

Flood Risk Assessment
& Management Section,
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Ireland.

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The Manager
Development Application Unit
Department of the Arts, Heritage and The Gaeltacht
Newtown Road
Wexford

Ref: G Pre0010/2014

Re: Camac & Poddle Flood Relief Schemes (Phase One) Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement

Please note this correspondence is in relation to nature conservation only

An Appropriate Assessment as referred to in Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC), was carried out on the above-mentioned Project, in accordance with S.I. No. 477/2011: European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011.

A screening for Appropriate Assessment was carried out and is reported on in the Natura Impact Statement, dated 19th March 2014. This screening determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the Camac and Poddle Flood Relief Schemes (Phase One) was required.

The Natura Impact Statement (NIS) was submitted to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DAHG) and Inland Fisheries Ireland on 23rd April 2014, and observations were received from the DAHG on 28th May 2014. The observations from DAHG included that there was not sufficient detail available at this time to meet the requirement for removing all reasonable scientific doubt that the works will not adversely affect site integrity, and made recommendations that will need to be addressed at detailed design stage. DAHG noted that this NIS is for Phase 1 with a further NIS for Phase 2 detailed design stage and sets out a series of construction management details that will be required at the project stage.

Observations from Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht related to archaeology were also received. However, it is OPW's opinion that these observations are outside the scope of Appropriate Assessment, and will be addressed separately by OPW with DAHG.

In carrying out the Appropriate Assessment the Commissioners of Public Works in Ireland have taken into account:

- 1. The conclusions of the Natura Impact Statement (NIS)
- 2. The observations received from DAHG

The Commissioners of Public Works determine that, based on the information available at this

time, the Camac and Poddle Flood Relief Schemes Phase One, are not likely to adversely affect the integrity of any Natura 2000 site, either alone or in combination with any other plans or projects. However, noting that the Assessment carried out to date is at plan-level and the concerns expressed by the DAHG, a further Appropriate Assessment will be carried out during the detailed design stage (Phase Two) i.e. project stage, which will be undertaken by South Dublin County Council and Dublin City Council. The NIS for Phase One, and the observations received from Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, will be provided to the Local Authorities to assist in the subsequent Assessment. It is noted that an Environmental Impact Assessment will also be carried out during Phase Two.

Gavin Poole

OPW Project Manager

Eastern Catchment Flood Risk Assessment

& Management (CFRAM) Study

11th November 2015