

Annual Environmental Report

2020



Ballinamore

D0281-01

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2020 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0281-01, Ballinamore, in Leitrim 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.

New Sludge Holding Tank, Improved Activated Sludge System, New instruments, valves, flowmeters and upgraded controls under Minor Works Programme but still some outstanding snags to be completed as part of this work that was commenced in 2019.

1.2 TREATMENT SUMMARY

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

- BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020 with a Plant Capacity PE of 2000, the treatment type is 3P - Tertiary P removal

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
TPEFF1700D0281SW001	BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020	Treated	Non-Compliant	ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l Suspended Solids mg/l

1.4 LICENCE SPECIFIC REPORTING INCLUDED IN AER

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

2 TREATMENT PLANT PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT SUMMARY

2.1 BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020 - TREATED DISCHARGE

2.1.1 INFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020

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
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	6	38.4	6.72
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	6	893	181.42
Suspended Solids mg/l	6	1655	211.15
COD-Cr mg/l	6	2120	422.78
Total Nitrogen mg/l	6	87	30.62
Hydraulic Capacity	N/A	1209	541

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 less than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. The annual maximum hydraulic loading is less than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. Further details on the plant capacity and efficiency can be found under the sectional 'Operational Performance Summary'.

2.1.2 EFFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - TPEFF1700D0281SW001

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 with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
COD-Cr mg/l	125	250	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	33.25	Pass
Temperature °C	25	25	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	10.32	Pass
Suspended Solids mg/l	10	25	N/A	6	2	N/A	8.88	Fail
pH pH units	9	9	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	7.14	Pass
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	6.5	13	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	3.59	Pass
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	3	3.6	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	0.05	Pass
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	1	1.2	N/A	6	1	1	0.57	Fail
Appearance (on Sampling) Descriptive	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	0.82	

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 with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	413.03	
Odour Descriptive	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Total Nitrogen mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	14.06	

Notes:

1 – This represents the Emission Limit Values after the Interpretation provided for under Condition 2 of the licence is applied

Cause of Exceedance(s):

Orthophosphate exceedance may be linked to the unusually high concentration in the influent on the same day. Suspended solids exceedance are due to a bulking sludge and too much variation in influent.

Significance of Results:

The WWTP is non compliant with the ELV's set in the Wastewater Discharge Licence. The plant is unable to operate within license conditions with high variation in the influent.

2.1.3 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY FOR THE TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGE TPEFF1700D0281SW001

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 Status
Upstream	212789, 311441	RS36Y010400	No	No	No	No	Unassigned
Downstream	213726, 308974	RS36Y010620	No	No	No	No	Unassigned
Downstream	212244, 310931	RS36Y010520	No	No	No	No	Unassigned

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	RS36Y010400	1.68	RS36Y010620	1.71	1.5	2
BOD - 5 days (Total) mg/l	RS36Y010400	1.68	RS36Y010520	1.73	1.5	3.3
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	RS36Y010400	0.069	RS36Y010620	0.061	0.065	-12.3
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	RS36Y010400	0.069	RS36Y010520	0.065	0.065	-7.2
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	RS36Y010400	0.012	RS36Y010620	0.018	0.035	17.4
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	RS36Y010400	0.012	RS36Y010520	0.022	0.035	27.1
Dissolved Oxygen mg/l	RS36Y010400	9.886	RS36Y010520	10.064		

Parameter Name	Upstream Monitoring Point Location	Upstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	Downstream Monitoring Point Location	Downstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean	EQS	% of EQS
Dissolved Oxygen % O2	RS36Y010400	92.06	RS36Y010520	93.21		
pH pH units	RS36Y010400	7.053	RS36Y010520	7.025		
Total Nitrogen mg/l	RS36Y010400	0.72	RS36Y010520	0.67		
Total Nitrogen mg/l	RS36Y010400	0.72	RS36Y010620	0.61		
Dissolved Oxygen mg/l	RS36Y010400	9.886	RS36Y010620	10.239		
Temperature °C	RS36Y010400	12.83	RS36Y010520	12.66		
pH pH units	RS36Y010400	7.053	RS36Y010620	7.036		
Temperature °C	RS36Y010400	12.83	RS36Y010620	12.41		
Dissolved Oxygen % O2	RS36Y010400	92.06	RS36Y010620	94.41		

Significance of Results:

The WWTP discharge was not compliant with the ELV's set in the wastewater discharge licence.

The ambient monitoring results does not meet the required EQS. 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 and Ortho-Phosphate, 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: There may be input from agriculture and septic tanks between the upstream and downstream sampling locations. There are a number of cruise boats / pleasure craft downstream of the WWTP that may contribute to increase in BOD through churning up of benthic sediment and discharge of onboard sewage.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does have an observable negative impact on the Water Framework Directive status.

2.1.4 OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY - BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020

2.1.4.1 Treatment Efficiency Report - BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020

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	79266	7620	90
TN	5741	3223	44
SS	39587	2035	95
cBOD	34014	822	98
TP	1261	189	85

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

2.1.4.2 Treatment Capacity Report Summary - BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020

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.

BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020	
Peak Hydraulic Capacity (m³/day) - As Constructed	1350
DWF to the Treatment Plant (m³/day)	450
Current Hydraulic Loading - annual max (m³/day)	1209

BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020	
Average Hydraulic loading to the Treatment Plant (m ³ /day)	541
Organic Capacity (PE) - As Constructed	2000
Organic Capacity (PE) - Collected Load (peak week) ^{Note1}	1448
Organic Capacity (PE) - Remaining	552
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 - BALLINAMORE WWTP - 2020

'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 is included below.

Number of Complaints	Nature of Complaint	Number Open Complaints	Number Closed Complaints
There were no relevant environmental complaints in 2020.			

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 Irish Water 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	No. of incident occurrences	Recurring (Y/N)	Closed (Y/N)
Breach of ELV	Inadequate Operational Procedures / Training	1	Yes	Yes

3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2020	1
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2020	1
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	Irish Grid Ref.	Included in Schedule A4 of the WWDL	Significance of the overflow(High / Medium / Low)	Assessed against DoEHLG Criteria	No. of times activated in 2020 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2020 (m3)	Monitoring Status
SW3	212347, 311210	Yes	Low	Meeting	211	59038	Monitored
SW3A	212366, 311232	No	Low	Not Meeting	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
SW4	212379, 311247	Yes	Low	Not yet Assessed	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW5	211148, 310087	No	Low	Not yet Assessed	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	213025, 311479	No	Unknown	Not yet Assessed	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
TBC	212601, 311880	No	Unknown	Not yet Assessed	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

WWDL Name / Code for Storm Water Overflow	Irish Grid Ref.	Included in Schedule A4 of the WWDL	Significance of the overflow(High / Medium / Low)	Assessed against DoEHLG Criteria	No. of times activated in 2020 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2020 (m3)	Monitoring Status
TBC	213678, 312374	No	Unknown	Not yet Assessed	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

SWO Summary	
How much sewage was discharged via SWOs in the agglomeration in the year (m3)?	59038
Is each SWO identified as not meeting DoEHLG Guidance included in the Programme of Improvements?	Yes
The SWO Assessment included the requirements of relevant of WWDL schedules?	Yes
Have the EPA been advised of any additional SWOs / changes to Schedule C3 and A4 under Condition 1.7?	Yes

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 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/N/A/Y)	Status of Works	Timeframe for Completing the Work	Comments
D0281-SIP:01	Cessation of unauthorized discharges from SW2 and upgrade of sewer network at SW2 to ensure compliance with the criteria outlined in the DoEHLG "Procedures and Criteria in relation to Storm Water Overflows, 1995"	C	30/04/2012	Yes	Works Completed		

A summary of the status of any improvements identified by under Condition 5.2 is included below.

4.2.2 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Improvement Identifier	Improvement Description / or any Operational Improvements	Improvement Source	Expected Completion Date	Comments
There are no Improvements Programme for this Agglomeration.				

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 Table.

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 list of the various reports required for this agglomeration and a brief summary of their recommendations.

5.a Licence Specific Reports Summary Table

Licence Specific Report	Required by licence	Year included in AER	Included in this AER	Reference to relevant section of AER
Drinking Water Abstraction Point Risk Assessment	Yes	2012	No	
Priority Substances Assessment	Yes	2012	No	

5.1 DRINKING WATER ABSTRACTION POINT RISK ASSESSMENT

The Drinking Water Abstraction Point Risk Assessment Report has been included in the AER 2012

5.2 PRIORITY SUBSTANCES ASSESSMENT

The Priority Substances Assessment Report has been included in the AER 2012

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?	Yes
List reason e.g. additional SWO identified	Additional SWO's identified.
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	No
List reason e.g. changes to monitoring requirements	N/A
Have these processes commenced?	Yes
Are all outstanding reports and assessments from previous AERs included as an appendix to this AER	Yes

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

Signed: Date: 25/03/2021

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

Katherine Walshe

Acting Head of Environmental Regulation.

7 APPENDIX

There are no Appendices included