

APPENDIX 1

FONSE REPORT



1.1 Finding of No Significant Effects Report

In accordance with the EC (2001) guidance document, *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*, A Finding of No Significant Effects Report has been completed for the proposed Aviation Fuel Pipeline in relation to Four Natura 2000 sites; Irelands Eye cSAC, Irelands Eye SPA, Howth Head cSAC and Howth Head Coast SPA. The standard matrix for this report provided in Annex 2 of the guidance document was followed. Line items in italics are taken directly from the guidance document.

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<p><i>Name and location of the Natura 2000 sites</i></p>	<p>Ireland’s Eye SPA (004117) – located 7km from the proposed development.</p> <p>Ireland’s Eye cSAC (004117) – located 7.3km from the proposed development.</p> <p>Howth Head cSAC (000202) – located 8.35km from the proposed development.</p> <p>Howth Head SPA (004113) – located 8.35km from the proposed development.</p> <p>Rockabill to Dalkey Island cSAC (003000) – located 7.3km from the proposed development.</p>
<p><i>Description of the project or plan</i></p>	<p>The proposed aviation fuel pipeline will transport aviation fuel from a pumping station at Dublin Port to a receiving station at Dublin Airport. The pumping and receiving stations are existing structures which will be modified to accommodate the proposed pipeline. The proposed pipeline will be a 200 mm (8”) nominal bore diameter steel pipe and 14.4 km in length. It will transport an estimated 2,700 million litres per annum.</p> <p>This type of pipeline development is not a new concept and is in operation in UK and EU cities including Heathrow, Gatwick, Birmingham, Manchester, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, Brussels, Zurich and Luxembourg. Some of these pipelines have been in operation since 1950. The major oil companies currently operating in Ireland use these UK and European pipelines. Pipelines are used in these instances as a transport mode, to ensure that the fuel supply chain is both safe and flexible.</p> <p>The proposed pipeline will be located predominantly within the road carriageway along its route. A short section of pipeline will be located along the Athletic Union League- Football Association of Ireland (AUL-FAI) Sports Complex at Clonshaugh. There will be seven crossing points of watercourses including the Tolka, Santry, Mayne, Wad and Nanniken Rivers and the Cuckoo and Kilbarrack Streams. Only two of these are open channel watercourses at the proposed crossing points (i.e. the Tolka and Santry Rivers) while the remainder are culverted at the point of crossing.</p> <p>Temporary construction compounds will be located at Dublin Docks and on the Malahide Road Industrial Park (off Greencastle Road) for the duration of the construction works which will take approximately 10 months to complete. Existing, unused facilities are to be utilised in each case.</p> <p>The application is for a 10 year permission within a planning corridor, to include road, footway and verges. Where the route passes through green areas and private amenity areas the planning corridor will be 8 m in width. This is to allow micro-siting of the pipeline during</p>

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	construction.
<i>Is the Project or Plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (provide details)?</i>	No
<i>Are there other projects or plans that together with the project of plan being assessed could affect the site (provide details)?</i>	<p>No</p> <p>The following projects were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metro North (on hold post 2016 when budgetary constraints will be reviewed) • Proposed Eastern By-Pass • proposed road scheme / bridge over the River Tolka just before the Railway Bridge along East Wall Road • The proposed pipeline avoids the East Link Road proposals as outlined by DCC for Dublin Bay in the September 2007 Report <i>An Integrated Economic, Cultural and Social Vision for Sustainable Development</i> • R132 Upgrade project due for completion in 2015 • Proposed Cloghran Sewerage Scheme • Rapid Bus Transit Projects • Greater Dublin Drainage Project - new wastewater treatment works at preferred site north of R139 • North Fringe Water Supply Scheme, Contract 5 - North City Arterial Watermain: The Clontarf Flood Defence project comprises a series of flood bunds and walls along Clontarf Promenade between Alfie Byrne Road and the Bull Wall to protect nearby roads and properties from coastal flooding. The total length is circa 3km. Due to the synergies and common location of the North City Arterial Watermain and the Clontarf Flood Defences it was decided to combine the two projects. Planning approval was received in July 2008, however due to local objections, this project has not yet commenced.

The Assessment of Significant Effects

<i>Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the Natura 2000 site</i>	<p>The proposed project is not likely to affect the Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p>Ireland's Eye SPA (004117) – located 7km from the proposed development. Ireland's Eye SPA will not be adversely impacted by any water quality changes due to distance from the proposed development and the dilution factor involved in the unlikely event of a leak. There will not be any impacts on the key relationships that define the structure or function of the site.</p> <p>Ireland's Eye cSAC (004117) – located 7.3km from the proposed development. Ireland's Eye cSAC will not be adversely impacted by any water quality changes due to distance from the proposed development and the dilution factor involved in the unlikely event of a leak. There will not be any impacts on the key relationships that define the structure or function of the site.</p> <p>Howth Head cSAC (000202) – located 8.35km from the proposed development. Howth Head cSAC will not be adversely impacted by any water quality changes due to distance from the proposed development and the dilution factor involved in the unlikely event of a leak. There will</p>
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	<p>not be any impacts on the key relationships that define the structure or function of the site. The reduction of air pollution following the development of the pipeline may reduce pressures on plants of scientific interest such as lichens at the site.</p> <p>Howth Head SPA (004113) – located 8.35km from the proposed development. There will not be any impacts on the key relationships that define the structure or function of the site. It is unlikely that Howth Head Coast SPA (designated for Kittiwake) will be impacted by disturbance and displacement as it is 8 km away from the proposed development. No indirect impacts on habitats utilised by this species (cliffs) are predicted.</p> <p>Rockabill to Dalkey Island cSAC (003000) – located 7.3km from the proposed development. This site will not be adversely impacted by any water quality changes due to distance from the proposed development and the dilution factor involved in the unlikely event of a leak. There will not be any impacts on the key relationships that define the structure or function of the site.</p>
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<i>Explain why these effects are not considered significant</i>	There were no effects identified on either Irelands Eye cSAC or Irelands Eye SPA, Howth Head cSAC or the Howth Head Coast SPA or Rockabill to Dalkey Island cSAC.
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Name of Agency or Body Consulted	Summary of Response
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<p>National Parks and Wildlife Service</p>	<p>The following table summarises consultation undertaken with the National Parks and Wildlife Service in regard to the proposed development. A comprehensive response was received from the Development Applications Unit. The main points raised were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An ecological survey should be carried out of the proposed compound sites and route of the pipeline to survey the habitats and species present. • Inland Fisheries Ireland should be consulted with regard to fish. • Existing records from the NPWS and Biodiversity Data Centre should be checked and reference made to various Biodiversity Plans. • EIS should address alien invasive species. • It may be necessary to obtain hydrological and/or geological data to assess impact on water table levels or groundwater flows. • EIS should assess cumulative impacts with other plans or projects. • If impacts on protected species and habitats are identified, then licences may be required. • Pre-construction ecology survey of site is recommended if development takes place long after original baseline surveys were carried out. <p>Appropriate Assessment of the development should be carried out following the relevant guidance documents.</p>
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Data Collected to Carry out the Assessment

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<i>Who carried out the assessment</i>	<i>Sources of Data</i>	<i>Level of assessment completed</i>	<i>Where can the full results of the assessment be accessed and viewed</i>
<p>Fehily Timoney & Company for North Meath Wind Farm Ltd.</p>	<p>A combination of desktop studies and comprehensive field surveys were carried out for the ecological assessment of the existing environment of the proposed Aviation Fuel Pipeline site and for the overall Environmental Impact Assessment of the proposed development.</p>	<p>Appropriate Assessment Screening was carried out for 15 Natura 2000 sites within a 10 km radius of the proposed pipeline route (including seven SPAs and eight cSACs¹). Impacts on Irelands Eye cSAC , Irelands Eye SPA, Howth Head cSAC, the Howth Head Coast SPA and Rockabill to Dalkey Island cSAC have been screened out.</p> <p>There is the possibility that there could be effects on the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka SPA, the North Bull Island SPA, the Malahide Bay SPA, the Malahide Bay cSAC, the North Dublin Bay SAC, South Dublin Bay cSAC and Baldoyle Bay cSAC, Baldoyle Bay SPA and Rogerstown Estuary SPA (via its assumed connectivity in regard to Brent Geese), and Rogerstown Estuary cSAC (via its assumed connectivity in regard to Brent Geese) as a result of the proposed fuel pipeline. As a result, there is an obligation on the competent authority to carry out an appropriate assessment (i.e., Stage Two of the AA process) and, in this context, a Natura Impact Statement has been completed by the developer in respect of the above sites.</p>	<p>The website of Dublin City Council or Fingal County Council.</p>

¹ At present all SACs in Ireland are 'candidate' SACs, and referred to as cSACs. The relevant Statutory Instruments for the SACs in Ireland have not yet been put in place, though these sites must still be afforded protection in accordance with the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).