

Electronic copy



Mr. Paraic Fay
On behalf of Liam O' Neill

19 August 2024

Reg. No. P1212-01

Re: Appropriate Assessment in respect of a licence application from Liam O' Neill in respect of the installation located at Creeve, Latton, Castleblayney, County Monaghan.

Dear Mr. Fay,

I refer to your application for a licence application in respect of the installation located at Creeve, Latton, Castleblayney, County Monaghan.

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 not* required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is not likely to have a significant effect on a European sites. Notification of this determination is attached for your reference.

The application and all associated correspondence are available to view on the EPA website at 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.

Yours Sincerely,
Philip Stack
Industrial & Carbon Emissions 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 activity, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on a European Sites. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites listed below.

Consent Details:

Reg. No.	P1212-01
Applicant Name:	Liam O' Neill
Type of Consent Sought:	IEL
Location of installation:	Creeve, Latton, Castleblayney, County Monaghan
Licence Application Date:	28 May 2024
European Sites assessed:	Kilrooskey lough Cluster SAC (001786)
	Magheraveeley Marl Loughs SAC (UK0016621)
	Upper Lough Erne SAC (UK0016614)
Date of AA Screening Determination:	19 August 2024

AA Screening Determination:

That the activity is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European site and that it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the activity, 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 activity was not required.

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

- In relation to air emissions, the output of the online screening tool SCAIL Agriculture (<https://www.scail.ceh.ac.uk/cgi-bin/agriculture/input.pl>) predict that ammonia emissions and nitrogen deposition as a result of the activity will not have a significant effect on sensitive receptors within the European Sites listed above.
- Regard has been had to the EPA's Licence Application Guidance (Assessment of the Impact of Ammonia and Nitrogen on Natura 2000 Sites from Intensive Agriculture Installations, Version 2, March 2023) in addition to the online screening tool SCAIL Agriculture as part of this Appropriate Assessment Screening Determination.

- The closest European site is approximately 22.9 km away.
- It is proposed that storm water run-off from the roof and paved areas will be directed into local watercourses. There will be no other direct discharge to surface waters or groundwater within the installation boundary.
- The installation is hydrologically connected to a European site, however the European site is over 43 km downstream of the installation.
- The risk of surface water or groundwater contamination because of accidental emissions during washing activities, or from spillage from the wash water tanks, is minimal given the distance between the activity any European site.
- The quantity and type of waste produced by the activity per annum is not considered significant.
- The litter generated at the installation has high dry matter content.
- The litter remains within the concrete-floored covered broiler houses until all broilers are removed at the end of the batch. Therefore, there is no pathway between the litter and surface water/groundwater while the houses are stocked.
- Calculations have been supplied regarding nutrient stocking rates of the free-range areas and demonstrate that the range areas have capacity to accept the increased load when the birds are outside.
- It is proposed that wash water will be applied to farmlands in accordance with the Nitrates Regulations. It is proposed that poultry litter will be transported by a contractor to composting facilities or may be used as an organic fertiliser on farmlands in accordance with the Nitrates Regulations. The licence, if granted, relates to the site of the activity for which the licence application is made, i.e., the rearing of poultry within the installation boundary, and does not extend to the lands beyond the installation boundary on which wash water may be spread or organic fertiliser may be used.
- Activities which can take place within European sites are restricted by legislation. All persons must obtain the written consent from the relevant Minister before performing particular operations on, or affecting, particular habitats where they occur on lands/waters within the SACs or SPAs.
- The closest European site is approximately 22.9 km away from the installation boundary (Magheraveeley Marl Loughs SAC) and is considered to be outside of the zone of influence of noise emissions arising at the installation.
- Given the distance from the installation to European sites and the nature and scale of emissions, it is considered that the activity in combination with other plans or projects will not have a significant effect on European Sites.

Information in relation to European Sites is available on www.npws.ie

Documents relating to the licence application are available on the Agency's website at www.epa.ie