

Headquarters  
P.O. Box 3000  
Johnstown Castle Estate  
County Wexford  
Ireland

## Waste Water Discharge Licence

<b>Licence Register Number:</b>	D0423-02
<b>Licensee:</b>	Uisce Éireann
<b>Company Registration Number:</b>	530363
<b>Agglomeration:</b>	Whitegate-Aghada

HEADQUARTERS  
JOHNSTOWN CASTLE ESTATE  
COUNTY WEXFORD, IRELAND  
PHONE: +353-53-9160600  
FAX: +353-53-9160699

EUROPEAN UNION (WASTE WATER DISCHARGE) REGULATIONS 2007 to  
2020

**WASTE WATER DISCHARGE LICENCE**

Decision of Agency, under Regulation 28(1) of the European Union (Waste Water  
Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020.

**Reference Number: D0423-02**

The Agency in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations 2007, as amended, for the reasons hereinafter set out, hereby grants this Waste Water Discharge Licence to Uisce Éireann, as by virtue of Section 17(4) of the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013 the relevant application is deemed to have been made by Uisce Éireann, in respect of the agglomeration as specified in *Part 1 Schedule of Discharges Licensed* of the attached licence subject to Conditions, as set out in the schedules attached hereto.

The licence authorises the discharge of waste water from the waste water works which services the agglomeration described below subject to conditions.


A copy of the Decision is attached.

***Licensed Discharges, in accordance with the Second Schedule of the European Union  
(Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020***

**Discharges from agglomerations with a population equivalent of 2,001 to 10,000**

**GIVEN** under the Seal of the Agency this 14th day of February 2024

**PRESENT** when the Seal of the Agency was affixed hereto:

  
**Bernadette Murray, Authorised Person**



## ***INTRODUCTION***

This introduction is not part of the licence and does not purport to be a legal interpretation of the licence.

This licence authorises the waste water discharges from the waste water works serving the Whitegate-Aghada agglomeration. The waste water discharges to water include the following: primary discharge and 4 storm water overflows. The primary discharge (SW006) and stormwater overflow (SW007) discharge into the Outer Cork Harbour coastal waterbody and 3 stormwater overflows discharge into the Cork Harbour coastal waterbody. The waste water treatment plant (WWTP) is designed to cater for population equivalent (p.e) of 2,479. The WWTP provides primary treatment for the agglomeration which consists of inlet screening and grit removal (preliminary treatment) and three (3 No.) settlement tanks and a storm water tank (216m<sup>3</sup>). A new long marine primary discharge outfall (295m long) at White Bay beach discharges effluent into the Outer Cork Harbour coastal waterbody.

The licence sets out in detail the conditions under which Uisce Éireann will control and manage the waste water discharges from the agglomeration covered by this licence.

The legislation governing this licence relates specifically to, and is restricted to, the regulation and control of waste water discharges from the agglomeration. Therefore any odour or noise issue that may be associated with the waste water works including the treatment plant cannot be addressed by this licence.

By virtue of Section 17(4) of the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013, the application for this licence is deemed to have been made by Uisce Éireann and this licence is granted to Uisce Éireann.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	Page No.
Glossary of Terms	1
Decision and Reasons for the Decision	6
Part I: Schedule of Discharges Licensed	8
Part II: Conditions	9
Condition 1.    Scope	9
Condition 2.    Interpretation	11
Condition 3.    Discharges	12
Condition 4.    Control and Monitoring	13
Condition 5.    Programmes of Improvements	15
Condition 6.    Notifications, Records and Reports	17
Condition 7.    Financial Charges and Provisions	19
Schedule A: Discharges and Discharge Monitoring	20
A.1: Primary Waste Water Discharge and Monitoring	20
A.2: Secondary Waste Water Discharges and Monitoring	21
A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results	22
Schedule B: Ambient Monitoring	23
B.1: Groundwater Monitoring	23
B.2: Receiving Water Monitoring	23
Schedule C: Specified Improvement Programme	24
C.1: Specified Improvement Programme	24
C.2: Discharges to be Discontinued	24
Schedule D: Annual Environmental Report	25

## ***GLOSSARY OF TERMS***

All terms in this licence should be interpreted in accordance with the definitions in the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020, unless otherwise defined in this section.

<b>AER</b>	Annual Environmental Report.
<b>Agglomeration</b>	An area where the population or economic activities or both are sufficiently concentrated for a waste water works to have been put in place.
<b>Agreement</b>	Agreement in writing.
<b>Annually</b>	At least one measurement in any one year.
<b>Application</b>	The application for this licence.
<b>Attachment</b>	Any reference to Attachments in this licence refers to attachments submitted as part of the licence application.
<b>BOD</b>	5 day Biochemical Oxygen Demand (without nitrification suppression).
<b>cBOD</b>	5 day Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (with nitrification suppression).
<b>CEN</b>	Comité Européen De Normalisation – European Committee for Standardisation.
<b>COD</b>	Chemical Oxygen Demand.
<b>Combined Approach</b>	In relation to a waste water works, means the control of discharges and emissions to waters whereby the emission limits for the discharge are established on the basis of the stricter of either or both, the limits and controls required under the Urban Waste Water Regulations, and the limits determined under statute or Directive for the purpose of achieving the environmental objectives established for surface waters, groundwater or protected areas for the water body into which the discharge is made.
<b>Competent Laboratory</b>	A testing facility meeting the general management and technical requirements of EN ISO/IEC-17025 standard, or other equivalent standards accepted at international level and utilising methods of analysis, including laboratory, field, and on-line methods, which are validated and documented in accordance with the above standard(s) for the specific tests.
<b>Daily</b>	During all days when discharges are taking place; with at least one measurement/observation per day.
<b>Day</b>	Any 24 hour period.

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<b>Discharge Limits</b>	Those limits, specified for a particular parameter in <i>Schedule A: Discharges and Discharge Monitoring</i> , of this licence.
<b>Discharge Point</b>	The point from which a waste water discharge occurs.
<b>DO</b>	Dissolved oxygen.
<b>Documentation</b>	Any report, record, result, data, drawing, proposal, interpretation or other document, in written or electronic form, that is required by this licence.
<b>DoECLG</b>	Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.
<b>Domestic Waste Water</b>	Waste water from residential settlements and services that originates predominantly from human metabolism and from household activities.
<b>Drawing</b>	Any reference to a drawing or drawing number means a drawing or drawing number contained in the application, unless otherwise specified in this licence.
<b>ELV</b>	Emission Limit Value.
<b>EMP</b>	Environmental Management Programme.
<b>Environmental Damage</b>	As defined in Directive 2004/35/EC.
<b>Environmental Pollution</b>	<p>Means, in relation to waste water discharges, the direct or indirect introduction, as a result of human activity, of waste water discharges, substances (including any explosive, liquid or gas) or polluting matter (including any poisonous or noxious matter) into waters which may endanger human health or harm the aquatic environment, and in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) create a risk to waters, sediment, plants or animals;</li><li>(ii) deleteriously interfere with the quality of aquatic ecosystems or terrestrial ecosystems directly depending on aquatic ecosystems including by:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• rendering those or any other waters poisonous or injurious to fish, shellfish, spawning grounds or the food of any fish; or</li><li>• impairing the usefulness of the bed and soil of any waters as spawning grounds or impairing their capacity to produce the food of fish or shellfish;</li></ul></li><li>(iii) impair or interfere with amenities and other legitimate uses of the water; or</li><li>(iv) result in water failing to meet any environmental quality standards prescribed in regulations for the purposes of giving effect to the requirements of any Directive relating to the quality or use of water for the time being in force.</li></ol>

<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency.
<b>Incident</b>	The following shall constitute an incident for the purposes of this licence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) any discharge that does not comply with the requirements of this licence; and</li><li>(ii) any discharge or occurrence with the potential for environmental contamination of surface water or groundwater, or posing an environmental threat to land, or requiring an emergency response by the licensee and/or the relevant authorities.</li></ul>
<b>Industrial Waste Water</b>	Any waste water that is discharged from premises used for carrying on any trade or industry or other non-domestic use and excludes run-off rain water.
<b>Licensee</b>	Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24/26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, Company Register Number 530363, as by virtue of Section 17(4) of the Water Services (No. 2) Act 2013, the application for this licence is deemed to have been made by Uisce Éireann and this licence is granted to Uisce Éireann.
<b>Licensing Regulations</b>	European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020.
<b>Local Authority</b>	Cork County Council.
<b>Maintain</b>	Keep equipment, plant and infrastructure in a fit state, including such regular inspection, servicing, calibration and repair as may be necessary to perform its function.
<b>Monthly</b>	A minimum of 12 times per year, at intervals of approximately one month.
<b>National Environmental Complaints Procedure</b>	As established under the National Environmental Enforcement Network.
<b>Population Equivalent</b>	A measurement of organic biodegradable load and a population equivalent of 1 (1 p.e.) means the organic biodegradable load having a five-day biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5) of 60g of oxygen per day; the load being calculated on the basis of the maximum average weekly load entering the waste water works during the year, excluding unusual situations such as those due to heavy rain.
<b>Priority Substances</b>	Those substances, or groups of substances, identified in accordance with Article 16(2) of the Water Framework Directive and listed in Annex I of Priority Substances Directive 2013/39/EU, for which measures have to be taken in accordance with Article 16(1) and 16(8) of the Water Framework Directive.

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<b>Primary Discharge</b>	The discharge with the largest volume being discharged from the waste water works.
<b>Primary Treatment</b>	Treatment of urban waste water by a physical and/or chemical process involving settlement of suspended solids, or other processes in which the BOD5 of the incoming waste water is reduced by at least 20% before discharge and the total suspended solids of the incoming waste water are reduced by at least 50%.
<b>Protected Areas</b>	Areas designated as requiring special protection under specific Community legislation for the protection of their surface water and groundwater or for the conservation of habitats and species of European sites directly dependant on water and listed in the register established by the Agency in accordance with Article 8 of the European Communities (Water Policy) Regulations 2003.
<b>Sample(s)</b>	Unless the context of this licence indicates to the contrary, the term sample(s) shall include measurements taken by electronic instruments.
<b>Secondary Discharge</b>	A potential, occasional or continuous discharge from the waste water works other than a primary discharge or a storm water overflow.
<b>SPA</b>	Special Protection Area designated under the <i>Birds Directive</i> , Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds.
<b>Specified Discharges</b>	Those discharges listed in <i>Schedule A: Discharges and Discharge Monitoring</i> , of this licence.
<b>Standard Method</b>	A relevant CEN, ISO, National, or other internationally recognized test procedure such as detailed in the current edition of "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater" (published jointly by A.P.H.A. / A.W.W.A. / W.E.F.), a documented and validated in-house procedure based on the above sources that will ensure the provision of data of an equivalent scientific quality, or an alternative method as may be agreed with the Agency.
<b>Storm Water Overflow</b>	A structure or device on a sewerage system designed and constructed for the purpose of relieving the system of excess flows that arise as a result of rain water or melting snow in the sewered catchment, the excess flow being discharged to receiving waters.
<b>The Agency</b>	Environmental Protection Agency.
<b>Unusual Weather Conditions</b>	In relation to waste water discharges unusual weather conditions, means any one or combination of the following:  (i) heavy rainfall >50 mm in 24 hrs, >40 mm in 12 hrs, >30 mm in 6 hrs (i.e. Met Eireann Orange Alert criteria or greater);



- (ii) low ambient temperatures as evidenced by effluent temperature of 5° C or less or by the freezing of mechanical equipment in the works;
- (iii) significant snow deposits;
- (iv) tidal or fluvial flooding; or
- (v) weather conditions causing unforeseen loss of power supply to the waste water treatment plant which could not be ameliorated by the reasonable provision and operation of standby generation facilities.

**Waste Water** Domestic waste water or the mixture of domestic waste water with industrial waste water.

**Waste Water Works** Sewers and their accessories (or any part thereof) and all associated structural devices, including waste water treatment plants, which are owned by, vested in, controlled or used by the licensee for the collection, storage, treatment or discharge of waste water.

**Water Services Authority** Cork County Council.

**Weekly** During all weeks when discharges are taking place; with at least one measurement in any one week.

**WWTP** Waste water treatment plant.

## ***DECISION AND REASONS FOR THE DECISION***

The Environmental Protection Agency is satisfied, on the basis of the information available, that subject to compliance with the conditions of this licence, any discharges from the agglomeration served by the waste water works will comply with and will not contravene any of the requirements of Regulation 6 of the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020.

The Agency has accordingly decided to grant a licence to Uisce Éireann to carry on the waste water discharges listed in *Part I: Schedule of Discharges Licensed*, subject to the conditions set out in *Part II: Conditions*; such licence to take effect in lieu of Licence Register Number: D0423-01.

In reaching this decision the Agency has had regard to the requirements and objectives of the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020, carried out its functions in a manner consistent with Section 15 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Acts 2015 to 2021 and has considered the documentation relating to the existing licence, Register Number: D0423-01; the review application, Register Number: D0423-02 and the supporting documentation received from the applicant; the submission received; the Inspector's Report dated 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 and has carried out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening and an Appropriate Assessment of the likely significant effects of the authorised waste water discharges on European Sites.

EIA was not required due to the following reasons:

1. The limited scale of the waste water discharges from the wastewater treatment plant. The wastewater treatment plant serves an agglomeration with a population equivalent (p.e) of 2,479 which is significantly below the 10,000 p.e mandatory threshold for EIA.
2. The waste water discharge from the waste water treatment plant is domestic in nature and readily biodegradable. There is no industrial or commercial inputs into the waste water.
3. Wastewater is treated in primary settlement tanks prior to discharge to Cork Harbour via a long marine outfall of 295m.
4. The potential effects of the waste water discharges, alone and cumulatively with other discharges, on WFD status and environmental objectives will be assessed and should a waste water discharge licence be granted for the agglomeration, emission limit values will be set in the licence to contribute to meeting the objectives for the receiving waterbody.
5. There are no bathing waters in the vicinity likely to be affected by the discharge.
6. There are no shellfish waters in the vicinity likely to be affected by the discharge.
7. The proposed primary discharge is directly into the Cork Harbour SPA. With regard to this European site, the potential effects the waste water discharges may have on European Sites and their qualifying interests will be assessed under the Habitats Directive (Appropriate Assessment).

While it is noted that there are commercial inputs into the waste water network, this does not affect the EIA screening determination.

The features of the development and measures provided by the applicant which are envisaged to avoid or prevent what might otherwise have been significant adverse effects on the environment are as follows:

1. The provision of primary settlement tanks and a stormwater holding tank to prevent the discharge of untreated wastewater into Cork Harbour.
2. The provision of a long marine outfall (295m) to discharge treated effluent from the proposed wastewater treatment plant.

A screening for Appropriate Assessment was undertaken 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 are likely to have a significant effect on any European Site. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites at Cork Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA) (Site Code: 004030), Ballycotton Bay SPA (Site Code: 004022) and Great Island SAC (Site Code: 001058).

The waste water discharges are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European Site and the Agency considered, for the reasons set out below, 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 Site and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the waste water discharges was required.

This determination is based on the potential for impacts from the activity on the water dependent qualifying habitat and species of the Cork Harbour SPA. The proposed discharges are hydrologically connected with the qualifying interests of the Site.

A Natura Impact Statement was submitted with the licence application. The Agency has completed the Appropriate Assessment of potential impacts on this site and has made certain, based on best scientific knowledge in the field and in accordance with the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, pursuant to Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, that the waste water discharges, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not adversely affect the integrity of any European Site, in particular Cork Harbour SPA, having regard to the conservation objectives and will not affect the preservation of the site at favourable conservation status if carried out in accordance with this licence and the conditions attached hereto for the following reasons:

- The ELVs for the primary discharge have been established in accordance with the combined approach and will contribute to the achievement of the objective of Good status for the Outer Cork Harbour including the EQSs established under European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Water) Regulations 2009 as amended.
- The removal of untreated wastewater from the receiving waterbody, the relocation of the primary discharge to Outer Cork Harbour waterbody and the controls in the licence will contribute to the improvement of water quality and the protection of the water-dependent qualifying interests of Cork Harbour SPA.
- Condition 3.3 requires the licensee to take such measures as necessary to ensure that no deterioration in the quality of the receiving water shall occur as a result of the discharge.
- Condition 3.5.2 requires that all storm water overflows comply with the criteria for storm water overflows, as set out in the DoECLG 'Procedures and Criteria in Relation to Storm Water Overflows', 1995 and any other guidance as may be specified by the Agency.
- Conditions attached to the licence require measures to prevent and limit the consequences of unintended discharges.

In light of the foregoing reasons, the Agency is satisfied that no reasonable scientific doubt remains as to the absence of adverse effects on the integrity of Cork Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA) (Site Code: 004030).

***PART I: SCHEDULE OF DISCHARGES LICENSED***

In pursuance of the powers conferred on it by the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020, the Environmental Protection Agency (the Agency), under Regulation 28(1) of the said Regulations grants this Waste Water Discharge Licence Review to Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24/26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, Company Register Number 530363. The licence authorises the discharge of waste water from the waste water works servicing the Whitegate-Aghada agglomeration described below, subject to conditions listed in Part II, with the reasons therefore and the associated schedules attached thereto.

***Licensed Discharges, in accordance with the Second Schedule  
of the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020***

Discharges from agglomerations with a population equivalent of 2,001 to 10,000
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## ***PART II: CONDITIONS***

### **Condition 1. Scope**

#### **1.1 Statutory Obligations**

This licence is for the purposes of Waste Water Discharge licensing under the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020, only and nothing in this licence shall be construed as negating the licensee's statutory obligations or requirements under any other enactments or regulations.

1.2 The agglomeration served by the waste water works is the area outlined in red on Drawing No. 03-02-001 entitled *Discharge Licence Application Attachment B.2 Agglomeration Plan* of the application. The population equivalent of the agglomeration served by the waste water works shall not exceed 2,479.

1.3 The discharges to waters from the waste water works shall be restricted to those listed and described in *Schedule A: Discharges and Discharge Monitoring*, of this licence and shall be as set out in the licence application or as modified under Condition 1.6 of this licence and subject to the conditions of this licence. There shall be no other discharges of environmental significance.

1.4 The discharges to waters from the waste water works shall be controlled and managed and shall take place as set out in this licence. All programmes required to be carried out under the terms of this licence become part of this licence.

1.5 For the purposes of this licence, the locations of the waste water discharges authorised by this licence are as presented on Drawing No. 03-02-004 entitled *Discharge Licence Application Attachment B.6 Primary Discharge Point* and Drawing Numbers 03-02-006 and 03-02-006A entitled *Discharge Licence Application Attachment B.8 Stormwater Overflows*.

1.6 No alteration to the waste water works or any part thereof that would, or is likely to, result in a material change to or increase in discharges sufficient to represent a risk of causing a breach of emission standards specified in the licence shall be carried out or commenced without prior notice to, and without the agreement of, the Agency.

#### **1.7 Treatment Capacities**

1.7.1 The licensee shall, on an annual basis, undertake an assessment of the remaining organic and hydraulic treatment capacities within the waste water works (design capacity of plant, less flow-load calculation for representative period).

1.7.2 The licensee shall maintain such available capacity within the waste water works as is necessary to ensure that there is no environmental risk posed to the receiving water environment as a result of the discharges.

1.7.3 Where the licensee determines, as part of those assessments undertaken in Condition 1.7.1 above, that the remaining treatment capacity will be exceeded within the ensuing three year period, the licensee shall notify the Agency and seek a licence review, as appropriate.

1.8 This licence has been granted in substitution for licence granted to the licensee on 8 October 2015 (Reg. No.: D0423-01). The previous Waste Water Discharge (Reg. No.: D0423-01) is superseded by this revised licence. Where the Agency grants a revised licence, the previous licence or revised licence, as the case may be, applying to the discharge from the waste water works concerned, shall stand revoked.

- 1.9 For the purposes of this licence the waste water treatment plant associated with the waste water works serving the agglomeration is located at grid reference (ING) 183256 E; 62435 N. The licensee shall ensure that the waste water treatment plant provides at least primary treatment consisting of screening, grit removal, primary settlement and stormwater storage.
- 1.10 The licensee shall locate the primary discharge point in the receiving waterbody at 295m from the high-water mark and at approximately -5.3mOD Malin and provide an 80mm diameter diffuser port to the outfall of the primary discharge point.

<b>Reason:</b> To clarify the scope of this licence.
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## Condition 2. Interpretation

- 2.1 Emission limit values for discharges to waters in this licence shall be interpreted in the following way:
- 2.1.1 Composite Sampling
- 2.1.1.1 No pH value shall deviate from the specified range.
- 2.1.1.2 For cBOD and COD, no more than the relevant number of samples specified in *Schedule A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results* – Column 2 or Column 4, of this licence, shall exceed the percentage reduction Emission Limit Value based on the number of samples taken as listed in *Schedule A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results* – Column 1 or Column 3, of this licence.
- 2.1.1.3 For Suspended Solids, no more than the relevant number of samples specified in *Schedule A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results* – Column 2 or Column 4, of this licence, shall exceed the percentage reduction Emission Limit Value based on the number of samples taken as listed in *Schedule A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results* – Column 1 or Column 3, of this licence.
- 2.1.1.4 For parameters other than pH, cBOD, COD, Suspended Solids, no more than the relevant number of samples specified in *Schedule A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results* – Column 2 or Column 4, of this licence shall exceed the concentration Emission Limit Value based on the number of samples taken as listed in *Schedule A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results* – Column 1 or Column 3, of this licence. No individual result similarly calculated shall exceed the emission limit value by more than 20%.
- 2.1.2 Discrete Sampling
- For all other parameters, except pH, cBOD and suspended solids, no grab sample value shall exceed the emission limit value by more than 20%.
- 2.2 No sample of the discharge taken at a time when unusual weather conditions are adversely affecting the operation of the waste water treatment plant, shall be taken into account in determining compliance with Condition 2.1 of this licence. A replacement sample shall be taken within 72 hours of cessation of the unusual weather conditions. The licensee shall report the sample result including any justification of the basis for excluding the sample in the Annual Environmental Report.
- 2.3 On any occasion where unusual weather conditions affect the operation of the waste water works the licensee shall use its best endeavours to mitigate the effect of the unusual weather conditions.

<b>Reason:</b> To clarify the interpretation of limit values fixed under the licence.
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### Condition 3. Discharges

- 3.1 No discharges from the waste water works are permitted save under and in accordance with this licence.
- 3.2 No specified discharge from the waste water works shall exceed the emission limit values set out in *Schedule A: Discharges and Discharge Monitoring*, of this licence, subject to the requirements of Condition 2 above.
- 3.3 The licensee shall take such measures as are necessary to ensure that no deterioration in the quality of the receiving waters shall occur as a result of the discharge.
- 3.4 There shall be no discharge from the discharge points specified in *Schedule C.2: Discharges to be Discontinued*, of this licence, from the dates specified therein.
- 3.5 Storm Water Overflows
- 3.5.1 Storm water overflows shall be as specified in *Schedule A.3: Storm Water Overflows*, of this licence. The licensee shall carry out an investigation to identify any additional storm water overflows within the waste water works as part of the programme of improvements. The Agency shall be notified in writing of any additional storm water overflows not listed in *Schedule A.3: Storm Water Overflows*, of this licence.
- 3.5.2 All storm water overflows shall be in compliance with the criteria for storm water overflows, as set out in the DoECLG '*Procedures and Criteria in Relation to Storm Water Overflows*', 1995 and any other guidance as may be specified by the Agency.
- 3.5.3 Discharges from storm water overflows shall not cause environmental pollution.
- 3.6 The licensee shall ensure that all or any of the following:
- Gross solids
  - Litter
- associated with discharges from the waste water works do not result in an impairment of, or an interference with, amenities or the environment.

**Reason:** To provide for the protection of the receiving environment by way of control and limitation of discharges to the Cork Harbour and the Outer Cork Harbour Coastal waterbodies. To provide for the protection of the receiving environment including designated shellfish waters by way of control and limitation of discharges to the marine environment.



## Condition 4. Control and Monitoring

- 4.1 The licensee shall carry out such sampling, analyses, measurements, examinations, maintenance calibrations and control techniques as set out below and in accordance with *Schedule A: Discharges and Discharge Monitoring*, of this licence.
- 4.1.1 Analyses shall be undertaken by competent staff in accordance with documented operating procedures. Analysis for compliance purposes, including any sub-contracted analysis, shall be done by a competent laboratory.
- 4.1.2 Such procedures shall be assessed for their suitability for the test matrix and performance characteristics shall be determined.
- 4.1.3 Such procedures shall be subject to a programme of Analytical Quality Control, verified by a competent third party using control standards with evaluation of test responses.
- 4.1.4 Where any analysis is sub-contracted it shall be outsourced to a competent laboratory.
- 4.2 The licensee shall ensure that:
- 4.2.1 sampling and analysis for all parameters listed in the Schedules to this licence; and
- 4.2.2 any reference measurement methods to calibrate automated measurement system shall be carried out by an appropriate Standard Method.
- 4.3 The licensee shall install on all emission points such sampling points or equipment, including any data-logging or other electronic communication equipment, as may be required by the Agency. All such equipment shall be consistent with the safe operation of all sampling and monitoring systems.
- 4.4 All automatic monitors and samplers shall be functioning at all times (except during maintenance and calibration) when the discharges are being made unless alternative sampling or monitoring has been agreed in writing by the Agency for a limited period. In the event of the malfunction of any continuous monitor, the licensee shall contact the Agency as soon as practicable and alternative sampling and monitoring facilities shall be put in place. Agreement for the use of alternative equipment, other than in emergency situations, shall be obtained from the Agency.
- 4.5 Monitoring and analysis equipment shall be operated and maintained as necessary so that monitoring accurately reflects the discharge (or ambient conditions where that is the monitoring objective).
- 4.6 The licensee shall clearly label and provide safe and permanent access to all on-site sampling and monitoring points and to off-site points as required by the Agency.
- 4.7 The licensee shall ensure that a person in charge or a nominated deputy shall be available to meet with authorised persons of the Agency at all reasonable times and shall allow access to the waste water works or other premises that the Agency reasonably considers may contain information pertaining to a discharge from those works.
- 4.8 The licensee shall maintain corrective action procedures. In the event of an incident and/or should the specified requirements of this licence not be fulfilled, the licensee shall take corrective action as soon as practicable.
- 4.9 The licensee shall maintain a programme for maintenance and operation of all plant and equipment to ensure that no unauthorised waste water discharges take place. This programme shall be based on the instructions issued by the manufacturer/supplier or installer of the equipment. Appropriate record keeping and diagnostic testing shall support

this maintenance programme. The licensee shall clearly allocate responsibility for the planning management and execution of all aspects of this programme to appropriate personnel.

- 4.10 The location, frequency, methods and scope of monitoring, sampling and analyses, as set out in this licence, may be amended with the agreement of the Agency following evaluation of test results.
- 4.11 The licensee shall maintain a Data Management System for collation, archiving, assessing and graphically presenting the monitoring data generated as a result of this licence.
- 4.12 The licensee shall carry out monthly monitoring of the influent stream to the waste water treatment plant for cBOD; Suspended Solids in order to measure the mass loadings and removal efficiencies within the treatment plant.
- 4.13 Prior to submitting ambient monitoring data, the licensee must consult with the Agency with regard to the appropriate format for submittal.
- 4.14 Where such ambient monitoring results are available from any other statutory body, including the Agency, the licensee may submit those results in fulfilment of the requirements of *Schedule B: Ambient Monitoring*, of this licence.
- 4.15 The licensee shall provide a composite sampler on all monitoring points listed in *Schedule A.1: Primary Waste Water Discharge, and Monitoring*, of this licence. All samples thereafter shall be collected on a 24-hour flow proportional or time based composite sampling basis.
- 4.16 The licensee shall record the total effluent volume discharged over the 24-hour period in which any composite sample is collected.
- 4.17 The licensee shall provide an annual statement as to the measures taken or adopted to minimise environmental damage associated with discharges or overflows from the waste water works following anticipated events or accidents/incidents.
- 4.18 The licensee shall, on an annual basis, determine the population equivalent (p.e.) of the agglomeration served by the waste water works. The p.e., along with the method used in its determination, shall be reported in the AER.

<p><b>Reason:</b> To provide for the protection of the receiving environment by way of control and monitoring of discharges.</p>
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## Condition 5. Programmes of Improvements

- 5.1 The licensee shall, as a part of the second AER (required under Condition 6.8), prepare and submit to the Agency a programme of improvements to maximise the effectiveness and efficiency of the waste water works in order to:
- 5.1.1 achieve improvements in the quality of all discharges from the works;
  - 5.1.2 meet the emission limit values specified in *Schedule A: Discharges and Discharge Monitoring*, of this licence;
  - 5.1.3 give effect to Regulation 2 of the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020;
  - 5.1.4 meet the obligations of Condition 1.7; and
  - 5.1.5 identify measures to minimise any environmental damage associated with discharges or overflows from the waste water works following anticipated events or accidents/incidents.
- 5.2 The programme of improvements referred to in Condition 5.1 shall include an assessment of:
- 5.2.1 the waste water treatment plant, having regard to the effectiveness of the treatment provided by reference to the following:
    - 5.2.1.1 the existing level of treatment, capacity of treatment plant and associated equipment;
    - 5.2.1.2 the emission limit values specified in *Schedule A: Discharges and Discharge Monitoring*, of this licence;
    - 5.2.1.3 designations of the receiving water body;
    - 5.2.1.4 water quality objective for the receiving water body; and
    - 5.2.1.5 the standards and volumetric limitations applied to any industrial waste water that is licensed to discharge to the waste water works;
  - 5.2.2 the integrity of the waste water works having regard to:
    - 5.2.2.1 capacity of the waste water works;
    - 5.2.2.2 leaks from the waste water works;
    - 5.2.2.3 infiltration by surface water;
    - 5.2.2.4 infiltration by groundwater; and
    - 5.2.2.5 such other aspects of the works as may be specified by the Agency;
  - 5.2.3 all storm water overflows associated with the waste water works to determine the effectiveness of their operation and in particular to identify improvements necessary to comply with the requirements of this licence.
- 5.3 Review the Operation and Maintenance Programme required by Condition 4.9 as part of the assessments required under Conditions 5.2.1 to 5.2.3 to prevent incidents associated with discharges from the waste water works.
- 5.4 The programme of improvements shall include a plan for implementation for each individual improvement identified. The plan for implementation shall in the case of the assessment carried out under Condition 5.2:
- 5.4.1 identify, evaluate and describe the works necessary;

- 5.4.2 clearly identify and describe the improvement and the timeframe for implementation;
  - 5.4.3 specify the parametric emissions that will be affected by the implementation of the improvement; and
  - 5.4.4 identify the anticipated improvements in the quality of the receiving waters as a result of the implementation of the improvement.
- 5.5 The licensee shall complete the improvements as set out in *Schedule C: Specified Improvement Programme*, of this licence.
- 5.6 The licensee shall put in place a programme of measures for the gathering, recording and retention of information in relation to the infrastructural components of the waste water works. This information shall be in the form of "As-Constructed" drawings and electronic mapping tools, or in any other format as required by the Agency.

<p><b>Reason:</b> To provide for the improvement of the waste water works on a planned basis having regard to the need for on-going assessment, recording and reporting of matters affecting the receiving water environment.</p>
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## **Condition 6. Notifications, Records and Reports**

- 6.1 The licensee shall notify the Agency's headquarters in Wexford, or to such other Agency office, as soon as practicable after the occurrence of any incident (as defined in this licence). This notification shall be in such format as specified in Guidance to Licensees/COA holders on the Notification, Management and Communication of Environmental Incidents issued by the Agency and as a minimum shall include the following: the date, time, location, details, nature, cause, extent and ranking of the incident, details on any vulnerable receptors, corrective action taken and plans to prevent a reoccurrence, and the steps taken to minimise any discharges and to carry out any necessary environmental cleanup. The following shall also be notified, as soon as practicable after the occurrence of any incident:
- 6.1.1 Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine in the case of discharges to receiving waters; and
  - 6.1.2 Marine Institute (MI), Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA), Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) and An Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) in the case of discharges to, or likely to impact, a designated shellfish water.
- 6.2 The licensee shall record all complaints of an environmental nature related to the discharges to waters from the waste water works in accordance with the national environmental complaints procedure. Each such record shall give details of the date and time of the complaint, the name of the complainant (if provided), and the nature of the complaint. A record shall also be kept of the response made in the case of each complaint.
- 6.3 The licensee shall record all sampling, analyses, measurements, examinations, calibrations and maintenance carried out in accordance with the requirements of this licence.
- 6.4 The licensee shall as a minimum keep the following documents at the headquarters of the licensee or such office as may be agreed by the Agency:
- 6.4.1 the licence application and all associated documentation;
  - 6.4.2 the licences relating to the discharges to waters from the waste water works;
  - 6.4.3 the previous year's AER;
  - 6.4.4 records of all risk assessments, sampling, analyses, measurements, examinations, calibrations and maintenance carried out in accordance with the requirements of this licence and guidance produced by the Agency;
  - 6.4.5 relevant correspondence with the Agency;
  - 6.4.6 up to date drawings/plans showing the location of key process and environmental infrastructure, including monitoring locations and discharge points; and
  - 6.4.7 up to date operational procedures for all monitoring and control equipment necessary to give effect to this licence.
- This documentation shall be available to the Agency for inspection at all reasonable times and shall be submitted to the Agency, as required, in such a format as may be requested, including electronic submittal of the information or a summary of such information.
- 6.5 The licensee shall ensure that a documented Emergency Response Procedure is in place, that addresses any emergency situation that may originate on-site. This procedure shall include provision for minimising the effects of any emergency on the environment. This procedure shall be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.
- 6.6 The licensee shall maintain and implement a Public Awareness and Communications Programme to ensure that members of the public can obtain, at all reasonable times, environmental information relating to the discharges.

- 6.7 Unless otherwise agreed by the Agency, all reports and notifications submitted to the Agency shall:
- 6.7.1 be sent to Administration, Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE) at the Agency's Headquarters or to such other Agency office agreed by the Agency;
  - 6.7.2 be formatted in accordance with any written instruction or guidance issued by the Agency;
  - 6.7.3 include whatever information may be required by the Agency;
  - 6.7.4 be identified by a unique code, indicate any modification or amendment, and be correctly dated to reflect any such modification or amendment;
  - 6.7.5 be accompanied by a written interpretation setting out their significance in the case of all monitoring data; and
  - 6.7.6 be transferred electronically to the Agency's computer system if required by the Agency.
- 6.8 The licensee shall submit to the Agency, by the 28th February of each year, an AER covering the previous calendar year. This report, which shall be to the satisfaction of the Agency, shall include as a minimum the information specified in *Schedule D: Annual Environmental Report*, of this licence and shall be prepared in accordance with any relevant guidelines issued by the Agency. The content of the AER may be revised subject to the agreement of the Agency.
- 6.9 All reports shall be certified accurate and representative by an employee of Uisce Éireann or a nominated, suitably qualified and experienced deputy.
- 6.10 The licensee shall notify the Agency, as soon as is practicable, where a discharge from the waste water works has ceased permanently.

<b>Reason:</b> To provide for the collection and reporting of adequate information on the activity.
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## **Condition 7. Financial Charges and Provisions**

### **7.1 Agency Charges**

7.1.1 The licensee shall pay to the Agency such sum, as the Agency from time to time determines, having regard to variations in the extent of reporting, auditing, inspection, sampling and analysis or other functions carried out by the Agency, towards the cost of monitoring the discharge as the Agency considers necessary for the performance of its functions under the European Union (Waste Water Discharge) Regulations 2007 to 2020. All such payments shall be made within one month of the date upon which demanded by the Agency.

7.1.2 In the event that the frequency or extent of monitoring, investigations or other functions carried out by the Agency needs to be increased, the licensee shall contribute such sums as determined by the Agency to defray its costs in regard to items not covered by the said annual contribution.

<p><b>Reason:</b> To provide for the adequate financing for monitoring and financial provisions for measures to protect the environment.</p>
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## ***SCHEDULE A: DISCHARGES AND DISCHARGE MONITORING***

### ***A.1: Primary Waste Water Discharge and Monitoring***

A.1.1 Primary Waste Water Discharge					
EDEN Code	Licence Code	Discharge Location	Monitoring Location	Receiving Water Name	WFD Code Receiving Water
TPEFF3900D0423SW006	SW006	E 182518 N 61575	E 183205 N 062420	Outer Cork Harbour	IE_SW_050_0000

Discharge Emission Limit Values and Monitoring					
Parameter	Discharges		Monitoring		
	Units	ELV <sup>Note 1</sup>	Monitoring Frequency	Sampling Method	Analysis Method / Technique
Flow Rate	<i>m<sup>3</sup>/24 hours</i>	-	Continuous	Online	Online Flow Probe Meter with Recorder
pH	<i>pH units</i>	6-9	Weekly	Continuous	pH Meter and recorder
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD)	%	20 % Reduction	Monthly	Composite	Standard Method
Visual Inspection	<i>Descriptive</i>	-	Weekly	Grab	Standard Method
Suspended Solids	%	50 % Reduction	Monthly	Composite	Standard Method
Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (as N)	<i>mg/l</i>	54	Monthly	Composite	Standard Method

**Note 1** Where a % Reduction figure is specified, this refers to the minimum percentage reduction relative to the influent load.



**A.2: Secondary Waste Water Discharges and Monitoring**

There shall be no Secondary Waste Water Discharges associated with this agglomeration.

**A.3: Storm Water Overflows**

A.3.1 Storm Water Overflows					
EDEN Code	Licence Code	Discharge Location	Storm Water Overflow Location	Name of Receiving Water	WFD Code Receiving Water
TPEFF3900D0423SW007	SW007	E 182518 N 61575	E 183256 N 62435	Outer Cork Harbour	IE_SW_050_0000
TPEFF0500D0423SW005	SW005	E 184024 N 63840	E 184035 N 63813	Cork Harbour	IE_SW_060_0000
TPEFF0500D0423SW002	SW002	E 186875 N 65819	E 186888 N 65808	Cork Harbour	IE_SW_060_0000
TPEFF0500D0423SW003	SW003	E 185465 N 65780	E 185537 N 65693	Cork Harbour	IE_SW_060_0000

Storm Water Overflow Monitoring						
EDEN Code	Licence Code	Parameter	Units	Monitoring Frequency	Monitoring Method	Analysis Method / Technique
TPEFF3900D0423SW007	SW007	Flow Rate	m <sup>3</sup> /24 hours	Continuous during discharge	To be agreed with the Agency	To be agreed with the Agency
TPEFF0500D0423SW005	SW005	Flow Rate	m <sup>3</sup> /24 hours	Continuous during discharge	Online	Ultrasonic flowmeters
TPEFF0500D0423SW002	SW002	Flow Rate	m <sup>3</sup> /24 hours	Continuous during discharge	Online	Ultrasonic flowmeters
TPEFF0500D0423SW003	SW003	Flow Rate	m <sup>3</sup> /24 hours	Continuous during discharge	Online	Ultrasonic flowmeters

**A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results**

<b>A.4 Interpretation of Discharge Monitoring Results</b>			
<b>No. of Samples taken in any one year</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>	<b>Max. number of samples which may exceed ELV</b>	<b>No. of Samples taken in any one year</b> <sup>Note 1</sup>	<b>Max. number of samples which may exceed ELV</b>
4-7	1	172-187	14
8-16	2	188-203	15
17-28	3	204-219	16
29-40	4	220-235	17
41-53	5	236-251	18
54-67	6	252-268	19
68-81	7	269-284	20
82-95	8	285-300	21
96-110	9	301-317	22
111-125	10	318-334	23
126-140	11	335-350	24
141-155	12	351-365	25
156-171	13		

**Note 1:** Where the licensee has taken samples which exceed the number specified in this Schedule, the licensee shall submit to the Agency all results of analysis.

**SCHEDULE B: AMBIENT MONITORING****B.1: Groundwater Monitoring**

There is no ground water monitoring required in this licence.

**B.2: Receiving Water Monitoring**

<i>B.2.1 Receiving Water Monitoring</i>							
EDEN Code	Licence Code	Monitoring Location				Point Type	Name of Receiving Water
To be agreed with the Agency	SW006	E	To be agreed with the Agency	N	To be agreed with the Agency	Coastal	Outer Cork Harbour

Parameter	Units	Monitoring Frequency	Analysis Method/Technique
As required by the Agency	As approved by the Agency	As required by the Agency	As required by the Agency

**SCHEDULE C: SPECIFIED IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME****C.1: Specified Improvement Programme**

<b>C.1 Specified Improvements Programme</b>			
<b>Location</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Specified Improvement</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
Waste Water Works	Treatment Plant	Construct and operate a waste water treatment plant and ancillary works to ensure compliance with the conditions of this licence.	On grant of this licence

**C.2: Discharges to be Discontinued**

<b>C.2 Discharges to be Discontinued</b>				
<b>EDEN Code</b>	<b>Licence Code</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Discontinuation Date</b>
TPEFF0500D0423GW004	GW004	Secondary Discharge Point	Discontinue	On grant of this licence
TPEFF0500D0423SW001	SW001	Primary Discharge Point	Discontinue	On grant of this licence

## **SCHEDULE D: ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

### *D.1 Annual Environmental Report Content*

Discharges from the agglomeration.

Summary report on monthly influent monitoring.

The population equivalent of the agglomeration served by the waste water works and method used.

Data collection and reporting requirements under the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.

Complaints summary.

Ambient monitoring summary.

Storm water overflow identification and inspection report.

Reported incidents summary.

Report on progress made and proposals being developed to meet the improvement programme requirements.


Development/Infrastructural works summary (completed in previous year or prepared for current year).

Statement of measures related to the prevention of environmental damage associated with discharges or overflows.

Any other items specified in the licence conditions or by the Agency.

**Sealed by the seal of the Agency on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of February 2024**

**PRESENT when the seal of the Agency  
was affixed hereto:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Bernadette Murray, Authorised Person**

