

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.	D0126-02
Applicant Name:	Uisce Éireann
Location of agglomeration:	Macroom, Co. Cork
Authorisation Type	Review of a Wastewater Discharge Licence
Authorisation Application Date:	20 December 2023
Date of EIA Screening Determination:	19 February 2024

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 wastewater treatment plant. The wastewater treatment plant serves an agglomeration with a population equivalent (p.e) of 8,300 which is below the 10,000 p.e mandatory threshold for EIA.
2. Domestic wastewater is the largest contributor to the waste water treatment plant and is readily biodegradable.
3. It is proposed that waste water will be treated prior to discharge to the River Sullane by secondary treatment.
4. The potential effects of the waste water discharges, including cumulative effects, on WFD status and environmental objectives, which includes the protected area for drinking water, the Sullane_060, will be considered and should a review waste water

discharge licence be granted for the agglomeration, controls and emission limit values will be set in the licence to contribute to meeting the objectives for the receiving waterbody.

5. The nearest drinking water abstraction point is 25km downstream of the primary discharge location and there are no designated bathing waters or designated shellfish waters in the vicinity likely to be affected by the discharges.
6. The proposed primary discharge is 1.7km and 2.6km upstream of the Gearagh SAC and the Gearagh SPA respectively. With regard to European sites, the potential effects the discharges may have on European Sites and their qualifying interests will be assessed under the Habitats Directive (Appropriate Assessment).

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.

Mark Dwyer

Date: 19/02/2024

Mark Dwyer

Office of Environmental Sustainability