

Electronic copy

Mr. Ken Conroy  
On behalf of Uisce Éireann



19 October 2023

Reg. No. D0139-03

**Re: Appropriate Assessment in respect of a licence review from Uisce Éireann in respect of the agglomeration named Youghal**

Dear Sir,

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

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 required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on European sites. Notification of this determination is attached for your reference. The EPA acknowledges receipt of a Natura Impact Statement, submitted on 18 June 2021.

In carrying out an Appropriate Assessment the EPA shall take into account each of the matters specified in Regulation 42(12) of the European Communities (Birds and Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, where applicable.

The EPA shall publish a Notice for Public Consultation on Appropriate Assessment under Regulation 42 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended.

Submissions or observations on a licence application can be made to the Agency in relation to Appropriate Assessment as set out in the notice for public consultation.

The application and all associated correspondence including the notice for public consultation are available to view on the EPA website at [www.epa.ie](http://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](mailto: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 waste water discharges individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on European Sites. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites listed below.

### Consent Details:

<b>Reg. No.</b>	D0139-03
<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Uisce Éireann
<b>Type of Consent Sought:</b>	Review of a waste water discharge licence
<b>Location of agglomeration:</b>	Youghal, Cork
<b>Licence Application Date:</b>	18 June 2021
<b>European Sites assessed:</b>	Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC (Site Code: 002170)
	Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC (Site Code: 000077)
	Blackwater Estuary SPA (Site Code: 004028)
	Ballymacoda Bay SPA (Site Code: 004023)
	Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA (Site Code: 004192)
<b>Date of AA Screening Determination:</b>	19 October 2023

### AA Screening Determination:

That the waste water discharges are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site and that it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the waste water discharges individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European sites and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the waste water discharges is required. The EPA acknowledges receipt of a Natura Impact Statement, submitted on 18 June 2021.

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

1. The proximity of the discharges to Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC, Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC, Blackwater Estuary SPA, Ballymacoda Bay SPA and Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA.
2. The presence of water-dependent habitats and species associated with the Blackwater River

(Cork/Waterford) SAC and the presence of water-dependent habitats associated with the Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC, Blackwater Estuary SPA and Ballymacoda Bay SPA.

3. The potential for bird species associated with Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA, Ballymacoda Bay SPA and Blackwater Estuary SPA to forage in close proximity to the discharges.
4. The volume of the discharges from the agglomeration.

Information in relation to European Sites is available on [www.npws.ie](http://www.npws.ie)

Documents relating to the licence are available on the Agency's website at **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.**



Date: 19 October 20323

Mark Dwyer

Office of Environmental Sustainability