



An
Bord
Pleanála

Inspector's Report ABP-318864-24

Question

Whether the "installation of a 7 hectare sub surface irrigation to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the on-site wastewater treatment plant. The system is installed with an irrigation pipework on the two fields which are separated by 400mm. The design of the system will be divided into seven zones which will be irrigated via an automated system" is or is not development and is or is not exempted development.

Location

Greenhills, Beauparc, Co. Meath.

Declaration

Planning Authority

Meath County Council

Planning Authority Reg. Ref.

LBS52376

Applicant for Declaration

Dawn Meats

Planning Authority Decision

No declaration

Referral**Referred by**

Meath County Council

Owner/ Occupier

Dawn Meats

Observer(s)

None

Date of Site Inspection22nd November 2024**Inspector**

Elaine Power

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1.0 Site Location and Description

- 1.1. The proposed development is located at Greenhills, Beauparc, Co. Meath and forms part of an existing abattoir site, Dawn Meats (Slane). The red line boundary on the submitted maps includes the overall abattoir site. The site of the sub-surface irrigation system comprises 2 no. vacant fields with a stated area of c. 7ha. The fields are generally located on the northern portion of the overall abattoir site. The overall abattoir site has an area of c. 11.45 ha.
- 1.2. The surrounding area is rural area in nature with a linear pattern of low-density residential development along the surrounding road network. The nearest settlement is the village of Yellow Furze, c. 800m north-west of the site.
- 1.3. The existing facility is subject to an Industrial Emissions (IE) licence from the EPA (Ref. P0811-02).

2.0 The Question

- 2.1. Whether the following development is or is not exempted development.

The installation of a 7 hectare sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant. The system is installed with an irrigation pipework on 2 no. fields which are separated by 400mm. The design of the system would be divided into seven zones which would be irrigated via an automated system.

3.0 Planning Authority Declaration

3.1. Declaration

The planning authority did not issue a declaration. The Board received this Section 5 Referral from Meath County Council on the 12th January 2024.

3.2. Planning Authority Reports

3.2.1. *Planning Reports*

None

3.2.2. ***Other Technical Reports***

None

4.0 **Relevant Planning History**

There are a number of planning applications relating to the overall Dawn Meat (Slane) site. The most recent and relevant planning history is summarised below.

ABP 313586-22, Reg. Ref. 21/424: There is a current appeal for an amendment to the existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) at Dawn Meats Processing Plant comprising the demolition of an existing storage building and the construction of a new single-storey industrial type building to enclose the DAF unit (approved under Reg. Ref. LB180300) and a new enclosed storage and control rooms. The installation of a new sludge press at intake to WWTP, change aeration tank to anoxic tank, install 2 no. additional aeration tanks, alteration to perimeter berm to increase the footprint of WWTP, by 539m² to that approved under Reg. Ref. LB180300 and the construction of a treated wastewater rising main from the site of the proposed development to new discharge point at the River Boyne (distance 7.2km). This application was accompanied by an EIAR and NIS. The activity subject to an Industrial Emissions Licence. This development was granted by the planning authority in 2021.

Reg. Ref. LB/18 0300: Permission was granted in 2018 for an extension to the existing WWTP to include a coarse & fine screen, balance tank, sludge tank, sludge press, anoxic tank, aeration tank, clarifier, sand filter, treated effluent pump sump, coagulant storage tank, odour scrubber unit, control building and relocation of existing DAF unit and all associated works, including earth berm to perimeter of extended treatment plant and landscaping. The application was accompanied by an EIAR and the activity subject to an Emissions Licence. This plant has been constructed and is operational.

Reg. Ref. LB/181444: Permission was granted in 2019 for a two-storey extension to the existing Bovine Slaughtering Building, to include offal processing area with chill, covered bin storage, boxed offal chill, offices, amenities including toilets, changing rooms, laundry rooms and a canteen at ground floor level. Offices, toilets and extension to box store at first floor level and demolition of existing prefabricated structure.

PL 17.244473, Reg. Ref. LB140803: Permission was granted in 2015 for the intensification of livestock slaughtering, demolition of existing offices, construction of new offices, change of use of existing cottage to office use, extension to lairage facilities, construct offal processing room, new pumphouse all at the existing meat plant. The application was accompanied by an EIAR and the activity subject to an Industrial Emissions Licence.

5.0 Policy Context

5.1. Meath County Development Plan 2021 - 2027

The appeal site is zoned RA Rural Area with the associated lands use objective *to protect and promote in a balanced way, the development of agriculture, forestry and rural-related enterprise, biodiversity, the rural landscape, and the built and cultural heritage.*

5.2. Other Relevant Guidelines

- EPA Wastewater Treatment Manuals – Treatment Systems for Small Communities, Business, Leisure Centres and Hotels (1999) and EPA Guidance on the Authorisation of Discharges to Groundwater (EPA 2011).

5.3. Natural Heritage Designations

There are no designated sites within the vicinity of the site. The River Boyne, which forms part of the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC and the River Boyne and River Blackwater SPA, is located c. 7.2km from the appeal site. Having regard to the separation distance to the nearest European site, it is my opinion that no Appropriate Assessment issues arise, Therefore, the development would not be likely to have a significant effect individually or in combination with other plans or projects on a European site.

5.4. EIA Screening

- 5.4.1. The referral relates to whether the installation of a 7 ha sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant is or is not development.

- 5.4.2. An EIA Screening report has not been submitted with this referral. The nature and scale of the development is considered relevant for EIA Screening.
- 5.4.3. Permission was granted (Reg. Ref. LB/18 0300) in 2018 to extend the existing on-site effluent treatment system to provide for additional treatment to the process effluent produced at the facility, including Primary Treatment (Stage 2) comprising a new flow balancing and emergency storage and Biological Treatment (Stage 3) of wastewaters, which resulted in a treated effluent of high quality. This application was accompanied by an EIAR.
- 5.4.4. The current third-party appeal (ABP. 313586-22) against the planning authority's decision to grant permission comprises the construction of an extension to an existing wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The works include:
- Demolition of an existing storage building (17.5sqm) and construction of a new single storey industrial type building to enclose the Dissolved Air Floatation (DAF) units and to provide new enclosed storage and control rooms, with a total floor area of 119sqm.
 - Install a new sludge press at intake to the WWTP, change aeration tank to anoxic tank, install 2 no. additional aeration tanks, alteration to perimeter berm to increase footprint of WWTP by 539sqm.
 - Treated wastewater rising main from the site of the proposed development to a new discharge point at the River Boyne, c. 7.2km in length.
- 5.4.5. The development proposed under ABP 313586-22 would not alter the proposed maximum discharge rate of 400 m³/day. However, the proposed discharge would be subject to an application for review of the site's current EPA Industrial Emissions (IE) Licence (P0811- 02), to include a new discharge to surface waters at the River Boyne. This application was accompanied by an EIAR.
- 5.4.6. Information provided with the current ABP 313586-22 indicates that at present effluent from the facility is screened and pumped from an underground storage tank (UST) in the southern area of the abattoir to 2 no. on-site effluent storage lagoons. The effluent is then transported, via tankers, to an off-site municipal wastewater treatment plant or other suitable wastewater treatment facility.

5.4.7. Schedule 5, Part 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended and Section 172(1)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended provides that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) required for: -

- *Class 7(f) Installations for the slaughter of animals, where the daily capacity would exceed 1,500 units and where units have the following equivalents:-*

1 sheep = 1 unit

1 pig = 2 units

1 head of cattle = 5 units

- *Class 11 (c) wastewater treatment plants with a capacity greater than 10,000 population equivalents as defined in Article 2, point (6), of Directive 91/271/EEC not included in Part 1 of this Schedule.*
- *Class 13 Changes, extensions, development and testing*
 - (a) Any change or extension of development already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed (not being a change or extension referred to in Part 1) which would:-*
 - (i) result in the development being of a class listed in Part 1 or paragraphs 1 to 12 of Part 2 of this Schedule, and*
 - (ii) result in an increase in size greater than –*
 - 25 per cent, or*
 - an amount equal to 50 per cent of the appropriate threshold, whichever is the greater.*

5.4.8. The irrigation system would be located within an existing abattoir, and it would amend the existing wastewater treatment system by allowing for wastewater to be dispersed within the site, rather than transported off site to a municipal wastewater treatment plant. I am satisfied that the irrigation system does not fall within the definition of class 7(f). However, the appropriate treatment and disposal of wastewater is an integral part of the processes undertaken at the abattoir and in my view the provision of an irrigation system to disperse treated wastewater within the site would represent a material change to the existing system.

- 5.4.9. Class 13 (a) (ii) relates to any change that would result in an increase in size greater than 25 per cent. The irrigation system has a stated area of 7 ha. The overall site has an area of c. 11.45 ha. Therefore, the site of the irrigation system would exceed the threshold set out in Class 13, as it would constitute a change to the existing system that would result in an increase in size greater than 25%. Therefore, it is my opinion that an EIA is required.
- 5.4.10. The information submitted with appeal ABP313586-22 indicates that the existing wastewater treatment system on the site, including the proposed amendments currently on appeal, exceeds the threshold population equivalent of 10,000 as set out in Class 11(c). This referral relates to a sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant which is currently tinkered off site to a municipal wastewater treatment plant. The provision of a sub-surface irrigation system would not increase the quantity of wastewater within the extant system, and, therefore, does not fall within the definition of class 11(c).

6.0 The Referral

6.1. Referrer's Case

Information submitted with the Section 5 to the planning authority indicates the following: -

- The proposed use of the land for sub-surface irrigation would still allow the land to be used for silage production and grazing.
- The system at Dawn Meats would be licenced by the EPA under the Industrial Emission licencing system.
- A sub-surface system has been installed at Silver Duck, Emyvale, Co. Monaghan for up to 3 years. This comprises 15 ha system, dispersing up to 480m³ / day of treated effluent. Background information relating to this site and how the system operates are provided in an attached booklet.

6.2. Planning Authority Response

None

6.3. **Owner / Occupier's Response**

- 6.4. A copy of the referral was issued to the agent of Dawn Meats on the 17th January 2024. No response was received.

7.0 **Statutory Provisions**

7.1. **Planning and Development Act, 2000**

In **Section 2 (1)** of the Act “works” are interpreted as including “any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure”.

Section 3(1) of the Act states the following in respect of ‘development’: “In this Act, ‘development’ means, except where the context otherwise requires, the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of any structures or other land.”

Section 4(1) of the Act states that ‘the following shall be exempted developments for the purposes of this Act—

(h) development consisting of the carrying out of works for the maintenance, improvement or other alteration of any structure, being works which affect only the interior of the structure or which do not materially affect the external appearance of the structure so as to render the appearance inconsistent with the character of the structure or of neighbouring structures.

Section 4(4) of the Act states notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (i), (ia) and (l) of subsection (1) and any regulations under subsection (2), development shall not be exempted development if an environmental impact assessment or an appropriate assessment of the development is required.

7.2. **Planning and Development Regulations, 2001**

Article 6(1) of the regulations states that subject to Article 9, development of a class specified in column 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 shall be exempted development for the

purposes of the Act, provided that such development complies with the conditions and limitations specified in Column 2 of the said Part 1 opposite the mention of that class in the said Column 1. 7.2.2. Article 9(1).

Article 9 (1) - Development to which Article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act –

(c) if it is development to which Part 10 applies, unless the development is required by or under any statutory provision (other than the Act or these Regulations) to comply with procedures for the purpose of giving effect to the Council Directive,

Schedule 2, Part 1 – Exempted Development – Miscellaneous

Class 41: Works consisting of or incidental to—

(c) the carrying out of development in compliance with a notice under section 12 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977 (No. 1 of 1977)

7.3. *Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977*

Section 12(1) Where it appears to a local authority that it is necessary to do so in order to prevent or control pollution of waters, it may serve a notice in writing under this section on any person having the custody or control of any polluting matter on premises in its functional area.

Section 12(2)(b) A notice under this section shall direct the person on whom the notice is served to take such measures as are specified in the notice

7.4. *Other Relevant Referrals*

ABP 309387-21, Reg. Ref. EX80/2020: Asked the question whether or not the replacement of a wastewater treatment plant at a mobile home park serving 176 mobile homes with ancillary recreational amenities at Potters Point, Brittas Bay, Co. Wicklow is or is not exempted development. The Board declared that:

(a) the provisions of Section 4(1)(h) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) are not applicable.

(b) the works do not come within the scope of the licence granted to the applicant (Potters Point Limited) under Section 34 of the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Act, 1948 and the discharge licence issued to the applicant under the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977 and therefore the exemptions under Class 41 of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 are not applicable.

(c) There are no other provisions where this development would be classified as exempted development.

Therefore, the development is not exempted.

ABP-305218-19 and ABP 302930-18: Both cases asked whether the refurbishment of a timber house and associated infrastructure at The Chalet, Furbo Hill, Spiddal, County Galway is or is not development or is or is not exempted development. With regard to the repair / upgrade the septic tank the Board declared that *the development involving the maintenance/improvement of a septic tank and wastewater treatment system, if the subject of an advisory notice under Section 70(H)(5) of the Water Services Act 2002, as amended, would be exempted development under Class 41(g) of Part 1 of the Second Schedule to the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, but as no evidence of the service of such notice has been supplied as part of this referral, the development in question is not exempted development.*

8.0 Assessment

8.1. It should be noted that the purpose of a referral is not to determine the acceptability or otherwise of the proposed works in respect of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area, but rather to determine whether or not the matter in question constitutes development and if so falls within the scope of exempted development.

8.2. Is or is not development

8.2.1. The proposed development comprises the provision of a sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater

treatment plant serving an existing abattoir (Dawn Meats). The system would be installed with an irrigation pipework on 2 no. fields with a stated site area of 7 hectares. The design of the system would be divided into seven zones which would be irrigated via an automated system.

- 8.2.2. Works are defined under Section 2(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) as any act or operation of construction, excavation, demolition, extension, alteration, repair or renewal and, in relation to a protected structure or proposed protected structure, includes any act or operation involving the application or removal of plaster, paint, wallpaper, tiles or other material to or from the surfaces of the interior or exterior of a structure.
- 8.2.3. The provision of a sub-surface irrigation system requires the excavation of land and would constitute an alteration to the existing wastewater treatment system within the abattoir facility. Therefore, it is my opinion that it comes within the definition of 'works'.
- 8.2.4. Development is defined under Section 3(1) of the Act as the carrying out of any works on, in, over or under land or the making of any material change in the use of any structures or other land.
- 8.2.5. The provision of a sub-surface irrigation system requires the carrying out of works under land and, therefore, falls within the definition of development.
- 8.2.6. In addition, the irrigation system would amend an existing wastewater treatment system serving an abattoir, by allowing for treated wastewater to be dispersed within the site, rather than transported off site to a municipal wastewater treatment plant. In my opinion the appropriate treatment and disposal of wastewater is an integral part of the processes undertaken at the abattoir, and the provision of the irrigation system would represent a material change to the existing system. Therefore, the works falls within the definition of development.
- 8.2.7. Therefore, having regard to Sections 2(1) and 3(1) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) it is considered that the provision of a sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant serving the abattoir would constitute development under the above provisions of the Act.

8.2.8. This is considered to be consistent the Board determination under ABP 309287-21 in respect of the replacement of a wastewater treatment plant and ABP-305218-19 and ABP 302930-18, in respect of the works relating to a replacement of a septic tank. The question at issue, is whether the development is exempted development.

8.3. **Is or is not exempted development**

8.3.1. Having established that the proposed works is 'development' as defined by the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) it must be determined whether or not such development constitutes exempted development.

8.3.2. The proposed development comprises the provision of a sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant serving the existing abattoir. Information submitted with ABP 313586-22 indicates that wastewater is currently transported off site to a municipal wastewater treatment plant, in accordance with the IE licence (Reg. No. P0811-02). In my opinion, the development does not relate to the maintenance, improvement or other alterations of the extant wastewater treatment system, as it is a new additional system which would allow for the dispersal of wastewater within the site. Therefore, I do not consider the works to fall under S. 4(1)(h) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended and are not exempted development.

8.3.3. Class 41(c) of Schedule 2, Part 1 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) allows for works consisting of or incidental to the carrying out of development in compliance with a notice under Section 12 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977 (No. 1 of 1977).

8.3.4. Section 12(1) of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977 states that *where it appears to a local authority that it is necessary to do so in order to prevent or control pollution of waters, it may serve a notice in writing under this section on any person having the custody or control of any polluting matter on premises in its functional area.* Section 12(2)(b) states that *a notice under this section shall direct the person on whom the notice is served to take such measures as are specified in the notice.* As there is no evidence of such a notice having been served on the applicant Class 41(c) is not considered relevant in this instance.

8.3.5. In conclusion, I am satisfied that there are no other provisions, in the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended or in the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, whereby this development would be classified as exempted development, and this development is, therefore, not exempted development

8.4. ***Restrictions on Exempted Development***

8.4.1. **Section 4(4)** of the Act states *notwithstanding paragraphs (a), (i), (ia) and (l) of subsection (1) and any regulations under subsection (2), development shall not be exempted development if an environmental impact assessment or an appropriate assessment of the development is required.*

8.4.2. **Article 9 (1)(c)** of the Regulations states that development to which *Article 6 relates shall not be exempted development for the purposes of the Act if it is development to which Part 10 applies, unless the development is required by or under any statutory provision (other than the Act or these Regulations) to comply with procedures for the purpose of giving effect to the Council Directive.*

8.4.3. As noted above, in section 5.4 it is my opinion that the provision of a sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant would exceed the threshold set out in Class 13, as it would constitute a change to the existing system that would result in an increase in size greater than 25%. Therefore, it is my opinion that an EIA is required, and the development could not be considered to be exempted development with regard to Section 4(4) of the Act and Article 9(1)(c) of the Regulations.

9.0 **Recommendation**

9.1. I recommend that the Board should decide this referral in accordance with the following draft order.

WHEREAS a question has arisen as to whether the installation of a 7-hectare sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant at Dawn Meats (Slane) at Greenhills, Beauparc, Co. Meath, is or is not development and is or is not exempted development.

AND WHEREAS Dawn Meats (Slane) requested a declaration on this question from Meath County Council on the 15th December 2023

AND WHEREAS Meath County Council did not issue a declaration. The Board received this Section 5 Referral from Meath County Council on the 12th January 2024.

AND WHEREAS An Bord Pleanála, in considering this referral, had regard particularly to:

- (a) Section 2(1), 3(1), 4(1)(h) and 4(4) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended,
- (b) Articles 6 and 9 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended,
- (c) Class 41 (c) of Schedule 2, Part 1 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended.
- (d) Class 13 of Schedule 5, Part 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended
- (e) Section 12 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977
- (f) The current activities that are undertaken on the site, which are subject to an Industrial Emissions Licence from the EPA (Ref. P0811-02).
- (g) the planning history of the site.

AND WHEREAS An Bord Pleanála has concluded that:

- (a) The works, which comprise the installation of a 7 hectare sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant constitute works under land and a material change to the existing treatment of wastewater

within the site and, therefore, come within the scope of Section 3(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended and, therefore, is development.

- (b) The provision of a sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant serving the facility at Dawn Meats (Slane), which is controlled by IE licence P0811-02 does not comprise the maintenance, improvements or other alteration of any structure and therefore, does not the exemptions provided under Section 4(1)(h) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, are not applicable.
- (c) The provision of a sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant serving the facility at Dawn Meats (Slane), does not comprise works consist of or incidental to the carrying out of any works on land which are in accordance with, and necessary for compliance with, the terms of a notice under section 12 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act, 1977 in order to prevent or control pollution of waters and, therefore, the exemptions provided under Class 41 (c) of Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended are not applicable.
- (d) The provision of a 7 ha sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated wastewater from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant serving and abattoir with an overall area of 11.45 ha would exceed the threshold set out in Class 13 of Schedule 5, Part 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended), as it would constitute a change to the existing system that would result in an increase in size greater than 25%. Therefore, an EIAR is required as the proposed development would come within the restrictions on exempted development in Article 9(1) of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

- (e) There are no other provisions, in the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, or in the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, whereby this development would be classified as exempted development, and this development is, therefore, not exempted development

NOW THEREFORE An Bord Pleanála, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 5 (3) (a) of the 2000 Act, hereby decides that the installation of a 7 hectare sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant at Dawn Meats (Slane) at Greenhills, Beauparc, Co. Meath is development and is not exempted development.

I confirm that this report represents my professional planning assessment, judgement and opinion on the matter assigned to me and that no person has influenced or sought to influence, directly or indirectly, the exercise of my professional judgement in an improper or inappropriate way.

Elaine Power

Senior Planning Inspector

23rd December 2024

Appendix 1 - Form 1

EIA Pre-Screening

An Bord Pleanála Case Reference	318864-24		
Proposed Development Summary	<p>Whether the following development is or is not exempted development.</p> <p>The installation of a 7 hectare sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant. The system is installed with an irrigation pipework on 2 no. fields which are separated by 400mm. The design of the system would be divided into seven zones which would be irrigated via an automated system.</p>		
Development Address	Dawn Meats (Slane), Greenhills, Beauparc, Co. Meath		
1. Does the proposed development come within the definition of a 'project' for the purposes of EIA? (that is involving construction works, demolition, or interventions in the natural surroundings)		Yes	
		No	No further action required
2. Is the proposed development of a class specified in Part 1 or Part 2, Schedule 5, Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) and does it equal or exceed any relevant quantity, area or limit where specified for that class?			
Yes	<p>Part 2 of Schedule 5:</p> <p>Class 13. Any change or extension of development already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed (not being a change or extension referred to in Part 1) which would:-</p> <p>(i) result in the development being of a class listed in Part</p>	<p>The irrigation system has a stated area of 7 ha. The overall abattoir site has an area of c. 11.45 ha. Therefore, the site of the irrigation system would exceed the threshold set out in Class 13, as it would constitute a change to the existing system that would result in an increase in size greater than 25%.</p>	EIAR required

	<p>1 or paragraphs 1 to 12 of Part 2 of this Schedule, and</p> <p>(ii) result in an increase in size greater than –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25 per cent, or - an amount equal to 50 per cent of the appropriate threshold, <p>whichever is the greater.</p>		
No			Proceed to Q.3
3. Is the proposed development of a class specified in Part 2, Schedule 5, Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) but does not equal or exceed a relevant quantity, area or other limit specified [sub-threshold development]?			
Threshold		Comment (if relevant)	Conclusion
No	N/A		No EIAR or Preliminary Examination required
Yes	<p>Part 2 of Schedule 5:</p> <p>Class 7(f): Installations for the slaughter of animals, where the daily capacity would exceed 1,500 units and where units have the following equivalents:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 sheep = 1 unit 1 pig = 2 units 1 head of cattle = 5 units <p>Class 11 (c): Wastewater treatment plants with a capacity greater than 10,000 population equivalents as defined in Article</p>	<p>The irrigation system would be located within an abattoir, and it would amend the existing wastewater treatment system by allowing for wastewater to be dispersed within the site, rather than transported off site to a municipal wastewater treatment plant. However, I am satisfied that the proposed development does not form an integral part of the abattoir and, therefore, does not fall within the definition of class 7(f).</p>	Proceed to Q.4

	2, point (6), of Directive 91/271/EEC not included in Part 1 of this Schedule	The existing wastewater treatment system on the site, including the proposed amendments currently on appeal (ABP313586-22) exceeds the threshold population equivalent of 10,000 as set out in Class 11(c). This referral relates to a sub-surface irrigation system to facilitate the dispersal of treated effluent from the existing on-site wastewater treatment plant which is currently tinkered off site to a municipal wastewater treatment plant. The provision of a sub-surface irrigation system would not increase the quantity of wastewater within the extant system, and, therefore, does not fall within the definition of class 11(c).	
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4. Has Schedule 7A information been submitted?		
No		Preliminary Examination required
Yes		Screening Determination required

Inspector: _____ Date: _____