

**AA SCREENING DETERMINATION**

Of

**Water Networks Programme – Castletown, Co. Laois**

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 European Site(s), if the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on a European Site(s). In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site(s) listed below:

*Slieve Bloom Mountains SAC [000412], River Barrow and River Nore SAC [002162], Coolrain Bog SAC [002332], Knockacoller Bog SAC [002333], Slieve Bloom Mountains SPA [004160], River Nore SPA [004233].*

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 Site(s) as European Site(s) and as it can be concluded, on the basis of objective information, that the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is not likely to have a significant effect on the European Site(s) listed above.

This determination is based on small scale and short duration of the proposed works which are located within the existing road network outside of any designated European Site.

Signed:




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**GERRY GALVIN**

**CHIEF TECHNICAL OFFICER**

**DATE: 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019**