



The Secretary
An Coimisiún Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 V902

Dear Sir/Madam

16 July 2026

RE: Planning Application under Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for Strategic Infrastructure Development for a period of 10 years for development at Mortarstown Upper and Carlow, Carlow, Co. Carlow.

Proposed Upgrades to the Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant and Kilkenny Road Pumping Station, Carlow, Co. Carlow

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Dear Sir/Madam,

On behalf of Uisce Éireann, Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin 1, please find enclosed 2no. hard copies and 8no. soft copies (in electronic format) of a planning application under section 37E of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, for the development of the proposed upgrade of (i) the existing Mortarstown Waste Water Treatment Plant (WwTP), and (ii) the existing Kilkenny Road Pumping Station, in the town of Carlow, Co. Carlow herein referred to as the 'Proposed Development'.

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In summary, the proposed development will consist of an upgrade to the existing Mortarstown WwTP, including the provision/refurbishment/demolition of various associated structures; decommissioning of existing Kilkenny Road Pumping Station; construction of a new inlet pump station at Mortarstown WwTP; construction of a new microtunnel gravity sewer along Kilkenny Road (R448) between the existing Kilkenny Road Pumping Station and the proposed new inlet pump station; construction of a new outfall chamber and outfall pipe including a microtunnel under the Kilkenny Road (R448); and landscaping, boundary treatment works, an upgrade to an existing borehole, and all ancillary site works above and below ground to facilitate the proposed development.

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The existing Mortarstown WwTP has a treatment capacity of 36,000 population equivalent (PE). It is proposed to upgrade the WwTP to increase its treatment capacity to 58,500 PE, the key objectives for which are:

- To alleviate current overloading of the WwTP, which is currently operating beyond its design capacity,
- To incorporate the technology and infrastructure required to meet the higher standard of treatment (specifically involving nutrient removal) to improve compliance with the Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (2024/3019), and
- To facilitate sustainable growth in the agglomeration served by this wastewater infrastructure.

The nature, extent and location of the proposed development is fully described in the application plans and particulars.

This application is made following completion of pre-application consultation with An Coimisiún Pleanála under Section 37B of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended). In correspondence dated the 22nd December 2025, the Commission confirmed their formal opinion that the Proposed Development meets the definition of 'Strategic Infrastructure Development' and thus the application is being submitted directly to An Coimisiún Pleanála.

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) have been prepared in respect of the Proposed Development.

The planning application includes the following:

1. Statutory Documents
 - 1.1 Application Cover Letter (this letter)
 - 1.2 Application Form and Appendix (Q9 (Description of the Proposed Development) and Q19 (EIA Portal Confirmation Notice))
 - 1.3 Copy of the Site Notice erected on site on 14th July, 2026 in accordance with the locations identified on the Site Location Map
 - 1.4 Copies of the Newspaper Notices, as published in the Irish Times on 14th July, 2026, the Carlow Nationalist on 14th July, 2026 and the Laois Nationalist on 14th July, 2026
 - 1.5 Copies of the Letters to Carlow and Laois County Councils
 - 1.6 A Schedule of the Prescribed Bodies to whom a copy of the application has been sent, as advised by An Coimisiún Pleanála in the SID Determination Letter dated 22nd December, 2025, and a copy of the Letters to the Prescribed Bodies
 - 1.7 Letters of Consent
 - 1.8 SID Determination Letter from ACP dated 22nd December, 2025
 - 1.9 Confirmation of payment of the fee of €100,000, paid on 14th May, 2026 by EFT, reference 2586346.
2. Planning Documents
 - 2.1 SID Planning Report
 - 2.2 SID Engineering Report

- 2.3 Consultation Report
- 2.4 SID Planning Drawings in accordance with the enclosed Drawing Schedule
- 2.5 Road Safety Audit
- 3. Environmental Documents:
 - 3.1 Natura Impact Statement
 - 3.2 Environmental Impact Assessment Report
 - a. Volume 1 – Non-Technical Summary
 - b. Volume 2 – EIAR Main Report
 - c. Volume 3 – Appendices (including CEMP, RWMP and OWMP)
 - 3.3 Section 15 (Climate) Report
 - 3.4 Sustainability Report
- 4. Digital Information:
 - a. Shapefile copy (1 no.).

A copy of this application is also available to view on, and download from, the application website www.mortarstownwwtp.ie/

Hard and electronic copies of the submission have been submitted to Carlow County Council and Laois County Council. Electronic copies have also been submitted to the Prescribed Bodies referenced by ACP in the SID Determination letter dated 22nd December, 2025.

Public consultation in respect of this application runs for the period commencing on the 28th July, 2026. Any submission / observation must be received by An Coimisiún Pleanála no later than 5.30pm on the 15th September, 2026.

We trust that the documentation provided is in order and is sufficient for your consideration of this Proposed Development.

Yours faithfully,



Fiona Quigley
Associate Director
Infrastructure
AtkinsRéalis