

## AA SCREENING DETERMINATION

Of



### Management of Invasive Plant Species at Castletroy Wastewater Treatment Plant, Co. Limerick.

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, Irish Water has undertaken Appropriate Assessment screening to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the site, if the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on European Site(s).

An Invasive Species Management Plan (ISPM) has been prepared for Castletroy WWTP for the management and treatment of invasive plant species on the site. The ISPM has been supported by site visits and surveys. The management and treatment of invasive species will involve the installation of bio-security measures and the commencement of a multi-annual herbicide and physical control programme, implemented in accordance with the ISPM.

In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site(s) listed below:

- *Lower River Shannon SAC (002165)*
- *River Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries SPA (004077)*

In accordance with Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, **Irish Water has made a determination following screening that an Appropriate Assessment is not required** as the project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the sites as European site(s) and **as it can be excluded**, on the basis of objective information and in light of the conservation objectives of the relevant European Site(s), **that the project, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, would have a significant effect on a European Site.**

This determination is based on the nature, location, scale and duration of the proposed works, including any temporary works and excludes any consideration of mitigation measures.

Full records of the assessment, reports, surveys, consultations, and observations are held by the competent authority and available for public review as requested.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'John Casey', written on a light-colored background.

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**JOHN CASEY**

**CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

**DATE: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022**