

Annual Environmental Report

2024



Rathmullen

D0345-01

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1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2024 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0345-01, Rathmullen, in Donegal in accordance with the requirements of the wastewater discharge licence for the agglomeration. On December 16th, 2024, a new licence (Ramelton, Milford, Rathmullan (RMR) - D0341-02) was issued combining the agglomerations of Ramelton (D0341-01), Milford (D0342-01), and Rathmullan (D0345-01). Specified reports where relevant are included as an appendix to the AER.

1.1 ANNUAL STATEMENT OF MEASURES

A summary of any improvements undertaken is provided where applicable.

1.2 TREATMENT SUMMARY

- Currently there is no treatment provided at Rathmullen . Please refer to section 4 for details of the Programme of Improvements.

1.3 ELV OVERVIEW

The overall compliance of the final effluent with the Emission Limit Values (ELVs) is shown below. More detailed information on the below ELV's can be found in Section 2.

Discharge Point Reference	Treatment Plant	Discharge Type	Compliance Status	Parameters failing if relevant
TPEFF0600D0345SW002	Rathmullan Septic Tank Nr. 2	Untreated	Non-Compliant	Suspended Solids mg/l and BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l
TPEFF0600D0345SW001	RATHMULLAN SEPTIC TANK NR. 1	Untreated	Non-Compliant	Suspended Solids mg/l and BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l

1.4 LICENCE SPECIFIC REPORTING

Assessment / Report
There are no Licence Specific Reports included in this AER.

2 TREATMENT PLANT PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT SUMMARY

2.1.1 EFFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY -

Parameter	WWDL ELV (Schedule A)	ELV with Condition 2 Interpretation included Note 1	Interim % reduction from influent concentration	Number of sample results	Number of exceedances	Number of exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	9.62	
E. Coli MPN/100ml	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	1209800	
ortho-Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	0.894	
Suspended Solids mg/l	N/A	N/A	50%	6	2	N/A	22	Fail
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	622	
COD-Cr mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	102	
Enterococci (Intestinal) cfu/100ml	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	1359800	
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition	N/A	N/A	20%	6	4	N/A	50	Fail

Parameter	WWDL ELV (Schedule A)	ELV with Condition 2 Interpretation included Note 1	Interim % reduction from influent concentration	Number of sample results	Number of exceedances	Number of exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
(Carbonaceous mg/l								
pH pH units	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	6.73	
Faecal coliforms cfu/100ml	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	4340600	

Notes:

1 – This represents the Emission Limit Values after the Interpretation provided for under Condition 2 of the licence is applied

2 – For pH the WWDA specifies a range of pH 6 - 9

Cause of Exceedance(s):

The agglomeration is not served by a wastewater treatment plant.

Significance of Results:

The WWTP is noncompliant with the ELV's set in the Wastewater Discharge Licence.

2.1.2 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY FOR THE UNTREATED DISCHARGE TPEFF0600D0345SW002

A summary of monitoring from ambient monitoring points associated with the wastewater discharge is provided in the sections below. For discharges to rivers upstream (U/S) and downstream (D/S) location data is provided. For other ambient points in lakes, coastal or transitional waters, monitoring data from the most appropriate monitoring station is selected.

The table below provides details of ambient monitoring locations and details of any designations as sensitive areas.

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	Irish Grid Reference	River Station Code	Bathing Water	Drinking Water	FWPM	Shellfish	WFD Ecological Status
Downstream	231780, 429809	CW06007072LS2001	Yes	No	No	Yes	High

The results for ambient results and / or additional monitoring data sets are included in the **Appendix 7.1 - Ambient monitoring summary**

Significance of Results:

The coastal/transitional ambient monitoring results do not meet the required EQS. The EQS relates to the Oxygenation and Nutrient Conditions set out in the Surface Water Regulations 2009.

The WWTP discharge was not compliant with the ELV's set in the wastewater discharge licence.

A deterioration in water quality has been identified, however it is not known if it or is not caused by the WWTP.

Other causes of deterioration in water quality in the area are unknown.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable negative impact on the Water Framework Directive status.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable impact on the designated shellfish water quality.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable impact on the bathing water quality.

2.1.3 EFFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY -

Parameter	WWDL ELV (Schedule A)	ELV with Condition 2 Interpretation included Note 1	Interim % reduction from influent concentration	Number of sample results	Number of exceedances	Number of exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
Faecal coliforms cfu/100ml	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	981500	

Parameter	WWDL ELV (Schedule A)	ELV with Condition 2 Interpretation included Note 1	Interim % reduction from influent concentration	Number of sample results	Number of exceedances	Number of exceedances with Condition 2 Interpretation included	Annual Mean	Overall Compliance (Pass/Fail)
Enterococci (Intestinal) cfu/100ml	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	362750	
Suspended Solids mg/l	N/A	N/A	50%	5	1	N/A	89	Fail
COD-Cr mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	222	
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	37	
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	572	
ortho- Phosphate (as P) - unspecified mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	2.96	
pH pH units	N/A	N/A	N/A	6	N/A	N/A	7.27	
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceo mg/l	N/A	N/A	20%	5	3	N/A	115	Fail
E. Coli MPN/100ml	N/A	N/A	N/A	2	N/A	N/A	991800	

Notes:

1 – This represents the Emission Limit Values after the Interpretation provided for under Condition 2 of the licence is applied

2 – For pH the WWDA specifies a range of pH 6 - 9

Cause of Exceedance(s):

The agglomeration is not served by a wastewater treatment plant.

Significance of Results:

The WWTP is non-compliant with the ELV's set in the Wastewater Discharge Licence.

2.1.4 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY FOR THE UNTREATED DISCHARGE TPEFF0600D0345SW001

A summary of monitoring from ambient monitoring points associated with the wastewater discharge is provided in the sections below. For discharges to rivers upstream (U/S) and downstream (D/S) location data is provided. For other ambient points in lakes, coastal or transitional waters, monitoring data from the most appropriate monitoring station is selected.

The table below provides details of ambient monitoring locations and details of any designations as sensitive areas.

Ambient Monitoring Point from WWDL (or as agreed with EPA)	Irish Grid Reference	River Station Code	Bathing Water	Drinking Water	FWPM	Shellfish	WFD Ecological Status
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The results for ambient results and / or additional monitoring data sets are included in the **Appendix 7.1 - Ambient monitoring summary**

Significance of Results:

The coastal/transitional ambient monitoring results do not meet the required EQS. The EQS relates to the Oxygenation and Nutrient Conditions set out in the Surface Water Regulations 2009.

The WWTP discharge was not compliant with the ELV's set in the wastewater discharge licence.

A deterioration in water quality has been identified, however it is not known if it or is not caused by the WWTP.

Other causes of deterioration in water quality in the area are unknown.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable negative impact on the Water Framework Directive status.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable impact on the designated shellfish water quality.

The discharge from the wastewater treatment plant does not have an observable impact on the bathing water quality.

3 COMPLAINTS AND INCIDENTS

3.1 COMPLAINTS SUMMARY

A summary of complaints of an environmental nature related to the discharge(s) to water from the WWTP and network is included below.

Number of Complaints	Nature of Complaint	Number Open Complaints	Number Closed Complaints
There were no relevant environmental complaints in 2024.			

3.2 REPORTED INCIDENTS SUMMARY

Environmental incidents that arise in an agglomeration are reported on an on-going basis in accordance with our waste water discharge licences. Where an incident occurs and it is reportable under the licence, it is reported to the Environmental Protection Agency through their Environmental Data Exchange Network, or in some instances by telephone. Some incidents which arise in the agglomeration are recorded by Uisce Éireann but may not be reportable under our licence for example where the incident does not have an impact on environmental performance.

A summary of reported incidents is included below.

3.2.1 SUMMARY OF INCIDENTS

Incident Type	Cause	Recurring (Y/N)	Closed (Y/N)
Breach of ELV	WWTP upgrade required to meet ELV	Yes	No

3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2024	1
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2024	1
Explanation of any discrepancies between the two numbers above	N/A

4 INFRASTRUCTURAL ASSESSMENTS AND PROGRAMME OF IMPROVEMENTS

4.1 STORM WATER OVERFLOW IDENTIFICATION AND INSPECTION REPORT

A summary of the operation of the storm water overflows and their significance where known is included below:

4.1.1 SWO IDENTIFICATION

WWDL Name / Code for Storm Water Overflow (chamber) where applicable	Irish Grid Ref. (outfall)	Included in Schedule of the WWDL	Significance of the overflow(High / Medium / Low)	Assessed against DoEHLG Criteria	No. of times activated in 2024 (No. of events)	Total volume discharged in 2024 (m3)	Monitoring Status
There are no Storm Water Overflows in this Agglomeration.							

The contents presented in this table include the most up to date information available at the time of writing. Any TBC SWO(s) were identified as part of the on-going National SWO programme and will be updated in subsequent AER(s) once the information is confirmed.

SWO Summary	
How much wastewater discharge by metered SWOs during the year (m3)?	N/A
Is each SWO identified as not meeting DoEHLG Guidance included in the Programme of Improvements?	
The SWO Assessment included the requirements of relevant of WWDL schedules?	N/A
Have the EPA been advised of any additional SWOs / changes to Schedule C3 and A4 under Condition 1.7?	N/A

4.2 REPORT ON PROGRESS MADE AND PROPOSALS BEING DEVELOPED TO MEET THE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS.

4.2.1 SPECIFIED IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME SUMMARY

A wastewater discharge licence may require a number of reports on specific subject areas to be prepared for the agglomeration in question. These reports are submitted to the EPA as part of the Annual Environmental Report. This section provides a list of the various reports required for this agglomeration and a brief summary of their recommendations.

Specified Improvement Programmes (under Schedule A and C of WWDL)	Description	Licence Schedule	Licence Completion Date	Date Expired? (N/NA/Y)	Status of Works	Timeframe for Completing the Work	Comments
D0345-SIP:01	Install UV or appropriate disinfection on the discharge	C	31/12/2015	Yes	Work ongoing on-site	2025	
D0345-SIP:02	Primary Discharge Point SW001 to be discontinued	C	31/12/2015	Yes	Work ongoing on-site	2025	
D0345-SIP:03	Provide a wastewater treatment plant providing secondary treatment to ensure compliance with ELVs as specified in the RL	C	31/12/2015	Yes	Work ongoing on-site	2025	
D0345-SIP:04	Secondary Discharge Point SW002 to be discontinued	C	31/12/2015	Yes	Work ongoing on-site	2025	Contract due to be completed in 2025.

A summary of the status of any other improvements identified by under Condition 5 assessments- is included below.

4.2.2 IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME SUMMARY

Improvement Identifier	Improvement Description / or any Operational Improvements	Improvement Source	Expected Completion Date	Comments
No additional improvements planned at this time.				

4.2.3 SEWER INTEGRITY RISK ASSESSMENT

N/A

5 LICENCE SPECIFIC REPORTS

A wastewater discharge licence may require a number of reports on specific subject areas to be prepared for the agglomeration in question. These reports are submitted to the EPA as part of the Annual Environmental Report. This section provides a list of the various reports required for this agglomeration and a brief summary of their recommendations.

Licence Specific Report	Required by licence	Included in this AER
D0345-01-Priority Substances Assessment	Yes	No
D0345-01-Shellfish Impact Assessment	Yes	No

6 CERTIFICATION AND SIGN OFF

6.1 SUMMARY OF AER CONTENTS

Parameter	Answer
Does the AER include an Executive Summary?	Yes
Does the AER include an assessment of the performance of the Waste Water Works (i.e. have the results of assessments been interpreted against WWDL requirements and or Environmental Quality Standards)?	Yes
Is there a need to advise the EPA for Consideration of a Technical Amendment/Review of the Licence?	N/A
List reason e.g. additional SWO identified	N/A
Is there a need to request/advise the EPA of any modification to the existing WWDL with respect to condition 4 changes to monitoring location, frequency etc	N/A
List reason e.g. changes to monitoring requirements	N/A
Have these processes commenced?	N/A
Are all outstanding reports and assessments from previous AERs included as an appendix to this AER	N/A

I certify that the information given in this Annual Environmental Report is truthful, accurate and complete:

Signed: Date: 25/03/2025

This AER has been produced by Uisce Éireann's Environmental Information System (EIMS) and has been electronically signed off in that system for and on behalf of ,

Eleanor Roche

Head of Environmental Regulation.

7 APPENDIX

Appendix
Appendix 7.1 - Ambient monitoring summary

Rathmullan WWTP

Ambient Monitoring Points from WWDL (or as agreed by EPA)	Irish Grid Reference	EPA Feature Coding Tool code	Receiving Waters Designation (Y/N)				WFD Status
			Bathing Water	Drinking Water	FWPM	Shellfish	
Downstream Monitoring Station	231780E 429809N	CW0600707LS2001	Yes	No	No	Yes	High

Parameter Name	Downstream Monitoring Point Location	Downstream Monitoring Point Annual Mean
cBOD mg/l	231780E 429809N	2
Ortho-Phospahet (as P) mg/l	231780E 429809N	0.02
Ammonia (as N) mg/l	231780E 429809N	NT

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