


Foreshore Unit,
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage,
Newtown Road, Co. Wexford
16th August 2022

Marine Adviser Environment Screening Stage Report

Re: FS007085 Irish Water – Site investigations for Sewerage Scheme, Roundstone, Co. Galway

Applicant: Irish Water

In response to your email have reviewed the Foreshore Application **FS007085** and all the environmental documents associated with it. My comments on and recommendations for this application are as follows:

Independent Environmental Consultant (IEC): The Department engaged **MERC** as an IEC to provide assistance with regard to the statutory and non-statutory environmental assessments of this Foreshore Lease application. The IEC has conducted independent assessments of the information provided by the Applicant, having regard to the Habitats Directive and EIA Directive.

Risk Assessment of Annex IV Species

A review of the applicant's environmental reports provide sufficient relevant information in order for a risk assessment of Annex IV species to be carried out by the IEC. The IEC concluded that it is very unlikely that any Annex IV species will be injured or disturbed as a result of the proposed works. Having considered the application by Irish Water and the IEC's report I agree with and accept this conclusion.

Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations

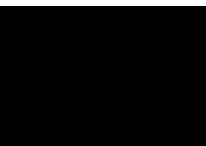
Having considered the application by **Irish Water** the IEC's concluded that the proposed project does not fall within the classes defined under Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive. However the Consent Authority (DHLGH) must complete **an Examination for EIA** as part of their obligations under the EIA Directive [see Appendix 1].

Article 6(3) of Directive (92/43/EEC) (as amended) (Habitats Directive): Following screening of the proposed project, the applicant concluded that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment was not required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is not likely to have a significant effect on European sites.

Having considered the application by Irish Water and their Report to inform AA Screening I agree with and accept IEC's report and its conclusions. My signed Recommending Officer's **Screening for Appropriate Assessment Determination** which requires the signature of the Minister as part of the decision-makers obligations under the Habitats Directive is contained in the Appendix 2.

If the Minister adopts and approves these reports I will furnish my final assessment report which may include, if necessary, any case specific conditions.

Signature and Date of Recommending Officer - Marine Advisor Environment:



17th August 2022

Appendices

Appendix 1 Examination of EIA

EIA Questionnaire. (Pre-Screening)

Form 1

Foreshore Reference: FS007085

Proposed Development: Site investigations for Sewerage Scheme, Roundstone, Co. Galway

Question 1: Is the proposed development included in Annex I and above the specified threshold of the Directive (Schedule 5 to the P&D Regs)?

- If Yes: EIA is mandatory.
- If No, proceed to Q2.

Answer:

No

Question 2: Is the proposed development included in Annex II and above the specified threshold of the Directive (Schedule 5 to the P&D Regs)?

- If Yes: EIA is mandatory.
- If No, proceed to Q3.

Answer:

No

Question 3: Is the proposed development of a type/class included in Annex I or II of the Directive (Schedule 5 to the P&D Regs) but below the threshold specified?

- If Yes, proceed to Form 2.
- If No, no EIA required. Proceed to Q4.

Answer:

No

Question 4: Despite Q's 1 to 3 above returning negative answers, has the applicant submitted an EIAR?

- If Yes, process the application as an EIA case
- If No; No EIAR required

Answer:

No

Comments:

Signature and Date of Recommending Officer - Marine Advisor Environment:



18th August 2022

Appendix 2 Screening for Appropriate Assessment Determination

Screening Determination for Appropriate Assessment

Project reference: FS007085 - Site investigations for Sewerage Scheme, Roundstone, Co. Galway.

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended ('The Regulations'), the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has undertaken Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if Site investigations for Sewerage Scheme, Roundstone, Co. Galway, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would be likely to have a significant effect(s) on a European site(s).

In accordance with Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 SI 477 as amended, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is not likely to have significant effects on any European sites. The risk of likely significant effects on European sites can be excluded on the basis of objective evidence. This determination is based on the location, scale, extent and duration of the proposed development, including temporary works, and has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

Signature and Date of Recommending Officer - Marine Advisor Environment:



17th August 2022

Signature and Date of Minister of State for Local Government and Planning: