

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA

Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended

NOTICE OF DIRECT PLANNING APPLICATION TO AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA IN RESPECT OF A STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

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

County Carlow

In accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, Uisce Éireann gives notice of its intention to make an application for a 10 -year permission to An Coimisiún Pleanála in relation to the following proposed Strategic Infrastructure Development (SID) at the site of the existing Mortarstown Wastewater Treatment Plant (WwTP) and Kilkenny Road Pumping Station in the townlands of Mortarstown Upper and Carlow, Carlow Town, Co. Carlow.

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.

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 proposed upgrade to the WwTP will consist of the following:

- Microtunnel Gravity Sewer (785m in length) connecting the decommissioned Kilkenny Road Pumping Station to a new inlet Pump Station.
- New inlet Pump Station.
- Decommissioning of Existing Kilkenny Road Pumping Station.
- New Outfall chamber, Outfall Pipe including a microtunnel for the section crossing under the R448.
- Provision of various new structures at existing Mortarstown WwTP which comprise the following structures:
 - New foul pumping station for local agglomeration adjacent to existing inlet works (supplemented by standby generator).
 - A new fuel storage tank and standby diesel generator to service the WwTP.
 - New inlet works which includes the provision of a new odour treatment unit.
 - 2 no. stormwater storage tanks and 2 no. stormwater return pumps.
 - New primary settlement tanks and new primary sludge pumps.
 - Provision of 4 no. air blowers and modifications to existing air delivery pipework.
 - Provision of new air blower building and new bubble diffused air system,
 - Provision of 2 no. final settlement tanks with half-bridge scrapers.
 - Provision of new Return Activated Sludge (PAS) / Waste Activated Sludge (WAS) pumping station and station fitted with 2 no. RAS pumps and 2 no. WAS pumps.
 - Provision of 2 no. additional picket fence tank thickener.
 - Provision of 1 no. belt press, polymer prep unit and polymer dosing pumps.
 - Provision of new pumped sludge transfer system.
 - Provision of sludge import facility.
 - Provision of minimum 6 no. odour control units.
 - Provision of Mechanical, Electrical, Instrumentation, Control and Automation (MEICA) and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) upgrades.
 - New storage shed and associated gantry.
- Refurbishment of the following structures at Mortarstown WwTP:
 - Structural refurbishment of picket fence tanks.
 - Mechanical and electrical refurbishment of existing picket fence thickener and conversion of second existing tank to a sludge blending tank.
 - Modifications to existing administration building.
- Demolition of the following structures:
 - Existing inlet works structure.
 - Existing storm tank.
 - Various small chambers within the site.
 - Existing sludge cake transfer facility.
- Decommissioning of the following plant/items:
 - Kilkenny Road Pumping Station.
 - Existing rising main.
 - Existing settlement tanks.
- The installation of ground-mounted photovoltaic (PV) solar panels.
- Diversion of existing ESB 38kV high voltage (HV) overhead lines and 10kV/20kV medium voltage (MV) overhead line on site (to be carried out by ESB).
- The proposed development will also consist of all site development, landscaping and boundary treatment works, an upgrade to an existing borehole; and all ancillary works above and below ground to facilitate the proposed development.

The Proposed Development will be constructed in the Carlow Town Agglomeration licenced under the Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) (WWDA) Regulations 2007 (Discharge Licence No D0028-01). This application relates to a Proposed Development which requires a review of the existing WWDA Licence.

The planning application is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS). The planning application, the Environmental Impact Assessment Report and Natura Impact Statement may be inspected free of charge or purchased on payment of a specified fee (which fee shall not exceed the reasonable cost of making such copy) during public opening hours for a period commencing on the 28th July, 2026 and ending at 5.30pm on the 15th September, 2026 at the following locations:

- The Offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála, 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 D01 V902
- The Offices of Carlow County Council, County Buildings, Athy Road, Carlow, Co. Carlow R93 E7R7
- The Offices of Laois County Council, Áras an Chontae, JFL Ave., Portlaoise, Co. Laois R32 EHP9

The application may also be viewed on and downloaded from the following website: <https://www.mortarstownwwtp.ie/>

Submissions or observations may be made only to An Coimisiún Pleanála ('the Commission') 64 Marlborough Street, Dublin 1 during the above-mentioned period relating to -

- (i) the implications of the proposed development for proper planning and sustainable development, and
- (ii) the likely effects on the environment of the proposed development, if carried out.
- (iii) The likely significant effects of the proposed development on the integrity of a European Site, if carried out.

Any submissions/ observations must be accompanied by a fee of €50 (except for certain prescribed bodies) and must be received by the Commission not later than 5.30p.m. on the 15th September, 2026. Such submissions/observations must also include the following information:

- (i) the name of the person making the submission or observation, the name of the person acting on his or her behalf, if any, and the address to which any correspondence relating to the application should be sent
- (ii) the subject matter of the submission or observation, and
- (iii) the reasons, considerations and arguments on which the submission or observation is based in full (Article 217 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001, as amended, refers).

Submissions that do not require a fee, can be made by hand, post, or email to laps@pleanala.ie.

Submissions that require a fee can be made by hand, post, or by the Commissions online strategic infrastructure development submission portal: <https://online.pleanala.ie/en-ie/sid/observation>.

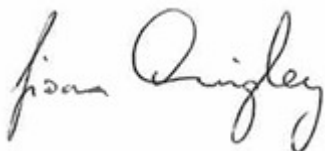
Any submissions or observations which do not comply with the above requirements cannot be considered by the Commission. The Commission may at its absolute discretion hold an oral hearing on the application. (For further details see 'A Guide to Public Participation in Strategic Infrastructure Development' on the Commission's website www.pleanala.ie)

The Commission may in respect of an application for permission decide to –

- (a) (i). grant the permission, or
 - (ii). make such modifications to the proposed development as it specifies in its decision and grant permission in respect of the proposed development as so modified, or
 - (iii). grant permission in respect of part of the proposed development (with or without specified modifications of it of the foregoing kind),
- and any of the above decisions may be subject to or without conditions, or
- (b) refuse to grant the permission.

Any enquiries relating to the application process should be directed to the Strategic Infrastructure Section of An Coimisiún Pleanála (Tel. 01-8588100),

- Any person may question the validity of any such decision of the Commission by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts (S.I. No. 15 of 1986, as amended by S.I. No. 691 of 2011), in accordance with Section 50 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.
- Practical information on the review mechanism can be accessed under the heading 'information on cases/weekly lists – Judicial Review of Planning Decisions' on the Commission's website www.pleanala.ie or on the Citizens Information Service website www.citizensinformation.ie



Signed: _____

Fiona Quigley, Associate Director, Infrastructure, AtkinsRéalis, AtkinsRéalis House, 150-155 Airside Business Park, Swords, Co. Dublin, K67 K5W4 (Agent on behalf of the applicant)

Date of erection of site notice: 14th July, 2026