

AA SCREENING DETERMINATION

Of

Ground Investigation Works for Farganstown Wastewater Project at Farganstown, Co. Meath

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).

The Project involves ground investigation works as part of the Farganstown Wastewater Project. Works involve boreholes and slit trenches ca. 1.5km east of Navan Town off the Boyne Road L1600. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site(s) listed below:

- River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC (002299)
- River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA (004232).

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 read 'John Casey', is positioned at the top left of the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large 'J' and 'C'.

JOHN CASEY

CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR

DATE: 24th October 2022