

## AA SCREENING DETERMINATION

Of

### Site Investigation Works to inform upgrades to the Letterkenny Water Resource Zone infrastructure, Co. Donegal

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, Uisce Éireann 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 proposed site investigation (SI) works involves non-intrusive investigations (Geographical Surveying) and intrusive ground investigations covering extensive sections for a proposed pipeline route, and within existing and proposed water infrastructure in northeast Donegal, from Illies, northwest of Bunrana, to Listellian, south of Letterkenny, Co. Donegal. The intrusive ground investigation works will be carried out within and immediately adjacent to the main roads; N13 and R238, on existing Uisce Éireann built lands and greenfield sites at the proposed Luddan Pumping Station and Burt Reservoir sites. Non-intrusive geophysical surveys will be carried out along the 13.2km of pipeline routes (in road). Geophysical surveys will also be carried out in greenfield sites at Luddan Pumping Station, Burt Reservoir sites, the existing Lurgybrack Reservoir Site, the proposed Lurgybrack Pump Station and a proposed new Listellian Reservoir Site.

In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Sites listed below:

- Lough Swilly SPA [004075]
- Lough Swilly SAC [002287]

In accordance with Regulation 42(7) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended, **Uisce Éireann 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 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 S.', is written below the 'Signed:' text.

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**JOHN CASEY**

**CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

**DATE: 06/12/2024**