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Introduction

- 1.1 This Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) provides supporting information to accompany a planning application to Roscommon County Council submitted by Roadstone Limited (hereafter referred to as Roadstone), in respect of their existing permitted quarry development at Curry and Cloonacaltry townlands, Brideswell, Co. Roscommon.

Existing Permitted Development

- 1.2 The existing permitted development under P. Ref. 04/1479 and ABP PL20.215417 is for:
- “...permission for development of a quarry on c.68 hectares of lands at Curry / Cloonacaltry, Brideswell, Co. Roscommon, of which c.23.7 hectares is the extraction area. The proposed development is for extraction of limestone using conventional blasting techniques and processing of rock using crushing and screening plant. The proposal also includes for provision of a concrete block making facility and concrete batching plant, a truck washdown facility with wash water recycled via a closed settlement tank system, the storage of aggregates, ESB substation (26m²), portacabin office facilities including canteen and washroom facilities (91m²), a workshop including storage room, canteen and washroom facilities (485m²), septic tank and percolation area, banded fuel storage area, vehicle circulation/access including wheelwash and weighbridge, settlement tanks/hydrocarbon interceptors for treatment of water, construction of overburden and screening mounds, all other associated site works and ancillary activities.”*
- 1.3 The original planning application sought a development life of 46 years (+2 years for restoration).
- 1.4 A 20-year life in total was granted under P. Ref. 04/1479 & ABP PL20.215417, which is due to expire on the 3rd October 2026, not taking account of any statutory additional days associated with the annual Christmas period (9 days x 20 years (length of permission) plus 56 days for the Planning pause period due to Covid-19). Inclusion of the additional days gives an expiry date of 27 May 2027.

Development Permitted but not commenced

- 1.5 The development as outlined above is operational with the exception of the concrete batching plant, concrete block making facility and block storage yard which have not been constructed to date. The batching plant is permitted to produce 50,000m³/annum and 5 million concrete blocks. The permitted workshop has also not been constructed to date.
- 1.6 The application also provided for discharge of waters (GW / SW) from the quarry void via a pipe along the R363 regional road to the Ballyglass river c.1.4km west of the site. There is currently no discharge from the site; the water management system associated with the discharge as shown along the northern boundary on **Figure 2-2** (see Chapter 2), has not been constructed and no discharge licence has been sought from Roscommon County Council.

Proposed Development

- 1.7 Proven reserves of rock remain within the permitted extraction and this new planning application will be based on the previous application description, and as such will be an application for continuance of use of all previously permitted development – including the concrete batching / block making plant and workshop not constructed to date.

- 1.8 There will be no requirement for any changes to other facilities, supporting infrastructure, or operational arrangements such as hours of working, extraction volumes or processing methods.
- 1.9 The current permitted extraction area is c. 23.7 hectares. The proposed extraction area (as part of this planning application) will reduce to 17.1 hectares. The area shaded red (c. 4.3 hectares) on **Figure 1-3**, will now be omitted from the extraction area as part of this planning application due to the observation of Marsh Fritillary butterfly and suitable habitat, Devil's Bit Scabious, within this area during ecological surveys carried out in 2024.
- 1.10 The proposed development period sought (extraction operations and restoration) is for a period of 25 years.
- 1.11 The proposed development will consist of:
- Permission for continued use of the existing quarry development currently permitted by P. Ref. 04/1479 and ABP PL20.215417 for a further period of 25 years, within an application area of c. 66.3 hectares, with an extraction area of c. 17.1 hectares and permanent overburden storage area of c. 3.9 hectares.
 - Permission for continued use of the permitted facilities consisting of: ESB substation (26m²), portacabin office facilities including canteen and washroom facilities (91m²), bunded fuel storage, vehicle circulation/access including wheelwash and weighbridge, settlement tanks/hydrocarbon interceptors for treatment of water, construction of overburden and screening mounds, all other associated site works and ancillary activities;
 - Permission for continued extraction of limestone using conventional blasting techniques and processing of rock using crushing and screening plant;
 - Upgrade of the existing WWTS and percolation area to new Secondary WWTS and constructed soil polishing filter area;
 - Provision of the permitted concrete block making facility and concrete batching plant, truck washdown facility with wash water recycled via a closed settlement tank system, the storage of aggregates; and workshop including storage room, canteen and washroom facilities (485m²); and
 - Restoration of the overall application site to a natural habitat including a permanent waterbody.
- 1.12 Further information on the proposed development, site activities, environmental management systems and controls at the application site are provided in Chapter 2 of this EIAR.
- 1.13 The application is made in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

The Site

Site Location

- 1.14 The application site is located within the townlands of Curry and Cloonacaltry, Brideswell, Co. Roscommon, approximately 3.5 km west of Brideswell and c. 12 km west of Athlone, refer to **Figure 1-1**. The site is c. 5.5 km from Roscommon – Galway county boundary, denoted by the River Suck to the southwest of the site. The land ownership and planning application areas are shown on **Figure 1-2** and **Figure 1-3**.

- 1.15 For the avoidance of doubt, any reference within this EIAR to 'site' or 'application site' should be taken to refer to the application area shown in **Figure 1-3**.

Site Access & Entrance

- 1.16 The current development utilises the existing permitted access located on the R363 regional road along the northern site boundary. Substantial road improvements were carried out on the R363 directly north of the quarry as part of the planning conditions associated with the existing permission (P. Ref. 04/1479 & ABP PL20.215417) and the lands in question have subsequently been taken into charge by Roscommon County Council.
- 1.17 The current posted speed limit on the R363 is 80kph. According to TII Publication Document DN-GEO-03060 a road with a design speed of 85kph, requires 160m of unobstructed visibility in each direction which is achieved and exceeded at the site entrance in both directions.

Site Description

- 1.18 Prior to extraction operations at the site, the lands comprise unimproved pasture, scrub and boulder strewn land. The land holding is surrounded by walls which separate it from improved agricultural fields to the east and west. The landholding site has an elevation of between 80m AOD and 110m AOD.
- 1.19 Within the application area (c. 66.3 hectares) the northeastern portion of the site contains the existing entrance from the R363 regional road, along with all of the site ancillary facilities.
- 1.20 The existing quarry extraction area occupies the central part of the site and currently consists of a 2 no. working faces typically 10-15m in height. Current ground levels over the quarry floor range from c. 70-85m AOD. The extraction area is currently c. 8.4 hectares within an overall permitted extraction area of c. 23.7 hectares. Previously stripped soils and overburden have been used to construct perimeter screening berms.
- 1.21 To the south of the site, an area of c. 2.9 hectares is currently covered with stripped overburden from the site with the remainder still in its natural state of unmanaged grasslands, scrub and gorse. This area is currently permitted under P. Ref. 04/1479 for both rock extraction and overburden storage.

Surrounding Landuse

- 1.22 The lands surrounding and within the application site are predominantly comprised of improved agricultural fields interspersed with unimproved pasture, scrub and boulder strewn fields similar to the application site.
- 1.23 There are few residences in the immediate vicinity of the site. There are c. 8 residences within a 500m radius and c. 44 within a 1km radius. Most residences comprise isolated farm dwellings and of owner occupied bungalow/residences. There are no large residential settlements close to the site. Access to the site is directly onto the regional R363 Athlone to Tuam road.
- 1.24 The application site is not subject to any statutory or non-statutory nature conservation designations. The closest such site is Feacle Turlough pNHA [001634], c. 550m south of the site. The closest Natura site is Ballynamona Bog and Corkip Lough SAC [002339], c. 2km southeast of the site.

The Applicant

- 1.25 The Applicant, Roadstone Limited is an operating company within CRH plc and is Ireland's leading supplier of aggregates, construction and road building materials. The company currently employs several hundred people at 65 locations throughout the country.
- 1.26 Roadstone Limited originally developed from aggregate supply companies founded by the Roche Brothers in the 1930s. After steady growth through the 1930s and 1940s, it was floated on the Irish Stock Exchange in 1949. After further significant growth through the 1960s, Roadstone merged with Cement Ltd. in 1970 to become Cement Roadstone Holdings (CRH) plc. Today, CRH plc is one of the leading suppliers of construction materials in the world, operating from over 3,500 locations and employing over 76,000 people in 35 countries.
- 1.27 Roadstone has been associated with this site at Cam for the past two decades, when it was first granted planning permission at the site in October 2006, P. Ref. 04/1479 (ABP PL PL20.215417). Extraction and processing operations have been ongoing since then.
- 1.28 Although Roadstone's principal business interest in Ireland is aggregate extraction and manufacture of building materials and products, it is also currently restoring a small number of its former pits and quarries under EPA licence using imported inert soil and stone waste.
- 1.29 In addition to these facilities, Roadstone also operates construction and demolition (C&D) waste recycling facilities at several of its locations across the State. These recovery facilities are principally engaged in the recycling / re-use of concrete and bituminous wastes and are regulated by way of Local Authority waste facility permits.
- 1.30 Operations at all Roadstone's locations adhere to the environmental guidelines of the Irish Concrete Federation (ICF) and current best practice for the quarrying industry, as set out in the publication Guidelines on Environmental Management in the Extractive Industries published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA, 2006).
- 1.31 Roadstone is committed to achieving and maintaining industry leading environmental standards. To this end, the company has established, and actively implements, an in-house Environmental Management System (EMS) at all its locations. The EMS for previous extractive operations at Kilglass is accredited to ISO 14001 standard and has been subject to periodic audit. It is envisaged that, if planning permission is secured for the proposed development activities at Kilglass, the existing EMS will be reviewed and updated where necessary.

EIA Screening

- 1.32 The start of the EIA process involves deciding whether an EIA needs to be undertaken in respect of the proposed development or not. An initial determination establishes whether the proposal is a project as understood by the EPA Guidelines or not, i.e., does it comprise development, works or activity, as defined in the relevant national legislation¹.
- 1.33 The decision-making process then proceeds by examining the relevant legislation which transposes Annexes I and II of the amended Directive². If this does not provide a clear screening outcome then the nature and extent of the project and the site and of the types of potential effects are examined. The totality of the project is considered, including off-site and secondary projects as well as indirect, secondary and cumulative impacts.

¹ Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended)

² Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2011/92/EU (as amended by 2014/52/EU)

- 1.34 Part 1 and Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) set out the forms of development that require an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR).
- 1.35 Paragraph 19 of Part 1 of Schedule 5 states that the following form of development requires an EIA:
“Quarries and open-cast mining where the surface of the site exceeds 25 hectares.”
- 1.36 Paragraph 2 of Part 2 of Schedule 5 refers to extractive industry and part (b) of that section states that the following requires an EIA:
“Extraction of stone, gravel, sand or clay, where the area of extraction would be greater than 5 hectares.”
- 1.37 The proposed development relates to the continued use of the existing quarry within which the extraction area, at c. 19.4 hectares, will be greater than the 5 hectares threshold. On this basis the extraction area of the quarry exceeds the area stated under Part 2 (Paragraph 2) and an EIAR is required.

EIA Scoping and Consultation

Scoping Methodology

- 1.38 In preparing this Environmental Impact Assessment Report an online pre-planning consultation meeting was held between officials of Roscommon County Council and the Applicant on the 16/06/2025 (ref. PP4714).
- 1.39 In addition, a pre-planning consultation document was issued to statutory consultees. The list of consultees and any responses received are noted in **Table 1-1** below, and full details provided in **Appendix 1-A**.

Table 1-1: Statutory Consultee Scoping and Responses

Consultee	Response Received (Yes/No)
Development Applications Unit	Y
Transport Infrastructure Ireland	Y
Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI)	Y
Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish Water)	Y
Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)	N
Health and Safety Authority (HSA)	Y
Health Service Executive (HSE)	Y
An Taisce	N
Fáilte Ireland	N
National Parks & Wildlife Services (NPWS)	N
Heritage Council	N
ESB Networks	Y (mapping provided)
EPA	N

- 1.40 The Development Applications Unit at the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht made a response on ‘archaeology’ and ‘nature conservation’. With respect to

archaeology, the response noted the requirement for an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA). The AIA has been completed by Dr. Charles Mount, Consultant Archaeologist and is provided in chapter 12 of the EIAR. With respect to nature conservation, the response noted consideration for nature conservation designations, hedgerows and protected species, invasive species. The Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) is presented as Chapter 5 Biodiversity in the EIAR and the application is further accompanied by an Appropriate Assessment (AA) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) report, prepared by suitably qualified ecologists. The DAU response also noted the requirement for a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) but this is considered unnecessary due to the development being for the most part, the continued use of an existing established operation and not a new greenfield development.

- 1.41 Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) noted that the EIAR assessment and proposed mitigation measures should have regard to the EPA Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports, 2022; the 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities'; TII publications; National Road Network impacts; TII Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines. A Traffic & Transport Assessment (TTA) has been carried out for the proposed development and is provided in chapter 14 of the EIAR.
- 1.42 The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) in their response noted the range of publicly available information and datasets available through their website for reference, along with outlining guidelines for preparing the EIAR and in particular the Land, Soils & Geology chapter (EIAR chapter 6) and the Water chapter (EIAR chapter 7).
- 1.43 The Health & Safety Authority (HSA) noted no observations on the planning application.
- 1.44 Uisce Éireann in their response noted that consideration should be given to potential hydrological and hydrogeological pathways with reference to the quarry being located within the surface water abstraction catchment for the Ballinasloe Public Water Supply, which abstracts from the River Suck (Suck_140), located 21 km downstream of the proposed development. The quarry is also located within the zone of contribution (ZOC) for the Killeglan Springs / South Roscommon Regional Water Supply Scheme (SRRWSS) which abstract from a spring source, located 3.6km to the south. The response further notes consideration of pumping / dewatering, stormwater runoff and hydrocarbons, the onsite effluent treatment system and consideration of groundwater vulnerability.
- 1.45 The Health Service Executive (HSE) Environmental Health Department made observations specific to environmental health areas in relation to the proposed development with specific reference to the topic areas of public consultation, noise and vibration, air quality, surface and groundwater quality and climate impacts to be addressed in the EIAR. Further details on these topics are provided throughout the EIAR in Chapters 2, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Difficulties Encountered with EIAR Compilation

- 1.46 This Environmental Impact Assessment Report was compiled on the basis of published regional and local data, experience of operating the existing facility and site-specific field surveys. No difficulties were encountered in compiling the required information.

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

- 1.47 An Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) *"means a statement of the effects, if any, which the proposed development, if carried out, would have on the environment"*. As such, it is a systematic analysis and assessment of the potential effects of a proposed project on the receiving environment.

- 1.48 The principal objectives of an Environmental Impact Assessment Report are to:
- identify and / or predict the significant impacts of a development.
 - identify what mitigation measures should be incorporated into the development to eliminate or reduce the perceived impacts.
 - interpret and communicate the above information on the impact of the proposed development, in both technical and non-technical terms.
 - assist the Local Planning Authority in the decision-making process with respect to the associated planning application.

Format of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)

- 1.49 To facilitate clarity, this EIAR has been prepared in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Guidelines (2022). The EIAR is sub divided into sixteen parts (chapters). As an overview, they comprise of:

Chapter 1: Introduction / Screening / Scoping

- 1.50 An introduction to the development and a brief explanation of the aims and format of the EIAR. It also identifies the various professional consultants who have contributed to this EIAR and the screening / scoping process carried out.

Chapter 2: Project Description

- 1.51 Chapter 2 provides:
- details of the physical characteristics of the whole project, including, where relevant, demolition works, the land-use requirements during construction and operation as well as other works that are integral to the project; and
 - the main characteristics of the operational phase of the project e.g. nature and quantity of materials and natural resources.

Chapter 3: Alternatives

- 1.52 Chapter 3 provides a description of the reasonable alternatives assessed by the developer, which are relevant to the proposed project and its specific characteristics, and an indication of the main reasons for selecting the chosen option, including a comparison of the environmental effects.

Chapters 4 – 16

- 1.53 Chapters 4-14 provide detailed information on all aspects of the existing (baseline) environment, identifies, describes and presents an assessment of the likely significant impacts of the proposed project on the environment; and recommends mitigation and monitoring measures (where required) to reduce or alleviate these impacts and describes the residual impacts and conclusions. They are grouped under the following Chapters:
- Chapter 4: Population and Human Health
 - Chapter 5: Biodiversity
 - Chapter 6: Land, Soils and Geology
 - Chapter 7: Water
 - Chapter 8: Air Quality
 - Chapter 9: Climate

- Chapter 10: Noise
 - Chapter 11: Material Assets
 - Chapter 12: Cultural Heritage
 - Chapter 13: Landscape
 - Chapter 14: Traffic and Transport
 - Chapter 15: Interactions
 - Chapter 16: Mitigation and Monitoring
- 1.54 The associated references, plates, figures and appendices are provided at the end of each chapter. Chapter 15 outlines the impacts that arise as a result of the interaction between several aspects of the development as set out in Chapters 4-14.
- 1.55 Chapter 16 provides a summary of mitigation and monitoring commitments as recommended by Section 3.8.4 of the Environmental Protection Agency Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports.

Non-Technical Summary

- 1.56 A “*Non-Technical Summary of the Environmental Impact Statement*”, presenting the principal details and findings of each EIAR Chapter in less technical, easy to understand language is provided as a separate, stand-alone document.

Contributors

- 1.57 Roadstone appointed SLR Consulting Ireland to prepare this Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) in support of its planning application for the proposed continued use of the existing quarry.
- 1.58 SLR Consulting Ireland (SLR) is a constituent company of SLR Group, a leading global environmental and advisory services consultancy. The company provides a full range of planning, EIA and environmental advisory services across 30 in-house specialist technical disciplines and operates a network of offices in Ireland, UK, Asia-Pacific, Africa and North America.
- 1.59 SLR Consulting Ireland has been carrying out Environmental Impact Assessments relating to extractive and waste development in Ireland since the EIA Directive was first transposed into national legislation in 1990.
- 1.60 The contributors who have assisted in the preparation of this EIAR are identified in **Table 1-2** below:

Table 1-2: List of Contributors to the EIAR

Topic Chapter	Contributor	Company
Introduction	Shane McDermott BSc (Hons) MSCSI MRICS	SLR Consulting Ireland
Description of Development	Shane McDermott BSc (Hons) MSCSI MRICS	SLR Consulting Ireland
Alternatives	Shane McDermott BSc (Hons) MSCSI MRICS	SLR Consulting Ireland
Population & Human Health	Lynn Hassett BSc (Hons), MSc, PIEMA, MEnvSc	SLR Consulting Ireland

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Biodiversity	Michael Bailey MCIEEM, CEcol. Jake Matthews BSc (Hons) MSc.	SLR Consulting Ireland
Land, Soils and Geology	Dr Peter Glanville BA, MSc, PhD, IQUA, IRLOGI, IGI Nikolina Bozinovic BSc., MSc.	SLR Consulting Ireland
Water	Dominica Baird (Hydrogeology) BSc., MSc., CGeol, EurGeol. Peter Glanville (Hydrology) BA, MSc, PhD, IQUA, IRLOGI, IGI Michelle Sherry (Hydrogeology) BSc.	SLR Consulting Ireland
Air Quality	Rachel McHale BSc. MIAQM MIES	SLR Consulting Ireland
Climate	Lynn Hassett BSc (Hons), MSc, PIEMA, MIEEnvSc	SLR Consulting Ireland
Noise	Ronan Murphy BSc MIOA Michelle Dawson BSc MIOA	SLR Consulting Ireland
Material Assets	Lynn Hassett BSc (Hons), MSc, PIEMA, MIEEnvSc	SLR Consulting Ireland
Cultural Heritage	Dr Charles Mount MA PhD. Dip. EIA & SEA Mgmt., MIAI	Consultant Archaeologist
Landscape	Anne Merkle Dipl. Ing (FH) MILI Conor Nyland BSc (Hons) Saif Hidayat BSc (Hons)	SLR Consulting Ireland
Roads and Traffic	Aly Gleeson BSc (Hons) MEng (Hons) MBA RSA Cert CEng FIEI Antonis Papadakis MSc, MIEI	PMCE Consultants
Interactions	Lynn Hassett BSc (Hons), MSc, PIEMA, MIEEnvSc	SLR Consulting Ireland
Schedule of Commitments	Lynn Hassett BSc (Hons), MSc, PIEMA, MIEEnvSc	SLR Consulting Ireland
Co-ordination of EIA	Shane McDermott BSc (Hons) MSCSI MRICS Lynn Hassett BSc (Hons), MSc, PIEMA, MIEEnvSc	SLR Consulting Ireland

1.61 Each contributor has been fully briefed about the development proposal and the background to it. They have visited and inspected the application site and surrounding area and have

familiarised themselves with the local environment. Each contributor is considered to have the necessary competence, experience, expertise and knowledge required to prepare the EIAR chapter in respect of their specialist topic.

- 1.62 Roadstone has also provided detailed background knowledge of the site, details of site operations and records of ongoing baseline survey information. Company representatives have also undertaken a review of this EIAR.

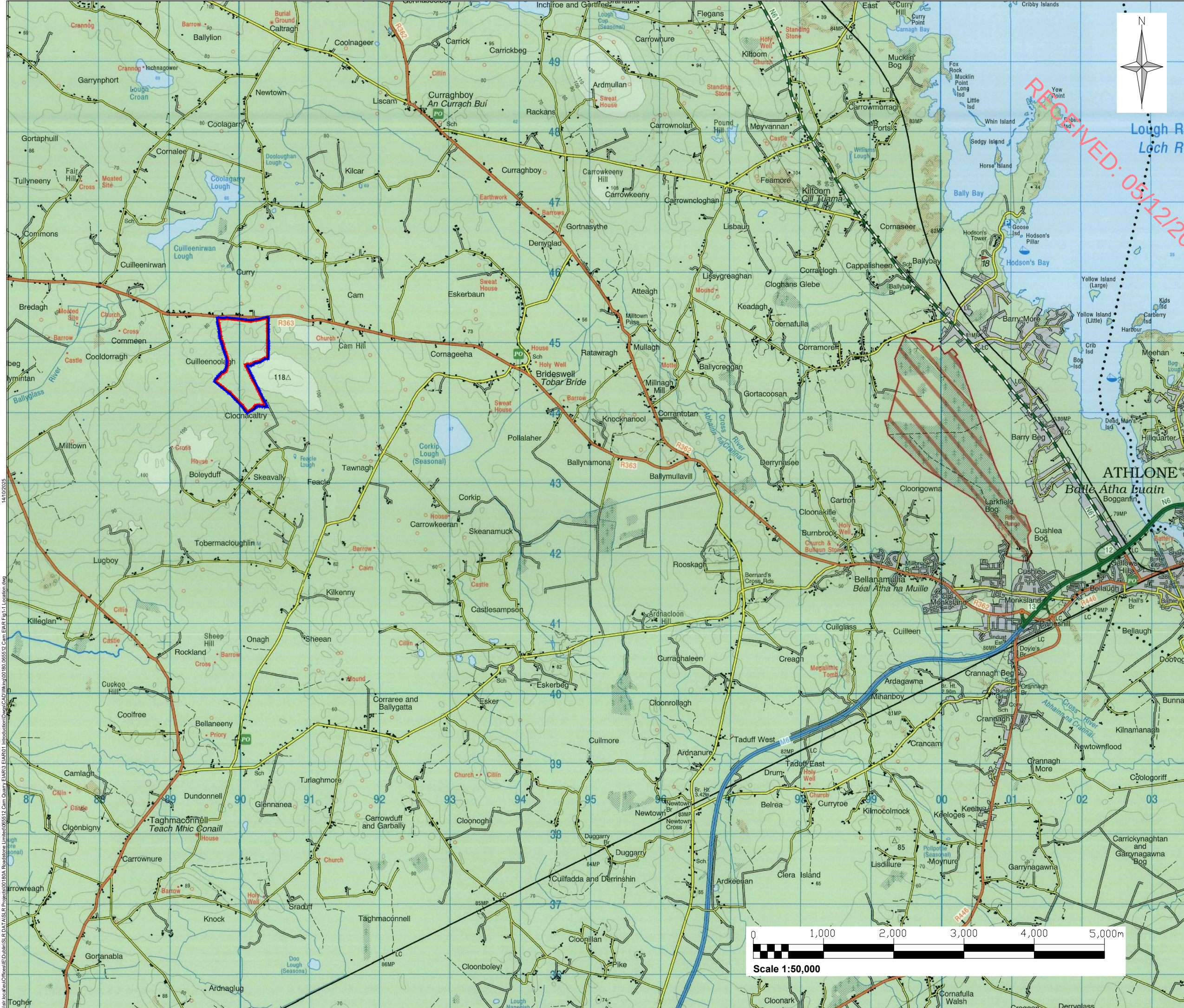
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Figures

Figure 1-1: Site Location Map

Figure 1-2: Site Location and Site Notice Map

Figure 1-3: Site Location and Site Notice Map



Notes:
1. Based on 1:50,000 scale Tailte Eireann Discovery series map 47

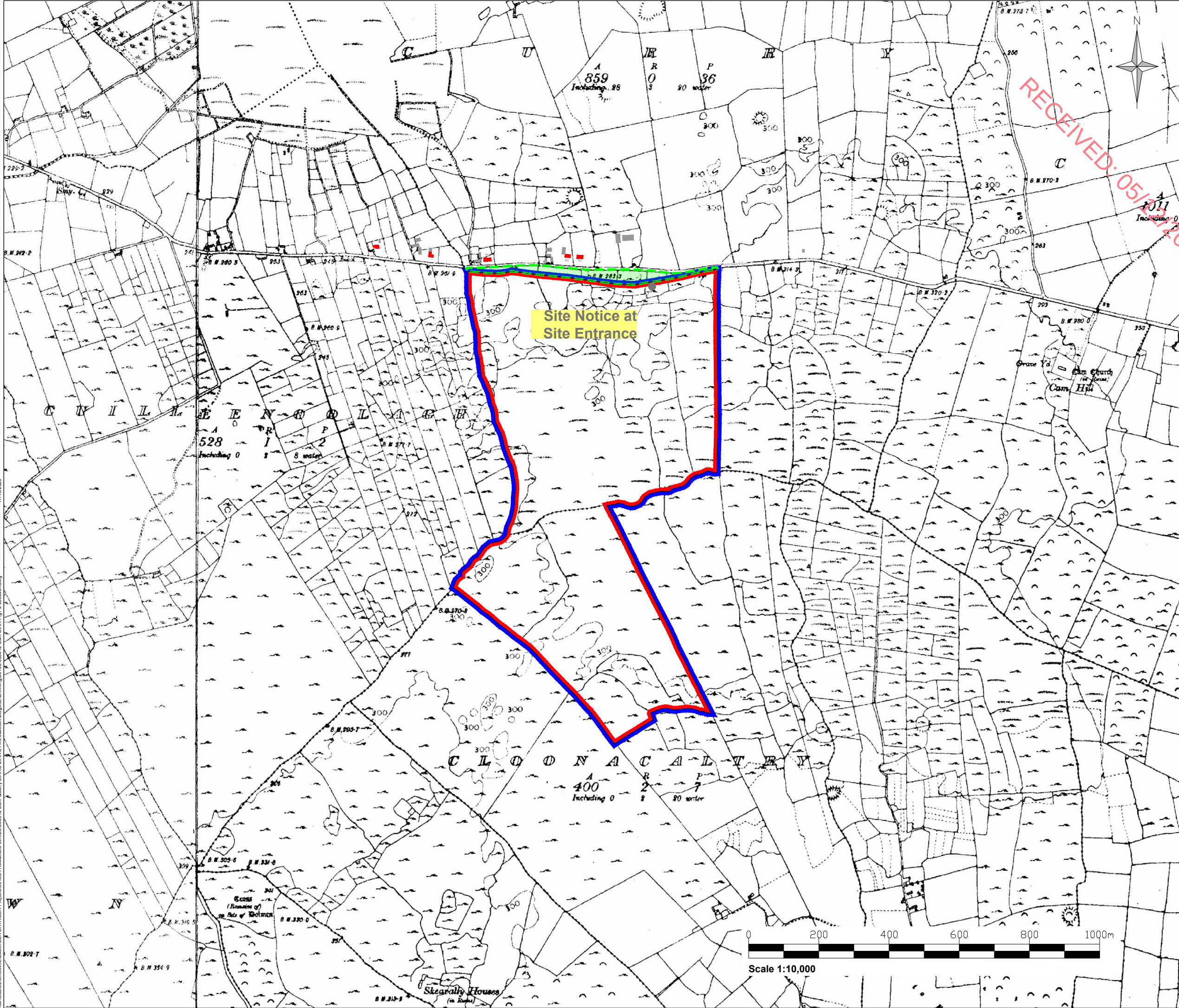
Legend:

Landholding (c. 66.3 hectares)

Planning Application Area (c. 66.3 hectares)

Rev	Amendments	Date	By	Chk	Auth
 www.slrconsulting.com					
Client Roadstone Limited					
Project Continued Use of Existing Cam Quarry at Curry & Cloonacaltry townlands, Co. Roscommon					
Figure Title Site Location Map					
Scale 1:50,000 @ A3		SLR Project No. 501.065512.00001			
Designed smcd	Drawn smcd	Checked lh	Authorised lh		
Date 01/25	Date 01/25	Date 10/25	Date 10/25		
Figure Number Figure 1-1					Rev. 0

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14/10/2025



Notes:

1. Based on 6 inch scale Tailte Eireann Discovery raster maping RN047, RN048, RN050, RN051

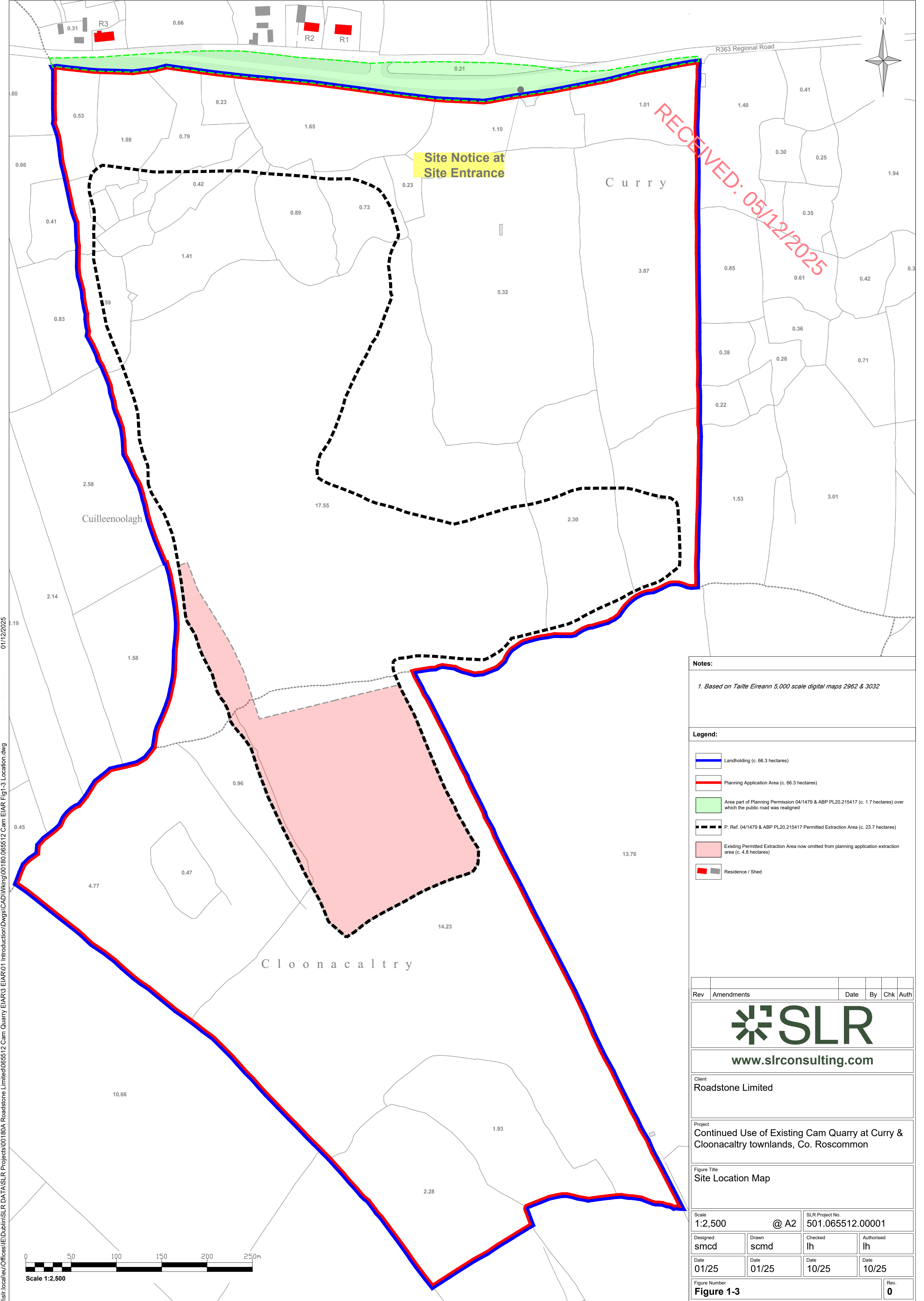
Legend:

Landholding (c. 66.3 hectares)

Planning Application Area (c. 66.3 hectares)

Area part of Planning Permission 04/1479 & ABP PL20.215417 (c. 1.7 hectares) over which the public road was realigned

Rev	Amendments	Date	By	Chk	Auth
 www.slrconsulting.com					
Client Roadstone Limited					
Project Continued Use of Existing Cam Quarry at Curry & Cloonacaltry townlands, Co. Roscommon					
Figure Title Site Location Map					
Scale 1:10,000 @ A3		SLR Project No. 501.065512.00001			
Designed smcd	Drawn smcd	Checked lh	Authorised lh		
Date 01/25	Date 01/25	Date 10/25	Date 10/25		
Figure Number Figure 1-2					Rev. 0



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Appendices

Appendix 1-A: Consultee Responses

Development Applications Unit (Archaeology / Biodiversity)

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)

Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI)

Health & Safety Authority (HSA)

Uisce Éireann (formerly Irish Water)

Health Service Executive (HSE)



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Lynn Hassett
SLR Consulting Ireland
7 Dundrum Business Park
Windy Arbour
Dublin, D14 N2Y7

07 April 2025

Re: Continued use of existing Cam Quarry, Curry & Cloonacaltry townlands, Brideswell, Co Roscommon
Your Ref: 501.065512.00001
Our Ref: 25/40

Dear Lynn,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science agency and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and interpretation and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability.

With reference to your email received on the 10 March 2025, concerning the Continued use of existing Cam Quarry, Curry & Cloonacaltry townlands, Brideswell, Co Roscommon, we recommend using our various data sets when conducting the EIAR, SEA, planning and scoping processes for developments, plans and policies. For more detailed information on how to access this data please access 'Data and Maps' [Data & Maps \(gsi.ie\)](#) on our 'Geoscience for planning' webpage. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly (please refer to each individual dataset's metadata for correct attribution).

For specific data available for Environmental Assessment and Planning topics please follow this link [[Data by Environmental Assessment and Planning Topic \(gsi.ie\)](#)], where you will find our data arranged by environmental assessment topic as illustrated below:

Land and soils <i>Soil</i> • Subsoils (Quaternary Geology) • Tellus Geochemistry • Geotechnical <i>Geology</i> • Bedrock • Geophysics • Bedrock & Quaternary 3D	Water <i>Groundwater</i> • Aquifers GW vulnerability, GWPSs (GWPPs) <i>Surface water</i> • Tellus Geochemistry <i>Estuarine & marine waters</i> • Marine and coastal <i>Flooding</i> • GWClimate • Karst	Climate Change <i>Carbon accounting / Carbon balance</i> • Geothermal • Carbon capture and storage <i>Climate change trends</i> • National coastal change assessment
Cultural Heritage <i>Archaeology</i> • Cherish <i>Underwater Archaeology</i> • Shipwrecks	Material Assets <i>Built Services</i> • Natural resources (Minerals & Aggregates) • Active quarries	The Landscape <i>Landscape Appearance & Character</i> • Physiographic units <i>Historical landscapes</i> • Historic mines
Other Relevant Data		
<i>Natural (Geo) hazards</i> • Landslide Susceptibility Mapping • Groundwater flooding • Coastal vulnerability • Subsidence • Radon	<i>Natural heritage</i> • Geoheritage (County Geological Sites) • Dimension Stone/Stone Built Ireland	



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Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage), to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGSs), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include additional sites that may also be of national importance, but which were not selected as the very best examples for NHA designation. All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS. CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audit for Co. Roscommon was completed in 2012. The full report details can be found [here](#). **Our records show that there are CGSs adjacent to the quarry development.**

Killeglan Karst Landscape, Co. Roscommon. (GR 187960, 242893), under IGH themes: IGH1 Karst, IGH7 Quaternary. Site Code: RO015. This site comprises an extensive area of bouldery terrain in southern Roscommon covering an area of 5 by 2 kilometers, and includes a number of low amplitude, hummocky ridges. This is the only such area of lowland, boulder-strewn, limestone glacial karst in the country. It is of national importance. Link to site report: [RO015](#).

Castlesampson Esker, Co. Roscommon (GR 192104, 241567), under IGH theme: IGH7 Quaternary. This esker is an excellent example of a complex, multi-crested esker which is comprised of numerous beads. The esker system comprises ten individual segments, which stretch for a distance of just over six kilometers. The esker is one of Ireland's best examples of the 'long beaded' esker type. Link to site report: [RO010](#).

With the current plan, there are no envisaged impacts on the integrity of current CGSs by the proposed development. However, if the proposed development plan is altered, please contact Clare Glanville (Clare.Glanville@gsi.ie) for further information and possible mitigation measures if applicable.

Groundwater

Geological Survey Ireland's [Groundwater and Geothermal Unit](#), provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems. Proposed developments need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our [Map viewer](#) which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps.

For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels (gwlevel.ie)). Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.

The proposed wind farm development is underlain by a 'Regionally Important Aquifer - Karstified (conduit)'. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the range of groundwater vulnerabilities within the area covered is variable. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability and 'Rock at or near surface' in your assessments, as any groundwater-surface water interactions that might occur would be greatest in these areas.

[GWClimate](#) is a groundwater monitoring and modelling project that aims to investigate the impact of climate change on groundwater in Ireland. This is a follow on from a previous project (GWFlood) and the data may be useful in relation to Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) and management plans. Maps and data are available on the [Map viewer](#).

Within the quarry application area there is a groundwater drinking water abstraction for which there is a zone of contribution/source protection area: **Killeglan Public Water Supply - Tobermore Spring**. Link to report [here](#).



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Key to groundwater protection in general, and protection of specific drinking water supplies, is preventing ingress of runoff to the aquifer. Design of the quarry drainage will need to be cognizant of the public water scheme and the interactions between surface water and groundwater as well as run-off. Appropriate design should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons to include mitigation measures as necessary, such as SUDs or other drainage mitigation measures.

Also, any excavation/cuttings required should ensure that groundwater flow within the zones of contribution to the groundwater abstraction points is not disrupted, resulting in diminished yields. Note that there could be other groundwater abstractions in the locality for which Geological Survey Ireland has not undertaken studies, and a robust assessment should be undertaken by qualified and competent persons.

Given the Public Water Supply Scheme and numerous domestic wells, the effects of any potential contamination / dewatering as a result of the quarry development would need to be assessed.

Geological Survey Ireland has completed Groundwater Protection Schemes (GWPSs) in partnership with Local Authorities, and there is now national coverage of GWPS mapping. A Groundwater Protection Scheme provides guidelines for the planning and licensing authorities in carrying out their functions, and a framework to assist in decision-making on the location, nature and control of developments and activities in order to protect groundwater.

The Roscommon Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main reports is here: <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/publications/Pages/Roscommon-Groundwater-Protection-Scheme-Reports.aspx>.

Other Comments

Should development go ahead, all other factors considered, Geological Survey Ireland would much appreciate a copy of reports detailing any site investigations carried out. The data would be redacted for confidentiality and added to Geological Survey Ireland's national database of site investigation boreholes, implemented to provide a better service to the civil engineering sector. Data can be sent to the Geological Mapping Unit, at <mailto:GeologicalMappingInfo@gsi.ie>.

The Geological Survey would request that the operator might assist our geological heritage goals with the following (and ideally this would be written into the restoration / closure plan) and be included as a condition of planning as deemed appropriate by the planning authority:

1. Allowing access to quarry faces by appropriate scientists (upon request and with due regards to Health and Safety requirements) during quarrying to check for scientifically significant new stratigraphies / relationships as they might become exposed and to establish if the quarry site is worthy of recognition post extraction and through aftercare/restoration planning.
2. If deemed appropriate in (1) above, leaving a representative section of the quarry face at the end of the quarry life or inclusion of information panels to promote the geology to the public or develop tourism or educational resources if appropriate depending on the future use of the site. Natural exposures are few, or deeply weathered, this measure would permit on-going improvement of geological knowledge of the subsurface.

We also encourage discussion on end-of-life plans for the quarry and would be happy to recommend ways to promote the geology to the public or develop tourism or educational resources if appropriate. Geological Survey Ireland would like to offer help with interpretative signs where interesting geological features have been exposed, if appropriate.

The Geoheritage Programme tries to promote a partnership between geological heritage and active quarrying, with such measures as those outlined in the 'Geological Heritage Guidelines for the Extractive Industry', which can be downloaded [here](#). This document, written in association with Irish Concrete Federation, acts as a comprehensive guide in the sustainable extraction of natural resources while preserving the geological heritage of Ireland.



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If we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geoheritage and Planning Programme
Geological Survey Ireland

Trish Smullen
Geologist
Geoheritage and Planning Programme
Geological Survey Ireland

The publicly available data referenced/presented here, should in no way be construed as Geological Survey Ireland support for or objection to the proposed development or plan. The data are made freely available to all and can be used as independent scientific data in assessments, plans or policies. It should be noted that in many cases these data are a baseline or starting point for further site specific assessments.



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SLR Ref: 501.065512.00001

Client Ref: 00180

Our Ref: **G Pre000852025 Cam Quarry Roscommon**

(Please quote in all related correspondence)

11 April 2025

Lynn Hassett
SLR Consulting Ireland
7 Dundrum Business Park
Windy Arbour
Dublin
D14 N2Y7

Via email: lhassett@slrconsulting.com

Re: Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR)/Appropriate Assessment (AA) for continuance of use of a previously permitted quarry development, including concrete batching/block making plant not constructed to date at Curry & Cloonacaltry Townlands, Brideswell, County Roscommon

A Chara

I refer to correspondence received in connection with the above.

Outlined below are heritage-related observations/recommendations of the Department under the stated headings.

Archaeology

The Department has reviewed the Pre-Planning Consultation on Proposed Continuance of Use of Existing Cam Quarry Curry & Cloonacaltry, Brideswell, County Roscommon.

The information provided was not sufficiently detailed to allow for a full assessment of the archaeological implications of this proposal, however the Department notes that an Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) is scoped into the proposed Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process as part of the overall Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment of the proposed development. This must be carried out by a suitably qualified Consultant Archaeologist.

Planning & Design

In order to assess the impacts of the proposed development, the Department recommends that Archaeological Impact Assessment (AIA) should be carried out at an early stage of planning and design. The AIA must incorporate all lands on which development may be



proposed, including but not limited to, access areas, haul roads, temporary compounds etc. The AIA must include an assessment of the possible effects of the proposal on the wider archaeological landscape. It is of importance that the study area for the AIA should be of sufficient size and extent to support this.

The Archaeological Impact Assessment must include:

- A baseline archaeological and historical study comprising site inspection/s by a suitably qualified Archaeologist and documentary research including reviews of historical, cartographic and aerial photography sources.
- Walkover surveys and field inspections
- An Archaeological/Historic Landscape study.
- Visual Impact Assessment
- The desk-study and field inspection regime should inform (as appropriate):
 - Targeted non-intrusive advance geophysical survey or prospection (such as Ground Penetrating Radar Surveys)
 - Targeted advance archaeological test excavation
- Any and all intrusive advance investigations (such as, but not limited to, ground investigations for soils/geology/hydrogeology) carried out as part of the EIA or design process should be subject to a programme of archaeological monitoring by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

Comprehensive assessment is required in order to fully characterise the archaeological potential of the lands proposed for development and allow a clear and comprehensive Archaeological Impact Statement to be made. The results of these investigations should inform the EIA process and be incorporated within the EIA Report.

In this regard, the Department notes that the proposed development site (PDS) is located wholly within the defined limits of Recorded Monument RO048-097008- (Field system) and bisected by Recorded Monument RO048-098---- (Linear earthwork).

Sub-surface archaeological features and deposits may exist within the greenfield or undeveloped sections of the PDS. Advance prospection would be required to establish the extent of such features so that the potential likely impacts of the proposed development could be established. Therefore, the Department would strongly advise that the EIA methodology includes such investigations and does not rely solely on desk-based research.



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It will be important to demonstrate within the EIA that all appropriate mitigation measures for the protection of archaeological heritage have been carried out in full, with regard to any development completed under the current grant of planning permission. This is particularly with regard to any required post-excavation analysis and reporting and that the existing quarry is fully compliant with all conditions of its grant of planning permission, in particular Condition No 21 which deals with the protection of archaeological heritage.

The Department is happy to provide further advice and clarification as and if required in relation to the preparation of suitably comprehensive assessments as outlined above, with particular regard to the scope and locations for any advance non-intrusive prospection or advance test excavation that would be appropriate to inform the assessment of this proposed scheme.

Assessment of Potential Effects

The AIA/Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) must include an Archaeological Impact Statement and present appropriate mitigation to ensure the protection of the archaeological heritage. It should set out the likely effects of the proposed development at all stages — Construction, Operation and Restoration. It is of particular importance that the likely effects of the proposal at Restoration stage are fully assessed, particularly where the AIA/EIAR identifies vulnerable heritage assets located in proximity to the proposed development site (PDS) and the mitigation measures for Construction and Operation phases include protective measures for the preservation in situ of these assets.

National policy as detailed in *Framework and Principles for the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage* (Government of Ireland, 1999) is that there should always be a presumption in favour of avoiding developmental impacts on the archaeological heritage.

Direct Effects

The AIA/EIAR must include assessment of any potential for direct impacts on the archaeological resource, including previously unrecorded archaeological remains which may have no above-ground expression. The results of appropriate non-intrusive advance and archaeological test excavation will assist in this regard.

Indirect Effects

In addition to mitigating potential for physical impacts on the archaeological heritage, careful consideration should also be given in design to the potential for impacts on the setting and amenity of Recorded Monuments and the landscape/s in which they are situated. Similarly, archaeological sites and monuments located in proximity to certain types of developments such as quarries or mines may be vulnerable to indirect impacts from vibration, dust, etc.

Notwithstanding the above, the Department awaits the submission of this assessment before commenting further.



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Nature Conservation

The following observations are intended to assist you in relation to identifying potential impacts on European Sites, other nature conservation sites, and biodiversity and environmental protection in general, in the context of the current proposal. Data collected and surveys carried out in connection with this proposed development may raise other issues that have not been considered here.

Please find below some site-specific comments regarding the proposal alongside general scoping guidance for the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS) process, alongside any licensing requirements which may assist.

EIAR

With regards to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) scoping for any proposed development, in order to assess potential impacts to biodiversity, fauna, flora and habitats, ecological surveys must be carried out at the proposed development site including the route of any access roads, pipelines or cables etc., to survey the habitats and species present. Where ex-situ impacts are possible survey work may be required outside the development site.

Sand and gravel quarries can contain protected and rare plants whilst sand banks and undisturbed sand stockpiles may also provide a habitat for nesting sand martins. Rock quarries can often provide ledges for nesting ravens or for nesting Peregrine falcons - listed on Annex I of the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC). The potential for occupancy should be taken into account. Should there be any protected/rare plants or nesting birds on the quarry site, then a restoration plan should include a section on maintaining their habitat post quarrying. Should quarrying take place below the water table then the impacts on ground and surface waters will need to be assessed.

It is noted that prior record exists for nesting Peregrine falcon on site. It should be noted that it is an offence to disturb nesting birds and unflown young. Mitigation measures should be enacted to prevent disturbance to nesting Peregrine falcons. A useful reference with regard to disturbance is Ruddock, M and Whitfield, D.P., (2007) *A Review of Disturbance Distances in Selected Bird Species*¹.

General guidance on ecological reporting should be taken from the CIEEM *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine*.²

¹ https://www.researchgate.net/publication/288901092_A_review_of_disturbance_distances_in_selected_bird_species

² CIEEM Guidelines 'CIEEM (2018) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine version 1.3.updated September 2024, Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester'
<https://cieem.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/EcIA-Guidelines-v1.3-Sept-2024.pdf>



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The Biodiversity chapter of the EIAR should cover the likely direct, indirect and cumulative effects on the following:

- Sites with nature conservation designations, including proposed Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs), including the reasons for their designation, and their Conservation Objectives, where available;
- Annex IV (Habitats Directive) species of fauna and flora, and their breeding sites and resting places, which are strictly protected under the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations, 2011;
- Other species of fauna and flora which are protected under the Wildlife Acts, 1976-2023;
- ‘Protected species and natural habitats’, as defined in the Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/EC) and European Communities (Environmental Liability) Regulations, 2008, including:
 - Birds Directive – Annex I species and other regularly occurring migratory species, and their habitats (wherever they occur);
 - Habitats Directive – Annex I habitats, Annex II species and their habitats, and Annex IV species and their breeding sites and resting places (wherever they occur);
- Other natural and semi-natural habitats of ecological value in a national to local context, (such as those identified as locally important biodiversity areas within Local Biodiversity Action Plans and County Development Plans);
- Stepping stones and ecological corridors covered by Article 10 of the Habitats Directive.

Surveys should be carried out by suitably qualified persons at an appropriate time of the year depending on the species being surveyed for. The EIAR should include the results of the surveys, and detail the survey methodology and timing of such surveys. It is expected by the Department that in any survey methodology used best practice will be adhered to and if necessary non-Irish methodology adapted for the Irish situation. The EIAR should cover the whole project, including construction, operation and, if applicable, restoration or decommissioning phases. Alternatives examined should also be included in the EIAR. Inland Fisheries Ireland should be consulted with regard to fish species if applicable. For information on Geological and Geomorphological sites the Geological Survey of Ireland should be consulted.



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Available information on sites, habitats and species should be reviewed, including datasets available on request from the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) and on the NPWS website at www.npws.ie. In addition, the following are required to characterise the receiving environment and to assess the likely ecological effects:

- Habitat survey of the site and surrounds, following the Heritage Council methodology (2011)³, and with particular focus on any Annex I or potential Annex I habitats present;
- Identification, description, evaluation and mapping of any Annex I habitats present, including in terms of the vegetation communities, flora and fauna present, as appropriate. Whether or not there is correspondence with Annex I habitats, or priority types, should be examined and justified on scientific grounds;
- A habitat map of the site and surrounds with the footprint of the entire project, all lands required, and all works areas and access routes overlain, to enable impacts on habitats to be quantified and qualified;
- Botanical surveys of the receiving environment to be undertaken at the appropriate time of year to properly characterise and evaluate the habitats present, and identify any rare or protected species, including bryophytes;
- Faunal surveys of the receiving environment to be undertaken at appropriate times of the year to identify any rare or protected species that use the site and surrounding areas, and to evaluate the importance of the site for fauna.

The receiving environment should be defined to include all areas that were impacted or are being impacted directly or indirectly by the development, including extraction areas, storage, disposal or recovery areas, other processing or storage of materials, siltation/sediment/pollution control measures, berms and landscaping, site access, and access roads within the site.

The likely effects on sites, habitats and species should be assessed in light of all aspects of project development at construction and operation stages, and should take into account direct, indirect and cumulative impacts, as appropriate. Impacts should be qualified and quantified, where possible.

Hedgerows and protected species

Hedgerows form important wildlife corridors and provide areas for birds to nest in. In addition, badger setts may be present. If suitable trees are present bats may roost there and they use hedgerows as flight routes. Hedgerows also provide a habitat for woodland flora. Where a hedgerow forms a townland or other historical boundary it is usually an old hedgerow. Such hedgerows will contain more biodiversity than a younger hedgerow. These should be maintained where possible. The EIAR should provide an estimate of the length of hedgerow

³ [Best Practice Guidance for Habitat Survey and Mapping. \(2011\). Heritage Council, Kilkenny](#)



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that will be lost, if any. Where trees or hedgerows have to be removed there should be suitable planting of native species in mitigation. Hedgerows and trees should not be removed during the nesting season (i.e. March 1st to August 31st).

Invasive Alien Species

The EIAR should also address the issue of invasive alien plant and animal species, such as Japanese Knotweed, and detail the methods required to ensure that they are not accidentally introduced or spread during construction. Information on alien invasive species in Ireland can be found at <https://invasives.ie>.

CEMP

Complete project details including Construction Environmental Management Plans (CEMPs) should be provided in order to allow an adequate assessment to be undertaken. Applicants need to be able to demonstrate that CEMPs and other such plans are adequate and effective mitigation, supported by scientific information and analysis, and that they are feasible within the physical constraints of the site. The positions, locations and sizes of construction infrastructure and mitigation, such as settlement ponds, disposal sites and construction compounds, may significantly affect European Sites, other designated sites, habitats, and species in their own right and could have an effect for example on drainage, water quality, habitat loss, and disturbance. If these are undetermined at time of the assessment, all potential effects of the development on the site are not being considered. If applicants are not in a position to decide the exact location and details of these at time of application, then they need to consider the range of options that may be used in their assessment so that all issues are covered.

Natura Impact Statement (NIS) for Appropriate Assessment (AA)

The Department notes that the quarry site is not covered by any nature conservation designations, however, the potential for groundwater impacts, particularly with regard to the Lough Gill Special Area of Conservation (SAC) (Site Code: 001976) must be considered, notably with regard to destruction or disruption of groundwater conduit flow paths, and changes in the pattern and quantity of groundwater movement.

The term, NIS, is defined in legislation⁴. In general, an NIS, should present the data, information and analysis necessary to reach a definitive determination as to;

- The implications of the plan or project, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, for a European Site in view of its Conservation Objectives,

⁴ As defined in Section 177T of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, an NIS means a statement, for the purposes of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, of the implications of a proposed development, on its own and in combination with other plans and projects, for a European site in view of its Conservation Objectives. It is required to include a report of a scientific examination of evidence and data, carried out by competent persons to identify and classify any implications for the European Site in view of its Conservation Objectives



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- Whether there will be adverse effects on the integrity of a European Site.

The NIS should be underpinned by best scientific knowledge and objective information, as required in the case of screening for Appropriate Assessment, and by the precautionary principle.

Guidance on AA is available in the Departmental guidance document on Appropriate Assessment, which is available on the NPWS website at http://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/NPWS_2009_AA_Guidance.pdf and in the EU Commission guidance entitled “*Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites. Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*”⁵. However CJEU and Irish case law has clarified some issues and should also be consulted.

Information about the relevant Natura 2000 Sites including their Site-Specific Conservation Objectives (SSCOs) will need to be collected. Details of designated sites and species and SSCO can be found on the NPWS website at <http://www.npws.ie/>. Each Conservation Objective for a Qualifying Interest (QI) is defined by a list of attributes and targets and is often supported by further documentation. Where these are not available for a site, an examination of the attributes that are used to define Site-Specific Conservation Objectives for the same QIs in other sites can be usefully used to ensure the full ecological implications of a proposal for a site’s Conservation Objective and its integrity are analysed and assessed. It is advised, as per the notes and guidelines in the SSCO that any reports quoting Conservation Objectives should give the version number and date, so that it can be ensured and established that the most up-to-date versions are used in the preparation of Natura Impact Statements and in undertaking Appropriate Assessments.

Licences

Where there are impacts on protected species and their habitats, resting or breeding places, licences may be required under the Wildlife Acts or derogations under the Habitats Regulations. In order to apply for any such licences or derogations as mentioned above, the results of a survey should be submitted to the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Such surveys are to be carried out by appropriately qualified person/s at an appropriate time of the year. Details of survey methodology should also be provided. Such licences should be applied for in advance of planning to avoid delays and in case project modifications are necessary.

Should this survey work take place well before construction commences, it is recommended that an ecological survey of the development site should take place immediately prior to construction to ensure that no significant change in the baseline ecological survey has occurred. If there has been any significant change mitigation may require amendment and

⁵ https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:2b6c4b16-e867-42da-b604-f67ee6fe60c3.0002.03/DOC_2&format=PDF



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where a licence has expired, there will be a need for new licence applications for protected species.

The above observations/recommendations are based on the papers submitted to this Department on a pre-planning basis and are made without prejudice to any observations that the Minister may make in the context of any consultation arising on foot of any development application referred to the Minister, by the Planning Authority, in his role as statutory consultee under the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended.

You are requested to send any further communications to this Department's Development Applications Unit (DAU) at manager.dau@npws.gov.ie, or to the following address:

The Manager
Development Applications Unit (DAU)
Government Offices
Newtown Road
Wexford
Y35 AP90

Is mise, le meas

Sinéad O' Brien
Development Applications Unit
Administration

From: [Tara Horigan](#)
Sent on: 17 April 2025 16:31:29
To: [Lynn Hassett](#)
Subject: Roadstone / HSA Consultation / Cam Quarry Continuance of Use HSA:0297096

Good Afternoon Lynn,

The Health and Safety Authority acknowledges receipt of your correspondence in relation to the above and have no comments or observations to make,

Kind Regards,

Tara Horigan

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager.

The Health and Safety Authority, its servants or agents, accept no liability for any errors or omissions in the information provided in this correspondence or for any loss or damage occasioned to any person as a result of using the information provided.

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An tOifig Náisiúnta um Sláint Chomhshaoil
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte, Urlár 2,
Teach na Darach, Ascaill na Teile
Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás,
Co. Chill Dara

National Office for Environmental Health Services
2nd Floor, Oak House, Lime Tree Avenue
Millennium Park, Naas, Co. Kildare
Eircode: W91KDC2
Env.CCNSU@hse.ie

HSE EIA Scoping

Environmental Health Service Submission Report

Date: 14/04/25

Our reference: EHIS 4697

Report to:

Shane McDermott

Technical Director - Environmental & Social Impact Assessment

E smcdermott@slrconsulting.com

SLR Consulting Ireland

7 Dundrum Business Park, Windy Arbour, Dublin, Ireland D14 N2Y7

Type of Consultation: EIA Scoping

Proposed development: EIA Scoping Application for the Proposed Continuance of Use of Existing Cam Quarry Curry & Cloonacaltry, Brideswell, Co. Roscommon

Applicant : Roadstone Limited



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Details of the application were circulated to the following HSE stakeholders on the 7/03/2025:

- Emergency Planning
- National Capital Estates Office – Regional AND
- Director of National Health Protection
- REO West & North West

Introduction and Proposed site location

Development of a quarry on c. 68 hectares of lands at Curry / Cloonacaltry, Brideswell, Co. Roscommon, of which c. 23.7 hectares is the extraction area.

• Extraction of limestone using conventional blasting techniques and processing of rock using crushing and screening plant. • Provision of a concrete block making facility and concrete batching plant, a truck washdown facility with wash water recycled via a closed settlement tank system, the storage of aggregates. • ESB substation (26m²), portacabin office facilities including canteen and washroom facilities (91m²), a workshop including storage room, canteen and washroom facilities (485m²), septic tank and percolation area, bunded fuel storage area, vehicle circulation/access including wheelwash and weighbridge, settlement tanks/hydrocarbon interceptors for treatment of water, construction of overburden and screening mounds, all other associated site works and ancillary activities.

A 20-year life in total was granted. This permission is due to expire in October 2026. Development Permitted but not commenced The development as outlined above is operational with the exception of the concrete batching plant, concrete block making facility and truck washdown facility (Item 3 above) which have not been constructed to date.

The batching plant was permitted to produce 50,000m³/annum and 5 million concrete blocks. The application also provided for discharge of waters (GW / SW) from the quarry void via a pipe along the R363 regional road to the Ballyglass river c.1.4km west of the site. There is currently no discharge from the site and no discharge licence has been sought from Roscommon County Council.

Key Features of the Existing Works The proposed extraction area is permitted to 40m AOD (up to 3 benches). Current quarry floor levels are at 70-85m AOD (correct as of July 2022 survey). The permitted extraction area is 23.7 hectares. The current extraction area is c. 7 hectares (correct as of July 2022 survey). The permitted rock extraction rate is 500,000 tonnes/ annum. Key Features of Future



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Works The original planning application sought a development life of 46 years (+2 for restoration). A 20-year life in total was granted.

Therefore more time is sought to finalise the works. This new application will be based on the previous application description and as such will be an application for continuance of use of all previously permitted development – including the concrete batching / block making plant not constructed to date. There will be no requirement to include any extension at depth or in area. There will be no requirement for any changes to other facilities, supporting infrastructure, or operational arrangements such as hours of working, extraction volumes or processing methods. An application life of 25 years is proposed.

Proposed Development

The applicant is seeking planning permission for the continuance of use of previously permitted development (as set out above) – including the concrete batching / block making plant not constructed to date.

General Scoping Introduction

The following documents should be taken into consideration when preparing the Environmental Impact Assessment Report:

- Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanála on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment

https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines_for_planning_authorities_and_an_bord_pleanála_on_carrying_out_eia_-_august_2018.pdf

- EU publication: Environmental Impact Assessment of Projects Guidance on the preparation of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report, EU, 2017
http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/pdf/EIA_guidance_EIA_report_final.pdf
- Adoption of the Directive (2014/52/EU) in April 2014 initiated a review of the National Guidance for EIA and the EIAR accompanying a planning application.
- New guidelines can be seen at:

<https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/guidelines-on-the-information-to-be-contained-in-environmental-impact-assessment.php>

The introduction of the new Guidance is supported by a Webinar produced by the EPA and can be found at:



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<https://www.youtube.com/embed/ejKVFUztXBY>

Generally the Environmental Impact Assessment should examine all likely significant impacts and provide the following information for each:

- a) Description of the receiving environment
- b) The nature and scale of the impact
- c) An assessment of the significance of the impact
- d) Proposed mitigation measures
- e) Residual impacts

Directive 2014/52/EU has an enhanced requirement to assess likely significant impacts on Population and Human Health. It is the experience of the National Environmental Health Service (NEHS) that impacts on human health are often inadequately assessed in EIAs in Ireland. It is recommended that the wider determinants of health and wellbeing are considered in a proportionate manner when considering the EIA. Guidance on wider determinants of health can be found at www.publichealth.ie

In considering the measures to be employed by the developer to minimise the potential impacts of the proposed development to human health, reference was made by the EHS to the EPA's 'Environmental Management Guidelines on the Environmental Management in the Extractive Industry (Non-Scheduled Minerals) 2006'

It is recommended that an Environmental Management System (EMS) is put in place, with training of all site staff. There should be on-going review of the effectiveness of the EMS. The EMS should be devised in accordance with international standards such as ISO 14001 2015 and EU EMAS (1993).

In addition to any likely significant negative impacts from the proposed development, any positive likely significant impacts should also be assessed.

This assessment should include the effectiveness of any existing mitigation measures and identify where mitigation should be continued and/or reviewed. The public consultation should include consultation on how the existing quarry might or might not be impacting on local communities.

The HSE will consider the final EIAR accompanying the planning application and will make comments to An Bord Pleanála/Local Planning Authority on the methodology used for assessing the likely significant impacts and the evaluation criteria used in assessing the significance of the impact.

The National Environmental Health Service (NEHS) recommends that the following matters are included and assessed in the EIAR:



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- Public Consultation
- Population and Human Health
- Water (Hydrology and Hydrogeology)
- Land and Soils
- Air, Dust and Odour
- Climate Change and Opportunity for Health Gain
- Noise and Vibration
- Waste Management
- Ancillary Facilities
- Cumulative Impacts

Public Consultation

The applicant should consider the appointment of a community liaison officer. Early and meaningful public consultation with the local community should be carried out to ensure all potentially significant impacts have been adequately addressed. All parties affected by the proposed development, including those who may benefit financially from the project, must be fully informed of what the proposal entails especially with regard to potential impacts on surrounding areas. Sensitive receptors and other stake-holders should be identified to ensure all necessary and appropriate mitigation measures are put in place to avoid any complaints about the proposed quarry development in the future. Meaningful public consultation, where the local community is fully informed of the proposed development must be undertaken. Members of the public should be given sufficient opportunities to express their views on the proposed development.

The Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) should clearly demonstrate the link between public consultations and how those consultations have influenced the decision-making process in the EIA. The EIAR should state the period of planning permission sought, the length of time construction estimated, and if it is anticipated that the development will be decommissioned or will continue to operate (following any further planning consent) at the end of this period of planning permission (should permission be granted).

Population Health / human health

The opinion of the National Environmental Health Service (NEHS) is that the assessment of likely significant effects on Population and Human Health should be a proportionate assessment specific to the proposed development and to the Population and Human Health likely to be significantly affected by the proposed development

If assessment is made of likely significant effects on wider determinants of health or health inequalities, then this should be done in a proportionate manner with a demonstration of a likely significant effect as a direct result of the proposed development.



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The preferred methodology for assessing likely significant effects on Population and Human Health is a source, pathway, receptor model; based on emissions through environmental media and population exposure. This approach is supported by the EPA issued National Guidance (known as the EIAR Guidance): Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports, 2022 https://www.epa.ie/publications/monitoring--assessment/assessment/EIAR_Guidelines_2022_Web.pdf

In assessing likely significant effects on Population and Human Health any proposed mitigation measures should be identified. The residual impact should be evaluated against a recognised Health Protection Standard.

Whilst current EIAR guidance recognises the requirement to identify sensitive receptors within the assessment process, it should be clear that this is within a Population Health approach and not an individual person approach. It is therefore the opinion of the NEHS that a Population Health approach would not consider the likely significant effects on the sensitivity of an individual human receptor, but the sensitivity of the established land use or service provision.

Water (Hydrology and Hydrogeology)

The proposed development has the potential to have a significant impact on the quality of both surface and ground water.

All drinking water sources, both surface and ground water, must be identified. Public and Group Water Scheme sources and supplies should be identified in addition to any private wells supplying potable water to houses in the vicinity of the proposed development. Measures to ensure that all sources and supplies are protected should be described.

Water monitoring results should be reviewed and where there is indication of contamination or significant dewatering of drinking water supplies additional mitigation should be agreed with the Planning Authority. The effectiveness of the additional mitigation should be verified through a sampling programme. Any wells identified as a drinking water supply and located within 150m of the gravel extraction facility are sampled prior to the commencement of extension works. Sampling parameters should be agreed with the Local Authority. These wells should also be sampled at least biannually during the extraction period and once within the first year following cessation of operations on site to establish if there are any changes in water quality.

The National Environmental Health Service recommends that a walk-over survey of the site is undertaken in addition to a desktop analysis of Geological Survey of Ireland data in order to identify the location of private wells used for drinking water purposes. Any potential significant impacts to drinking water sources should be assessed. Details of bedrock, overburden, vulnerability, groundwater flows,



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aquifers and catchment areas should be considered when assessing potential impacts and any proposed mitigation measures.

Decommissioning /site restoration

The submission of a Site Restoration Plan, which includes a timeframe for undertaking restoration works, and actual works detail is included as a condition of planning permission, if granted.

To minimise the risk of future water safety issues, consideration be given to an alternative restoration plan for the quarry void involving filling the void and restoring it to agricultural use or as a public amenity.

It is stated in the scoping document to final '***A progressive restoration scheme is proposed as the benches are worked out with a final restoration occurring at the end of excavation developing a permanent waterbody with all existing grass and scrub areas that have established along the site boundaries to be protected and retained as far as possible.***'

In the case *Fowler V Keegan* it was deemed that the large water bodies left behind were a health and safety water hazard. There is a drawing maps provided which are not in great detail on the restoration process or full detailed plans.

The Environmental Management Plan should lay out how the retained habitats will be protected during extraction; how continued management is undertaken post restoration and how the results are monitored to allow management revisions as necessary. This monitoring should be undertaken for the first 5 years after restoration.

As a minimum, regard should be had to the guidance issued by the Health and Safety Authority's on 'Quarrying – Trespass, Boundary Fencing and Prevention of Drowning'. To discourage trespassers a barrier of sufficient height and strength should be installed around the perimeter of the proposed water-filled void. Barriers should be inspected regularly and maintained in good condition.

Potential for future health gain from the restoration of the proposed development should be included in the EIAR.

Assessment of Consideration of Alternatives

The EIAR should consider an assessment of alternatives should be assessed as part of the EIAR.

Noise & Vibration

The potential impacts for noise and vibration from the proposed development on all noise sensitive locations must be clearly identified in the EIAR. The EIAR must



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also consider the appropriateness and effectiveness of all proposed mitigation measures to minimise noise and vibration. A baseline noise monitoring survey should be undertaken to establish the existing background noise levels. Noise from any existing industry /quarries or any potential sources in the area should not be included as part of the back ground levels.

Air Quality

An air quality assessment should be carried out following procedures described in the publications by the EPA and using the methodology outlined in the guidance documents published by the USEPA. An air dispersion model was created using input data which consisted of information on the physical environment, design details from all emission sources on-site and five full years of meteorological data.

Due to the nature of the construction works, generation of airborne dust has the potential to have significant impacts on sensitive receptors. Day to day activities have the potential to give rise to elevated dust levels if activities associated with extraction, processing, manufacturing of quarry products and transportation of product to market are not managed efficiently. The action of wind over dry ground can lead to particles being carried in the air. Processing can act as a point source of dust as it has the potential to generate dust emissions in a defined location. Aggregate stockpiled at the end of each conveyor attached to the processing plant is also a potential source of dust blow during dry windy conditions. This activity will be undertaken on a daily basis which will results in a slight impact on the air environment within the quarry boundary. Fugitive dust emissions generated during the aggregate processing, screening and stockpiling of material is confined to the zone within the quarry void. Vehicle movements on the internal access/haul roads are a source of dust blow as emissions can increase rapidly in proportion to vehicle speed and traffic volume.

A **Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)** should be included in the EIAR which details dust control and mitigation measures:

Measures should include:

- Sweeping of hard road surfaces
- Provision of a water bowser on site, regular spraying of haul roads
- Wheel washing facilities at site exit
- Restrict speed on site
- Provide covers to all delivery trucks to minimise dust generation
- Inspect and clean public roads in the vicinity if necessary
- Material stockpiling provided with adequate protection from the wind
- Dust monitoring at the site boundary



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- Truck inspection and maintenance plan
- Details of a road maintenance agreement between the operator and the Local Roads Authority to clarify responsibility for the upkeep and repair of access roads during the construction phase of the project.

The EIAR should include details of the location of all site office, construction compound, fuel storage depot, sanitary accommodation and canteen, wheel washing/ vehicle washing, First Aid facilities, disposal of wastewater and the provision of a potable water supply to the site canteen.

Climate

The EIA should assess factors that contribute to climate change as a result of the development and should identify any mitigation or sustainability measures that can be incorporated into the development.

Cumulative Impacts

All existing or proposed Quarries/ industry or developments/housing in the vicinity should be clearly identified in the EIAR. The impact on sensitive receptors of the proposed development combined with any other developments in the vicinity should be considered. The EIAR should include a detailed assessment of any likely significant cumulative impacts of the new proposed Quarry application.

Eve Smith

Oifigeach Sláinte Comhshaoil | Environmental Health Officer
Environment/Climate Change, Network Support Unit (NSU)

* All correspondence or any queries with regard to this report including acknowledgement of this report should be forwarded to : : Eve Smith Environment/Climate Change Network Support Unit (NSU), Seirbhís Sláinte Comhshaoil, Ospidéal Pobail an Chloic Liath, Bóthar Ghaoth Dobhair IAn Clochán Liath, Leitir Ceanainn, Co.Dhún Na nGall F94 Y326
Environmental Health Officer, Environmental Health Service, Dungloe Community Hospital, Letterkenny Co. Donegal. F94 Y326. Eve.smith@hse.ie



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From: [INFO](#)

Sent on: 11 March 2025 11:51:05

To: [Lynn Hassett](#)

Subject: TII Ref: TII25-130718 - Roadstone / TII Consultation / Cam Quarry - Curry & Cloonacaltry townlands, Brideswell, Co. Roscommon

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Dear Ms. Hassett,

Thank you for your correspondence of 7 March 2025 regarding the above. Transport Infrastructure Ireland's (TII's) position in relation to your enquiry is as follows.

TII will endeavour to consider and respond to planning applications referred to it, given its status and duties as a statutory consultee under the Planning Acts. The approach to be adopted by TII in making such submissions or comments will seek to uphold official policy and guidelines, as outlined in the Section 28 Ministerial Guidelines 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities' (DoECLG, 2012). Regard should also be had to other relevant guidance available at www.TII.ie.

The issuing of this correspondence is provided as best practice guidance only and does not prejudice TII's statutory right to make any observations, requests for further information, objections or appeals, following the examination of any valid planning application referred.

National Strategic Outcome 2 of the National Planning Framework includes the objective to maintain the strategic capacity and safety of the national road network. In addition, Chapter 7 'Enhanced Regional Accessibility' of the National Development Plan, 2021 – 2030, sets out the key sectoral priority of maintaining Ireland's existing national road network to a robust and safe standard for users. This requirement is further reflected in the publication of the National Investment Framework for Transport in Ireland and also the existing Statutory Section 28 'Spatial Planning and National Roads Guidelines for Planning Authorities'.

With respect to EIAR Scoping issues, the recommendations indicated below provide only general guidance for the preparation of an EIAR, which may affect the national road network.

The developer should have regard, inter alia, to the following:

- Consultations should be had with the relevant Local Authority/National Roads Design Office, with regard to the locations of existing and future national road schemes in the area.
- TII would be specifically concerned as to potential significant impacts the development would have on the national road network (and junctions with national roads) in the proximity of the proposed development, including potential haul routes.
- The developer should assess visual impacts from existing national roads.
- The developer should have regard to any EIAR/EIS and all conditions and/or modifications imposed by An Bord Pleanála regarding road schemes in the area. The developer should, in particular, have regard to any potential cumulative impacts.
- The developer, in preparing EIAR, should have regard to TII Publications (formerly DMRB and the Manual of Contract Documents for Road Works).
- The EIAR should have regard to TII's Environmental Assessment and Construction Guidelines, including the Good Practice Guidance for the Treatment of Noise during the Planning of National Road Schemes (National Road Authority (NRA), 2014).

- The EIAR should consider the 'European Communities (Environmental Noise) Regulations, 2018, (S.I. no. 549 of 2018)', and, in particular, how the development will affect future action plans by the relevant competent authority. The developer may need to consider the incorporation of noise barriers to reduce noise impacts (see 'Good Practice Guidance for the Treatment of Noise during the Planning of National Road Schemes (NRA, 2014)').
- It would be important that, where appropriate, subject to meeting the appropriate thresholds and criteria and having regard to best practice, a Traffic and Transport Assessment (TTA) be carried out in accordance with relevant guidelines, noting traffic volumes attending the site and traffic routes to/from the site, with reference to impacts on the national road network and junctions of lower category roads with national roads.

In relation to national roads, TII's 'Traffic and Transport Assessment Guidelines' (2014) should be referred to in relation to proposed development with potential impacts on the national road network. The scheme promoter is also advised to have regard to Section 2.2 of TII's TTA Guidelines, which addresses requirements for sub-threshold TTA.

Any improvements required to facilitate development should be identified. It will be the responsibility of the developer to pay for the costs of any improvements to national roads to facilitate the private development proposed, as TII will not be responsible for such costs.

- The designers are asked to consult TII Publications to determine whether a Road Safety Audit is required.
- In the interests of maintaining the safety and standard of the national road network, the EIAR should identify the methods/techniques proposed for any works traversing/in proximity to the national road network.
- TII recommends that the applicant/developer should clearly identify haul routes proposed and fully assess the network to be traversed. Where abnormal 'weight' loads are a feature of the development, e.g., turbine or substation components, separate structure approvals/permits and other licences may be required in connection with the proposed haul route. All national road structures on the haul route through all the relevant County Council administrative areas should be checked by the applicant/developer to confirm their capacity to accommodate any abnormal 'weight' load proposed. Any requirements for 'Exceptional Abnormal Loads' should also be addressed in accordance with TII Publications.

In addition, the haul route should be assessed to confirm capacity to accommodate abnormal 'length' loads and any temporary works required are identified.

The national road network is managed by a combination of PPP Concessions, Motorway Maintenance and Renewal Contractors (MMaRC) and local road authorities, in association with TII.

The applicant/developer should also consult with all PPP Companies, MMaRC Contractors and road authorities over which the haul route traverses, to ascertain any operational requirements, including delivery timetabling, etc., to ensure that the strategic function of the national road network is safeguarded.

Where temporary works within any MMaRC Boundary are required to facilitate the transport of turbine components to site, the applicant/developer shall contact thirdpartyworks@tii.ie in advance, as a works specific Deed of Indemnity will be needed by TII before the works can take place.

Additionally, any damage caused to the pavement on the existing national road arising from any temporary works due to the turning movement of abnormal loads (e.g., tearing of the surface course, etc.) shall be rectified in accordance with TII Pavement Standards and details in this regard shall be agreed with the road authority prior to the commencement of any development on site.

Any Road Safety Audit requirements should be addressed.

Notwithstanding any of the above, the developer should be aware that this list is non-exhaustive, thus site and development specific issues should be addressed in accordance with best practice.

I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Suzanne Cahill
Regulatory & Administration Executive

From: Lynn Hassett
Sent: Friday 7 March 2025 13:47
To: Landuse Planning
Subject: Roadstone / TII Consultation / Cam Quarry Continuance of Use

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of TII. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and are sure that the content is safe.

Transport Infrastructure Ireland
Parkgate Business Centre
Parkgate Street, Dublin 8
D08 DK10

Dear Consultee,

Please find enclosed a pre-planning consultation document on behalf of Roadstone Limited who intend to apply for planning permission (with EIAR / AA) for continuance of use of a previously permitted quarry development, including concrete batching / block making plant not constructed to date, at Curry & Cloonacaltry townlands, Brideswell, Co. Roscommon.

Should you wish to provide any feedback, could we ask you please do so before **11 April 2025** where possible, by return email or by post to:

Lynn Hassett
SLR Consulting Ireland
7 Dundrum Business Park
Windy Arbour
Dublin
D14 N2Y7

Thank you for your time, and if you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Lynn Hassett
Associate--Environmental & Social Impact Assessment

RECEIVED: 05/12/2025

O +353 1 296 4667
M +353 87 4296525
E lhassett@slrconsulting.com

SLR Consulting Ireland
7 Dundrum Business Park, Windy Arbour, Dublin, Ireland D14 N2Y7



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RECEIVED: 03/12/2025

RECEIVED: 05/12/2023

Uisce Éireanns Ref: PN25000019960

Planning Authority: Roscommon County Council

Issue Date: 11 April 2025

Uisce Éireann

na

Cathair Chorcaí

Uisce Éireann
PO Box 448
South City
Delivery Office
Cork City

www.water.ie

Development Location:

Curry & Cloonacaltry, Brideswell, Co. Roscommon

Development Description:

Proposed Continuance of Use of existing Cam Quarry.

A Chara,

Thank you for notification of your consultation regarding the proposed continuance of use application for quarrying operations at Cam Quarry.

Uisce Éireann will typically make formal observations for projects of this nature at the EIAR scoping stage. We request that when appropriate, the applicant submit an EIAR scoping request to Uisce Éireann for assessment.

Uisce Éireann has the following provisional comments for your consideration in regard to your proposal at this stage:

Proximity to Abstraction Points

All potential impacts arising from the development proposal on Uisce Éireann's abstraction points must be identified and addressed in the EIAR. The quarry extension is located within the zone of contribution (ZOC) for the Killeglan Springs / South Roscommon Regional Water Supply Scheme (SRRWSS) which abstract from a spring source, located 3.6km to the south of the proposed quarry extension. Additionally, the site is also located within the surface water abstraction catchment for the Ballinasloe Public Water Supply, which abstracts from the River Suck (Suck_140), located 21 km downstream of the proposed development. Any other surface water or groundwater abstraction points where a potential hydrological and hydrogeological pathway exists should also be considered. The EIAR must include and consider all direct, indirect and cumulative effects on the abstraction points.

Discharges from the site

Stiúrthóirí / Directors: Jerry Grant (Cathaoirleach / Chairperson), Niall Gleeson (POF / CEO), Gerard Britchfield, Douglas Millican, Michael Nolan, Patricia King, Eileen Maher, Cathy Mannion, Paul Reid, Michael Walsh.

Oifig Chláraithe / Registered Office: Teach Colvill, 24-26 Sráid Thalbóid, Baile Átha Cliath 1, D01 NP86 / Colvill House, 24-26 Talbot Street, Dublin, Ireland D01NP86
Is cuideachta ghníomhaíochta ainmnithe atá faoi theorainn scaireanna é Uisce Éireann / Uisce Éireann is a designated activity company, limited by shares.
Cláraithe in Éirinn Uimh.: 530363 / Registered in Ireland No.: 530363.

The applicant has noted that they intend to discharge via a pipe along R363 to Ballyglass River, 1.4km to the west of the site. This discharge to the Ballyglass_010 is located within the drinking water abstraction catchment for a number of UE water supplies including the Ballinasloe PWS, Banagher PWS, Nenagh PWS and Portumna and Limerick City WS. Any potential impacts arising from these operational discharges must be addressed in the EIAR to include mitigations measures to ensure that water quality is not adversely impacted. Additionally, should the development propose any discharges via groundwater, any potential impact to the spring source at Killeglan Springs must be addressed in the EIAR to include suitable mitigation measures to ensure that water quality is not adversely impacted.

Pumping / Dewatering

If pumping / dewatering is required, there is the potential to alter surface water and groundwater flows, especially in the context of the Killeglan Springs abstraction. The applicant is requested to clarify whether dewatering is proposed and address the impact of altered surface water and groundwater flows.

Stormwater Run Off and Hydrocarbons

The potential impacts arising from run off and hydrocarbon during construction, operational and decommissioning phases should be addressed to include mitigations against contaminants entering groundwater and surface waters via hydrological and hydrogeological pathways.

Onsite Foul Effluent

The applicant is required to confirm that, should there be an existing onsite foul effluent treatment system, it meets Groundwater Discharge requirements.

Environmental Management Plan

The applicant is requested to provide a detailed Environmental Management Plan to include an emergency plan to mitigate a spillage event, contamination of groundwater/surface water and or any other event resulting in an impact to water sources connected to the site

Groundwater Vulnerability

The applicant is requested to provide a site-specific groundwater vulnerability characterization. This should be provided as a new section within the EIAR.

In addition to the above points, please note the following general points relating to aspects of water & wastewater services which should be considered in the scope of an EIAR where relevant.

- a) Protection of drinking water source(s) from potentially adverse impacts is a priority for Uisce Éireann. It is Uisce Éireann's current policy to maintain safe and secure drinking water supplies and ensure that development will not give rise to any deterioration in water quality. Where the development proposal has the potential to impact an Uisce Éireann Drinking Water Source(s), the applicant shall provide details of measures to be taken to ensure that there will be no negative impact to Uisce Éireann's Drinking Water Source(s) during the construction and operational phases of the development. Hydrological /

hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified as part of an EIAR and/or the planning application.

- b) Where the development proposes the backfilling of materials, the applicant is required to include a waste sampling strategy to ensure the material is inert.
- c) Potential impacts of the development on the capacity of water services (i.e. *do existing water services have the capacity to cater for the new development*) - If your proposals require a connection(s) to either a public water supply or sewage collection system, you are advised to submit a Pre-Connection Enquiry (PCE) enquiry to Uisce Éireann to determine the feasibility of connection to the Uisce Éireann network ahead of lodging your planning application. The PCE should be submitted to Uisce Éireann well in advance of lodging your planning application. Lodging a COF with your planning application helps avoids delays in the consenting process.
- d) In relation to a development that would discharge trade effluent – any upstream treatment or attenuation of discharges required prior to discharging to an Uisce Éireann collection network.
- e) In relation to the management of surface water; the potential impact of surface water discharges to combined sewer networks and potential measures to stop surface waters from combined sewers. Uisce Éireann does not permit surface waters into our sewer network.
- f) Any physical impact on Uisce Éireann assets – reservoir, drinking water source, treatment works, pipes, pumping stations, discharges outfalls etc. including any relocation of assets.
- g) When considering a development proposal, the applicant is advised to determine the location of public water services assets, possible connection points from the applicant's site / lands to the public network and any drinking water abstraction catchments to ensure these are included and fully assessed in any pre-planning proposals. Details, where known, can be obtained by emailing an Ordnance Survey map identifying the proposed location of the applicant's intended development to datarequests@water.ie
- h) Other indicators or methodologies for identifying infrastructure located within the applicant's lands are the presence of registered wayleave agreements, visible

manholes, vent stacks, valve chambers, marker posts etc. within the proposed site.

- REC-110-D-03/12/2025
- i) Any potential impacts on the assimilative capacity of receiving waters in relation to Uisce Éireann discharge outfalls including changes in dispersion / circulation characterises. Hydrological / hydrogeological pathways between the applicant's site and receiving waters should be identified within the report.
 - j) Any potential impact on the contributing catchment of water sources either in terms of water abstraction for the development (*and resultant potential impact on the capacity of the source*) or the potential of the development to influence / present a risk to the quality of the water abstracted by Uisce Éireann for public supply should be identified within the report.
 - k) Where a development proposes to connect to an Uisce Éireann network and that network either abstracts water from or discharges wastewater to a "protected"/ sensitive area, consideration as to whether the integrity of the site / conservation objectives of the site would be compromised should be identified within the report.
 - l) Uisce Éireann does not permit build over of its assets. Separation distances from public infrastructure, as per Uisce Éireann's Standards, Codes and Practices must be achieved. It is the applicant's responsibility to submit a diversion enquiry to Uisce Éireann Diversions Section (diversions@water.ie) prior to construction, where a potential build over of public assets is in question and/or where the applicants proposals cannot achieve separation distances from public infrastructure as per UÉ Standards & Codes of Practice. As an applicant you are required to;
 - survey the site to determine the exact location of the public assets. Any trial investigations should be carried out with the agreement and in the presence of Uisce Éireann. All queries relating to in situ public infrastructure should be directed to diversions@water.ie
 - Provide evidence of separation distances between the existing Uisce Éireann assets and proposed structures, other services, trees, etc. have to be in accordance with UÉ Standards & Codes of Practice
 - m) Where an existing connection is on place, the applicant or developer may be required to enter into a new or revised water and/or wastewater connection

agreement(s) with Uisce Éireann prior to the commencement of this development.

- n) Where new connection(s) are sought, the applicant shall enter into water and/or wastewater connection agreement(s) with Uisce Éireann prior to the commencement of this development.

Queries relating to the comments above should be directed to planning@water.ie.
Queries for the Uisce Éireann Development Management Planning Team and EIAR
Scoping Requests should be sent to planning@water.ie

Dermot Phelan,

Connections Delivery Manager

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