

Annual Environmental Report

2021



Elphin

D0230-01

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7.1 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2021 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0230-01, Elphin, in Roscommon 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.

NONE

1.2 TREATMENT SUMMARY

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

- Elphin WWTP with a Plant Capacity PE of 1900, 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
TPEFF2600D0230SW001	Elphin WWTP	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 ELPHIN WWTP - TREATED DISCHARGE

2.1.1 INFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - ELPHIN WWTP

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
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	12	26	15
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	12	601	130
Total Nitrogen mg/l	12	38	22
COD-Cr mg/l	24	1912	307
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	12	6.77	3.06
Suspended Solids mg/l	24	1015	172
Hydraulic Capacity	N/A	1216	655

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'. 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 - TPEFF2600D0230SW001

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	24	N/A	N/A	17	Pass
Suspended Solids mg/l	35	88	N/A	24	N/A	N/A	1.99	Pass
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	5.00	10	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	1.52	Pass
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	1.00	1.20	N/A	24	N/A	N/A	0.052	Pass
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	0.500	0.600	N/A	24	N/A	N/A	0.115	Pass
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	24	N/A	N/A	0.182	
Total Nitrogen mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	5.24	
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	530	
pH units	N/A	N/A	N/A	12	N/A	N/A	7.66	

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 TPEFF2600D0230SW001

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
Downstream	188862, 288158	RS26E020100	No	No	No	No	Poor

The results for ambient results and / or additional monitoring data sets are included in the **Appendix 7.1 - Ambient monitoring summary**

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 downstream monitoring location. 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, Ortho-P, 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 - ELPHIN WWTP

2.1.4.1 Treatment Efficiency Report - Elphin WWTP

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)
cBOD	29801	340	99
COD	72853	3998	95
SS	40865	460	99
TN	5042	1169	77
TP	700	42	94

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

2.1.4.2 Treatment Capacity Report Summary - Elphin WWTP

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.

Elphin WWTP	
Peak Hydraulic Capacity (m ³ /day) - As Constructed	1425
DWF to the Treatment Plant (m ³ /day)	100
Current Hydraulic Loading - annual max (m ³ /day)	1216
Average Hydraulic loading to the Treatment Plant (m ³ /day)	655
Organic Capacity (PE) - As Constructed	1900
Organic Capacity (PE) - Collected Load (peak week) ^{Note1}	764
Organic Capacity (PE) - Remaining	1136
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 - ELPHIN WWTP

'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
There were no relevant environmental complaints in 2021.			

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)
Other	Shock load to the WWTP	1	No	Yes

3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2021	1
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2021	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 (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 2021 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2021 (m3)	Monitoring Status
SW002	188082, 288413	Yes	Low	Meeting	Unknown	75371	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 sewage was discharged via SWOs in the agglomeration in the year (m3)?	0
Is each SWO identified as not meeting DoEHLG Guidance included in the Programme of Improvements?	N/A
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?	N/A

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
D0230-SIP:01	Implement, in accordance with Condition 5.5, either (a) an alternative primary discharge point, or (b) an alternative means of managing the existing waste water discharge volume and quality during periods of low flow in the receiving water or © connection to another agglomeration	C	31/12/2019	Yes	Not Started		Capital works not funded in RC3. Capital works funding post 2024 will be contingent on the project being included in the 2025-2029 investment period.
D0230-SIP:02	SW001 Primary Discharge Point to be discontinued	C	31/12/2019	Yes	Not Started		Capital works not funded in RC3. Capital works funding post 2024 will be contingent on the project being included in the 2025-2029 investment period.

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	Year included in AER	Included in this AER
Priority Substances Assessment	Yes	2015	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
Has a Technical amendment/licence review application been submitted to the Agency by IW?	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	N/A

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

Signed: Date: 21/04/2022

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

Appendix
Appendix 7.1 - Ambient monitoring summary

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	Irish National Grid Reference (Easting, Northing)	EPA Feature Coding Tool code	Receiving Waters Designation (Yes/No)				Current WFD Status	Mean (mg/l)		
			Bathing Water	Drinking Water	FWPM	Shellfish		cBOD	o-Phosphate (as P)	Ammonia (as N)
Upstream Monitoring Point										
Downstream Monitoring Point	188862, 288158	IE_SH_26O060500	No	No	No	No	Poor	1.850	0.094	0.061
EQS								1.50	0.035	0.065
% of EQS										

AMBIENT IMPACT ASSESSMENT TABLE

Elphin

D0230-01 Elphin Agglomeration : - Ambient Monitoring Downstream 2020– Elphin Stream – (26E02-0100 -DS Elphin Stw (Br Ese Elphin)									
Sample Type	Date	code	Ammonia (mg/l)	BOD (mg/l)	Dissolved Oxygen (% Saturation)	pH (unit)	Temperature (deg C)	Ortho-p (PO4-P) (mg/l)	Total Nitrogen (mg/l)
Downstream	16/03/2021	21440998	0.058	1	91.5	7.58	10.1	0.065	
Downstream	17/06/2021	21442368	0.09	2	79.1	7.74	10.7	0.128	
Downstream	12/08/2021	21443250	0.033	1.5	67.8	7.7	13.6	0.089	
Downstream	03/11/2021	21444680	0.064	2.9	76	7.41	12	0.093	
Ambient Monitoring Result (Mean)			0.061	1.85	78.6	7.61	11.6	0.094	
Surface Water Regulation 2009 Good Status (mean) Table 9 (Note 1)			≤0.065	≤1.50		Soft 4.5 <pH<6.0 Hard 6.0<pH<9.0	0.0861	≤0.035	
Ambient Monitoring Result (95 Percentile)			0.0861	2.76	89.64	7.73		0.123	
Surface Water Regulation 2009 Good Status			≤0.14	≤2.6	80<95%ile<120			≤0.075	
Status Upstream (Note 3)			Good	Fail	Fail	Hard		Fail	

Note 1: Limit (mean) for good status waters as per Table 9, Part A, schedule 4 of the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Water) Regulations, 2009 S.I. No. 272 of 2009. Note – calculated figures for Ammonia as N do not consider variants in temperature or pH.

Note 2: Limit (95%ile) for good status waters as per Table 9, Part A, Schedule 4 of The European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Water) Regulations, 2009) S.I. No. 272 of 2009.

Note 3: Limit (mean) for good status waters as per Table 9, Part A, Schedule 4 of The European Communities Environmental Objectives (Surface Water) Regulations, 2009) S.I. No. 272 of 2009.