Leitrim County Council

Environmental Impact Assessment
Screening Report
for ‘Kildorragh Wastewater Pumping Station’
Ballinamore

28th May 2019

## Table of Contents

1. Introduction .................................................................................................................................... 1  
2. The Proposed Development ........................................................................................................... 1  
3. Legislative Basis for EIA................................................................................................................... 2  
4. Screening Considerations................................................................................................................ 2  
5. Conclusion....................................................................................................................................... 3
1. Introduction

This is an EIA screening report for ‘Kildorragh Wastewater Pumping Station’, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim. The purpose of the report is to screen the proposed development to establish whether it requires Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and as a result if an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should be prepared in respect of it. An Appropriate Assessment Screening Statement and Ecological Impact Assessment have also been prepared as separate documents.


The EIA screening covers:

i. Description of the proposed development
ii. The legislative basis for EIA
iii. Screening considerations
iv. Conclusions

2. The Proposed Development

The proposed works involves the provision of a wastewater pumping station with associated works and 975m of rising main. The proposed Kildorragh Pump Station is located approximately 1km east of Ballinamore.

Leitrim County Council is developing a Greenway from Ballinamore to Corgar. This project received the necessary consent through the Part VIII process in 2017 (Planning Register Ref No. 17-C-03 refers). This Greenway will be constructed largely along the former railway line – Cavan to Leitrim railway which ran from Belturbet in Co. Cavan via Ballinamore to Dromod in Co. Leitrim. Presently some individual houses in the Kildorragh area have their percolation areas from their septic tanks located on or close to the former abandoned railway. It is therefore proposed to remove these percolation areas during the construction of the greenway.

It is therefore necessary to either provide new percolation areas or an alternative method of dealing with the effluent from the septic tanks. Soil percolation tests were carried out in the area but none of these tests passed the required standard set out in the EPA Code of Practice. It is therefore necessary to provide an alternative method of dealing with the effluent from the septic tanks. The proposed pumping station will pump the effluent from the septic tanks to the public sewer network in Ballinamore at Lahard. The Ballinamore waste water treatment plant has sufficient capacity to deal with the extra loading.

The site location is shown in Figure 1 overleaf whilst the Site Location Map is provided in Appendix I.
3. Legislative Basis for EIA

EIA requirements derive from the EIA Directive (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU). As the amended Directive came into force on 16th May 2017 and regulations transposing it into national legislation have been enacted. No changes to the prescribed project types or thresholds are required under the amended Directive so the types and thresholds set out in the 2001-2010 Regulations remain in effect.

EIA legislation as it relates to the planning process has been largely brought together in Part X of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2018 and Part 10 and Schedules 5, 6 and 7 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018. Part 1 of Schedule 5 to the Planning and Development Regulations lists project types included in Annex I of the Directive which automatically require EIA. Part 2 of the same Schedule, lists project types included in Annex II. Corresponding developments automatically require EIA if no threshold is given or if they exceed a given threshold. Developments which correspond to Part 2 project types by are below the given threshold must be screening to determine whether they require EIA or not. This is done by consideration of criteria set out in Schedule 7.

4. Screening Considerations

Class of Development
In the first instance, it is necessary to determine whether the project is of a type (or ‘class’) that requires an EIAR. This project does not correspond to any of the prescribed types listed in Annex I or Annex II.

As the project is not a type (or ‘class’) listed in Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU) an EIA and subsequently an EIAR is not required for this project.
Exempted Development Provisions

It is noted that the construction or erection of pumping stations, treatment works, holding tanks or outfall facilities for waste water or storm water is a prescribed development to which the provisions of section 179 of the Planning & Development Act 2000-2018 applies. It is noted that Article 4 of S.I. No. 29 /2018 - Planning and Development (Amendment) Regulations 2018 provided an exemption to Irish Water for the following:

The construction or erection of either or both

i. below ground pumping or booster stations and, where appropriate, above ground kiosks, and

ii. below ground holding tanks or reservoirs;

Subject to the following conditions and limitations

1. The Volume of any such below ground level pumping or booster station and any such holding tank or reservoir shall not exceed 500 cubic metres, measured externally.

2. The volume above ground level of any such kiosk, meter or other apparatus shall not exceed 13 cubic metres in rural areas (being areas as defined in Article 6(3)) or 2 cubic metres in other areas, measured externally.

It is therefore apparent that the construction of the subject pumping station, above ground kiosk and the rising main would be exempted development in its entirety if constructed by Irish Water.

5. Conclusion

The proposed development does not fall within the project type (or ‘class’) defined within the EIA Directive (Directive 2011/92/EU as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU) and enacted in the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2018. The project is categorised as exempted development if it was undertaken by Irish Water but not for the designated Water Services Authority of Leitrim County Council.

It is also noted that a separate Appropriate Assessment Screening Statement has concluded that there will be no negative impacts on the qualifying interests or any species in any Natura 2000 site. It is noted finally that the greenway under which the rising main will be constructed has been the subject of a separate Appropriate Assessment Screening Statement which reached a similar conclusion.
Appendix I – Site Location Map - Pump Station
Appendix II – Site Location Map - Rising Main
Kildorragh Wastewater Rising Main
Site Layout

Pump Station
Rising Mains to Ballinamore
along Proposed Green Way.
Discharge to Irish Waters Public Sewer