodies downstream of the discharge.
Drinking Water Directive 80/778/EEC	No	Not applicable	Not applicable. No designated drinking waterbodies within the vicinity of the discharge.
Bathing Water Directive 76/160/EEC	Yes	Yes	<p>There are two bathing waters in Dublin Bay designated under EU Directive 2006/7/EC and Bathing Water Quality Regulations, S.I. No. 79 of 2008 which are in the vicinity of the primary discharge. These are Dollymount Strand and Sandymount Strand. Dollymount Bathing Water Area is located ca. 1.8km north east of the primary discharge. Sandymount Bathing Water Area is located ca. 1.5km south west of the primary discharge.</p> <p>The upgrade works will ensure that the emissions from the Greater Dublin Area agglomeration will comply with and not result in a contravention with this Directive.</p> <p>Refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section B.2.2 Waste Water Works and associated Waste Water Treatment Plant Attachment B.5: Environmental Impact Assessment Report, June 2018 Attachment D.2.1: Impact Assessment Report, May 2023 Attachment D.2.3: 2022 Ambient Monitoring Summary
Bathing Water Quality Regulations 2008	Yes	Yes	See above

Legislation (National and EU)	Confirm relevance (Yes/No)	Compliant with requirements (Yes/No)	Section of application / attachments which provides relevant details of compliance
Groundwater Directives 80/68/EEC & 2006/118/EC	No	Not applicable	Not applicable. No discharge to groundwater.
European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations 2010 as amended	No	Not applicable	Not applicable. No discharge to groundwater.
Birds Directive 79/409/EEC, Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC and European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended	Yes	Yes	<p>There are a number of European sites, pNHAs / NHAs and Ramsar sites within the environment surrounding the WwTP. Refer to Table 31 in the application form for further details.</p> <p>A combined Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) Report supported the 2018 planning application for the WwTP upgrade in order to inform An Bord Pleanála's Appropriate Assessment process. An Bord Pleanála concluded that the proposed development, by itself or in combination with other plans or projects, would not adversely affect the integrity of any European Sites, in view of the sites' Conservation Objectives.</p> <p>Based on the revised water quality modelling, which is currently being carried out, an addendum to the 2018 NIS will be completed and forwarded to the Agency.</p> <p>The 2018 combined AA Screening and NIS documents and 2023 Addendum to the 2018 NIS, will enable the EPA as competent authority to conduct an AA Screening Determination and Stage 2 AA in respect of the Greater Dublin Area agglomeration operational discharges, for the purposes of the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020.</p> <p>Refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attachment B.3.8: Inspector's Report, February 2019 • Attachment D.2.2: Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade NIS, May 2018
Environmental Impact Assessment Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU	Yes	Yes	Regulation 17 of the relevant Waste water Discharge Regulations (2007-2020) requires a mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) as the capacity of the Ringsend WwTP is greater than 10,000 p.e.

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			<p>Refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attachment B.5: Environmental Impact Assessment Report, June 2018 <p>Based on the revised water quality modelling, which is currently being carried out, an addendum to the 2018 EIAR will be completed and forwarded to the Agency.</p>
Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EC	Yes	Yes	<p>The upgrade works, which are currently underway, will ensure that the emissions from the Greater Dublin Area agglomeration comply with and not result in a contravention with this Directive.</p> <p>Refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section B.2.2 Waste Water Works and associated Waste Water Treatment Plant Attachment B.8: Improvement Programme Attachment D.2.1: Impact Assessment Report, May 2023
European Communities (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations, 1988 (S.I. No. 293 of 1988).	Yes	Yes	<p>There are no designated salmonid waterbodies within the agglomeration. However, salmon have been recorded in the mouth of the River Liffey according to the EIAR prepared for planning in 2018.</p> <p>The completion of the upgrade works at the WwTP to meet the ELVs set out in this licence review, will contribute towards compliance with the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Water) Regulations, 2009, as amended, and will assist in the efforts to achieve / maintain the Good WFD Status of the applicable waterbodies.</p> <p>The main impact on fish species is expected to be a positive one due to the improved receiving water quality. This will aid in ensuring that the operational discharges do not cause a breach of the European Communities (Quality of Salmonid Waters) Regulations, 1988 (S.I. No. 203 of 1988).</p> <p>Refer to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attachment B.5: Environmental Impact Assessment Report, June 2018 Section D: Impact Assessment

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attachment D.2.1: Impact Assessment Report, May 2023• Attachment D.2.2: Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade NIS, May 2018