

SCREENING FOR APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT DETERMINATION

Of

De-silting Activity at Clogh Castlecomer Water Treatment Plant, Loan, Co. Kilkenny

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 (the Birds and Habitats Regulations), Uisce Éireann undertook a screening for Appropriate Assessment 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 proposal involves the removal of accumulated silt and gravel from the River Dinan adjacent and parallel to the existing infiltration gallery at Clogh Castlecomer Water Treatment Plant, Loan, Co. Kilkenny.

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

- *River Barrow and River Nore SAC (002162)*
- *River Nore SPA (004233)*

It was not possible to exclude, on the basis of objective scientific information following the screening undertaken, that the proposed project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European Site. Under Regulation 42(6) of the Birds and Habitats Regulations, Uisce Éireann has determined that an **Appropriate Assessment (AA)** is required for the proposed project.

Under Regulation 42(9) of the Birds and Habitats Regulations, Uisce Éireann will proceed to prepare a Natura Impact Statement and compile any other evidence that may be required to inform the AA.

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

Signed:



JOHN CASEY

CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR

DATE: 24/05/2024