

## AA SCREENING DETERMINATION

Of

**Water Network Programme**

at

**Rathcolman, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath**

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 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 Scheme consists of the installation of approximately 1,178m of new watermain and all associated assets at Rathcolman, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

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

- 000685 Lough Ennell SAC
- 000688 Lough Owel SAC
- 004044 Lough Ennell SPA
- 004047 Lough Owel SPA

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 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, including any temporary 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 read 'John Casey', is positioned at the top of the page. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large 'S' at the end.

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**JOHN CASEY**

**CHIEF TECHNICAL ADVISOR**

**DATE: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2023**