Annual Environmental Report

2023

Lifford

D0352-01

CONTENTS

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2023 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0352-01, Lifford, in Donegal in accordance with the requirements of the wastewater discharge licence for the agglomeration. Specified reports where relevant are included as an appendix to the AER.

1.1 ANNUAL STATEMENT OF MEASURES

A summary of any improvements undertaken is provided where applicable.

1.2 TREATMENT SUMMARY

The agglomeration is served by a wastewater treatment plant(s)

- Lifford WWTP (New Build) with a Plant Capacity PE of 3000, the treatment type is 2 - Secondary treatment .

1.3 ELV OVERVIEW

The overall compliance of the final effluent with the Emission Limit Values (ELVs) is shown below. More detailed information on the below ELV's can be found in Section 2.

Discharge Point Reference	Treatment Plant	Discharge Type	Compliance Status	Parameters failing if relevant
TPEFF0600D0352SW001	Lifford WWTP (New Build)	Treated	Compliant	N/A

1.4 LICENCE SPECIFIC REPORTING

Assessment / Report
There are no Licence Specific Reports included in this AER.

2 TREATMENT PLANT PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT SUMMARY

2.1 LIFFORD WWTP (NEW BUILD) - TREATED DISCHARGE

2.1.1 INFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - LIFFORD WWTP (NEW BUILD)

A summary of influent monitoring for the treatment plant is presented below. This monitoring is primarily undertaken in order to determine the overall efficiency of the plant in removing pollutants from the raw wastewater.

Parameters	Number of Samples	Annual Max	Annual Mean
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceo mg/l	12	212	106
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	12	80	30
Suspended Solids mg/l	12	330	116
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	12	8.32	3.26
COD-Cr mg/l	12	663	268
pH pH units	12	7.90	7.47
Hydraulic Capacity	N/A	1270	635

If other inputs in the form of sludge / leachate are added to the WWTP then these are included in Section 2.1.5 if applicable.

Significance of Results:

The annual mean hydraulic loading is greater than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. The annual maximum hydraulic loading is greater than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. Further details on the plant capacity and efficiency can be found under the sectional ‘Operational Performance Summary’. The design of the wastewater treatment plant allows for peak values and therefore the peak loads have not impacted on compliance with Emission Limit Values.

2.1.2 EFFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - TPEFF0600D0352SW001

Parameter	WWDL ELV (Schedule A)	ELV with Condition 2 Interpretation included Note 1	Interim % reduction from influent concentration	Number of sample results	Number of exceedances	Number of exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
COD-Cr mg/l	125	250	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	33	Pass
Suspended Solids mg/l	25	62.5	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	9.39	Pass
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceo mg/l	25	50	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	5.58	Pass
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	10	12	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	0.985	Pass
pH pH units	9	9	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	7.31	Pass
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	5	6	N/A	12	1	N/A	2.42	Pass
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	529	

Notes:
1 – This represents the Emission Limit Values after the Interpretation provided for under Condition 2 of the licence is applied
2 – For pH the WWDA specifies a range of pH 6 - 9

Cause of Exceedance(s):

Not applicable

Significance of Results:

The WWTP is compliant with the ELV's set in the Wastewater Discharge Licence.

2.1.3 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY FOR THE TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGE TPEFF0600D0352SW001

A summary of monitoring from ambient monitoring points associated with the wastewater discharge is provided in the sections below. For discharges to rivers upstream (U/S) and downstream (D/S) location data is provided. For other ambient points in lakes, coastal or transitional waters, monitoring data from the most appropriate monitoring station is selected.

The table below provides details of ambient monitoring locations and details of any designations as sensitive areas.

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	Irish Grid Reference	River Station Code	Bathing Water	Drinking Water	FWPM	Shellfish	WFD Ecological Status
Upstream	233468, 398357	RS01F011400	No	No	No	No	Unassigned
Downstream	234105, 398855	RS01F011500	No	No	No	No	Moderate

The table below provides a summary of monitoring results for designated ambient monitoring points. The upstream and downstream annual mean values are shown (mg/l), and the difference between both monitoring stations is given as a percentage of the Environmental Quality Standard (EQS) where relevant.

Parameter Name	Upstream Monitoring Point Location	Upstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	Downstream Monitoring Point Location	Downstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	EQS	% of EQS
BOD - 5 days (Total) mg/l	RS01F011400	1.67	RS01F011500	2.17	1.50	33.3

Parameter Name	Upstream Monitoring Point Location	Upstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	Downstream Monitoring Point Location	Downstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	EQS	% of EQS
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	RS01F011400	0.038	RS01F011500	0.040	0.065	2.4
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	RS01F011400	0.246	RS01F011500	0.275	0.035	81.2
pH pH units	RS01F011400	7.31	RS01F011500	7.42	N/A	
Temperature °C	RS01F011400	12	RS01F011500	12	N/A	
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	RS01F011400	149	RS01F011500	152	N/A	
Suspended Solids mg/l	RS01F011400	8.60	RS01F011500	11	N/A	
Dissolved Oxygen % Saturation	RS01F011400	97	RS01F011500	96	N/A	

Significance of Results:

The WWTP discharge was compliant with the ELV's set in the wastewater discharge licence.

The ambient monitoring results do not meet the required EQS at the upstream and the downstream monitoring locations. The EQS relates to the Oxygenation and Nutrient Conditions set out in the Surface Water Regulations 2009.

Based on ambient monitoring results a deterioration in BOD mg/l, Ammonia (as N) mg/l, ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l, concentrations downstream of the effluent discharge is noted.

A deterioration in water quality has been identified, however it is not known if it or is not caused by the WWTP.

Other causes of deterioration in water quality in the area are unknown.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable negative impact on the Water Framework Directive status.

2.1.4 OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY - LIFFORD WWTP (NEW BUILD)

2.1.4.1 Treatment Efficiency Report - Lifford WWTP (New Build)

Treatment efficiency is based on the removal of key pollutants from the influent wastewater by the treatment plant. In essence the calculation is based on the balance of load coming into the plant versus the load leaving the plant. The efficiency is presented as a percentage removal rate.

A summary presentation of the efficiency of the treatment process including information for all the parameters specified in the licence is included below:

Parameter	Influent mass loading (kg/year)	Effluent mass emission (kg/year)	Efficiency (% reduction of influent load)
COD	41464	5039	88
cBOD	16336	862	95
SS	17881	1451	92
TP	N/A	N/A	N/A
TN	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: The above data is based on sample results for the number of dates reported

2.1.4.2 Treatment Capacity Report Summary - Lifford WWTP (New Build)

Treatment capacity is an assessment of the hydraulic (flow) and organic (the amount of pollutants) load a treatment plant is designed to treat versus the current loading of that plant.

Lifford WWTP (New Build)	
Peak Hydraulic Capacity (m^3/day) - As Constructed	1269.66
DWF to the Treatment Plant (m^3/day)	423.22
Current Hydraulic Loading - annual max (m^3/day)	N/A

Lifford WWTP (New Build)	
Average Hydraulic loading to the Treatment Plant (m^3/day)	N/A
Organic Capacity (PE) - As Constructed	3000
Organic Capacity (PE) - Collected Load (peak week)[Note1]	1881
Organic Capacity (PE) - Remaining	1119
Will the capacity be exceeded in the next three years? (Yes/No)	No

Nominal design capacities can be based on conservative design principles. In some cases assessment of existing plants has shown organic capacities significantly higher than the nominal design capacity. Accordingly plants that appear to be overloaded when comparing a collected peak load with the nominal design capacity can be fully compliant due to the safety factors in the original design.

2.1.5 SLUDGE / OTHER INPUTS - LIFFORD WWTP (NEW BUILD)

'Other inputs' to the waste water treatment plant are summarised in table below

Input type	Quantity	Unit	P.E.	% of load to WWTP	Included in Influent Monitoring (Y/N)?	Is there a leachate/sludge acceptance procedure for the WWTP?	Is there a dedicated leachate/sludge acceptance facility for the WWTP? (Y/N)
There is no Sludge and Other Input data for the Treatment Plant included in the AER.							

3 COMPLAINTS AND INCIDENTS

3.1 COMPLAINTS SUMMARY

A summary of complaints of an environmental nature related to the discharge(s) to water from the WWTP and network is included below.

Number of Complaints	Nature of Complaint	Number Open Complaints	Number Closed Complaints
1	Water Pollution	0	1

3.2 REPORTED INCIDENTS SUMMARY

Environmental incidents that arise in an agglomeration are reported on an on-going basis in accordance with our waste water discharge licences. Where an incident occurs and it is reportable under the licence, it is reported to the Environmental Protection Agency through their Environmental Data Exchange Network, or in some instances by telephone. Some incidents which arise in the agglomeration are recorded by Uisce Éireann but may not be reportable under our licence for example where the incident does not have an impact on environmental performance.

A summary of reported incidents is included below.

3.2.1 SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS

Incident Type	Cause	Recurring (Y/N)	Closed (Y/N)
There were no reportable incidents in 2023.			

3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2023	0
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2023	0
Explanation of any discrepancies between the two numbers above	N/A

4 INFRASTRUCTURAL ASSESSMENTS AND PROGRAMME OF IMPROVEMENTS

4.1 STORM WATER OVERFLOW IDENTIFICATION AND INSPECTION REPORT

A summary of the operation of the storm water overflows and their significance where known is included below:

4.1.1 SWO IDENTIFICATION

WWDL Name / Code for Storm Water Overflow (chamber) where applicable	Irish Grid Ref. (outfall)	Included in Schedule of the WWDL	Significance of the overflow(High / Medium / Low)	Assessed against DoEHLG Criteria	No. of times activated in 2023 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2023 (m3)	Monitoring Status
SW002	233341,398295	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW003	233348,398301	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored

Any TBC SWO(s) were identified as part of the on-going National SWO programme and will be updated in subsequent AER(s) once the information is confirmed.

SWO Summary	
How much wastewater discharge by metered SWOs during the year (m3)?	Unknown
Is each SWO identified as not meeting DoEHLG Guidance included in the Programme of Improvements?	No
The SWO Assessment included the requirements of relevant of WWDL schedules?	Unknown
Have the EPA been advised of any additional SWOs / changes to Schedule C3 and A4 under Condition 1.7?	Unknown

4.2 REPORT ON PROGRESS MADE AND PROPOSALS BEING DEVELOPED TO MEET THE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS.

4.2.1 SPECIFIED IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME SUMMARY

A wastewater discharge licence may require a number of reports on specific subject areas to be prepared for the agglomeration in question. These reports are submitted to the EPA as part of the Annual Environmental Report. This section provides a list of the various reports required for this agglomeration and a brief summary of their recommendations.

Specified Improvement Programmes (under Schedule A and C of WWDL)	Description	Licence Schedule	Licence Completion Date	Date Expired? (N/NA/Y)	Status of Works	Timeframe for Completing the Work	Comments
D0352-SIP:01	Any works necessary as a result of Condition 5.2.2.3	C	28/02/2014	No	Not Started		
D0352-SIP:02	Cessation or upgrade of storm water overflows to comply with the criteria outlined in the DoECLG 'Procedures and Criteria in relation to Storm Water Overflows' (1995) SW002	C	31/12/2017	Yes	Works Completed		
D0352-SIP:03	Cessation or upgrade of storm water overflows to comply with the criteria outlined in the DoECLG 'Procedures and Criteria in relation to Storm Water Overflows' (1995) SW003	C	31/12/2017	Yes	Works Completed		
D0352-SIP:04	Provision of secondary waste water treatment plant and ancillary works	C	31/12/2017	Yes	Works Completed		

Specified Improvement Programmes (under Schedule A and C of WWDL)	Description	Licence Schedule	Licence Completion Date	Date Expired? (N/NA/Y)	Status of Works	Timeframe for Completing the Work	Comments
D0352-SIP:05	Upgrade of waste water collection network	C	31/12/2017	Yes	Works Completed		

A summary of the status of any other improvements identified by under Condition 5 assessments- is included below.

4.2.2 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Improvement Identifier	Improvement Description / or any Operational Improvements	Improvement Source	Expected Completion Date	Comments
No additional improvements planned at this time.				

4.2.3 SEWER INTEGRITY RISK ASSESSMENT

The utilisation of multiple capital maintenance programmes and the outputs of the workshops with the Local Authority Operations Staff held under the programme can be used to satisfy the requirements of Condition 5 regarding network integrity. Improvement works identified by way of these programmes and workshops will be included in the Improvements Summary Tables 4.2.1 and 4.2.2.

5 LICENCE SPECIFIC REPORTS

A wastewater discharge licence may require a number of reports on specific subject areas to be prepared for the agglomeration in question. These reports are submitted to the EPA as part of the Annual Environmental Report. This section provides a list of the various reports required for this agglomeration and a brief summary of their recommendations.

Licence Specific Report	Required by licence	Included in this AER
D0352-01-Priority Substances Assessment	Yes	No

6 CERTIFICATION AND SIGN OFF

6.1 SUMMARY OF AER CONTENTS

Parameter	Answer
Does the AER include an Executive Summary?	Yes
Does the AER include an assessment of the performance of the Waste Water Works (i.e. have the results of assessments been interpreted against WWDL requirements and or Environmental Quality Standards)?	Yes
Is there a need to advise the EPA for Consideration of a Technical Amendment/Review of the Licence?	N/A
List reason e.g. additional SWO identified	N/A
Is there a need to request/advise the EPA of any modification to the existing WWDL with respect to condition 4 changes to monitoring location, frequency etc	N/A
List reason e.g. changes to monitoring requirements	N/A
Have these processes commenced?	N/A
Are all outstanding reports and assessments from previous AERs included as an appendix to this AER	No

I certify that the information given in this Annual Environmental Report is truthful, accurate and complete:

Signed: Date: 19/11/2024

This AER has been produced by Uisce Éireann's Environmental Information System (EIMS) and has been electronically signed off in that system for and on behalf of ,

Eleanor Roche

Head of Environmental Regulation.

7 APPENDIX

Appendix
Appendix 7.1 - Ambient monitoring summary

Lifford AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY 2023

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	***Irish Grid Reference***	**EPA Feature Coding Tool code**	**Receiving Waters Designation (Y/N)**				**WFD Status**
			Bathing Water	**Drinking Water**	**FWPM**	**Shellfish**	
Upstream Monitoring Point	233468, 398357	RS01F011400	No	No	No	No	Unassigned
Downstream Monitoring Point	234105, 398855	RS01F011500	No	No	No	No	Moderate

Ambient Impact Assessment Table

Parameter Name	**Upstream Monitoring Point Location**	**Upstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean**	**Downstream Monitoring Point Location**	**Downstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean**	**EQS (Mean)**	**% EQS**
BOD mg/l	RS01F011400	1.6	RS01F011500	1.3	1.5	-20%
Ammonia (as N) mg/l	RS01F011400	0.043	RS01F011500	0.042	0.065	-1.5%
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	RS01F011400	0.257	RS01F011500	0.283	0.035	74.28%

Lifford D0352-01 Ambient Monitoring Data

Station	Date	Ammonia (as N)	BOD	Conductivity @ 20°C	DO	Orthophosphate	pH	Suspended Solids	Temperature
Lifford - Upstream	12-Jan-23	0.042	1	113	98.5	<0.05	6.8	<6	5.6
Lifford - Upstream	23-Feb-23	0.028	2	109	100.7	0.05	6.8	6	5.9
Lifford - Upstream	30-Mar-23	0.036	1	147	99.5	<0.05	7.1	<6	9.6
Lifford - Upstream	21-Apr-23	0.03	1	213	99.4	<0.05	7.2	<6	10.8
Lifford - Upstream	08-May-23	0.03	1	197	97.8	<0.05	7.7	<6	14.7
Lifford - Upstream	22-Jun-23	0.06	2	155.5	93.4	0.019	7.4	7	18
Lifford - Upstream	07-Jul-23	0.054	3	87	94.7	<0.05	7.4	52	15.2
Lifford - Upstream	10-Aug-23	<0.015	1	177.4	94.3	<0.05	7.4	<6	16.1
Lifford - Upstream	6-Sep-2023	0.083	1	193.8	95.6	2.57	7.5	< 6	18.5
Lifford - Upstream	26-Oct-23	0.048	3	163	95.1	<0.05	7.6	<6	10.3
Lifford - Upstream	22-Nov-202	< 0.015	2	141	95.6	< 0.05	7.4	< 6	9.2
Lifford - Upstream	08-Dec-23	0.027	2	93.2	97.7	<0.05	7.4	<6	7.4
Lifford - Downstream	12-Jan-23	0.045	1	117	97.7	<0.05	6.8	9	5.6
Lifford - Downstream	23-Feb-23	0.015	1	116	99	0.05	7	7	6.3
Lifford - Downstream	30-Mar-23	0.029	1	149	98.5	<0.001	7.3	<6	9.6
Lifford - Downstream	21-Apr-23	0.09	1	212	97.1	<0.05	7.6	<6	11.1
Lifford - Downstream	08-May-23	0.031	1	197	97.3	<0.05	7.5	<6	14.7
Lifford - Downstream	22-Jun-23	0.06	2	158.1	92.4	0.03	7.5	<6	18.1
Lifford - Downstream	07-Jul-23	0.065	3	94.7	93.4	0.05	7.4	70	15.2
Lifford - Downstream	10-Aug-23	0.022	1	180.3	90.5	<0.05	7.6	<6	16.1
Lifford - Downstream	6-Sep-2023	0.035	1	196.6	95.3	2.92	7.6	< 6	18.6
Lifford - Downstream	26-Oct-23	0.053	1	165.2	95.3	<0.05	7.6	<6	10.4
Lifford - Downstream	22-Nov-202	< 0.015	1	145.6	95	< 0.05	7.5	< 6	9.2
Lifford - Downstream	08-Dec-23	0.022	2	97.4	97.4	<0.05	7.6	17	7.4