Annual Environmental Report

2024

Galway City

D0050-01

CONTENTS

7.1 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 2024 AER

This Annual Environmental Report has been prepared for D0050-01, Galway City, in Galway in accordance with the requirements of the wastewater discharge licence for the agglomeration. 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

The agglomeration is served by a wastewater treatment plant(s)

- Galway WWTP with a Plant Capacity PE of 170000, the treatment type is 2 - Secondary treatment .

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
TPEFF1100D0050SW001	Galway WWTP	Treated	Compliant	N/A

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 GALWAY WWTP - TREATED DISCHARGE

2.1.1 INFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - GALWAY WWTP

A summary of influent monitoring for the treatment plant is presented below. This monitoring is primarily undertaken in order to determine the overall efficiency of the plant in removing pollutants from the raw wastewater.

Parameters	Number of Samples	Annual Max	Annual Mean
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	32	30	19
Suspended Solids mg/l	32	873	352
Total Nitrogen mg/l	32	38	23
COD-Cr mg/l	32	1168	483
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	26	421	168
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	32	13	4.02
pH pH units	30	7.70	7.39
Hydraulic Capacity	N/A	81180	51737

If other inputs in the form of sludge / leachate are added to the WWTP then these are included in Section 2.1.5 if applicable.

Significance of Results:

The annual mean hydraulic loading is less than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. The annual maximum hydraulic loading is less than the peak Treatment Plant Capacity. Further details on the plant capacity and efficiency can be found under the sectional 'Operational Performance Summary'. The design of the wastewater treatment plant allows for peak values and therefore the peak loads have not impacted on compliance with Emission Limit Values.

2.1.2 EFFLUENT MONITORING SUMMARY - TPEFF1100D0050SW001

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)
COD-Cr mg/l	125	250	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	24	Pass
Total Nitrogen mg/l	35	42	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	16	Pass
Suspended Solids mg/l	35	87.5	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	8.06	Pass
Ammonia-Total (as N) mg/l	25	30	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	1.37	Pass
BOD, 5 days with Inhibition (Carbonaceous BOD) mg/l	25	50	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	3.32	Pass
Total Oxidised Nitrogen (as N) mg/l	20	24	N/A	26	2	N/A	13	Pass
pH pH units	9	9	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	7.46	Pass

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	3	N/A	N/A	372	
Conductivity @20°C µS/cm	N/A	N/A	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	1688	
E. Coli MPN/100ml	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	N/A	N/A	3588	
Total Phosphorus (as P) mg/l	N/A	N/A	N/A	26	N/A	N/A	0.536	
Faecal coliforms MPN/100ml	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	N/A	N/A	3588	

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):

Not applicable

Significance of Results:

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

2.1.3 AMBIENT MONITORING SUMMARY FOR THE TREATMENT PLANT DISCHARGE TPEFF1100D0050SW001

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	130256, 224636	TW12005248GY1001	No	No	No	No	Moderate
Downstream	135305, 223508	CW12005240GY2003	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	124624, 222727	CW12005240GY2007	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	130681, 223127	TW12005248GY1003	No	No	No	No	Moderate
Downstream	118892, 221674	CW03005222GY3002	No	No	No	No	High
Downstream	122942, 220865	CW03005222GY3001	No	No	No	No	High
Downstream	130759, 223872	TW12005248GY1002	No	No	No	No	Moderate

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	121015, 215849	CW03005222GY3005	No	No	No	No	High
Downstream	129218, 221179	CW12005240GY2005	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	127844, 222691	CW12005240GY2001	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	132347, 222892	CW12005240GY2002	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	124989, 217429	CW03005222GY3006	No	No	No	No	High
Downstream	126132, 221137	CW12005240GY2006	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	130968, 221287	CW12005240GY2004	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	134988, 222037	CW12005240GY2009	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	135184, 223306	CW12005240GY2008	No	No	No	No	Good
Downstream	129955, 222760	TW12005248GY1004	No	No	No	No	Moderate

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 compliant with the ELV's set in the wastewater discharge licence.

Based on ambient monitoring results a deterioration in Escherichia coli cfu/100ml, Intestinal Enterococci cfu/100ml (Grattan Beach), concentrations downstream of the effluent discharge is noted.

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: Risk of deterioration in water quality due to expected heavy rainfall, Water quality deteriorated due to suspected contamination of urban surface waters discharging into bathing water.

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 coastal/transitional water quality.

2.1.4 OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE SUMMARY - GALWAY WWTP

2.1.4.1 Treatment Efficiency Report - Galway WWTP

Treatment efficiency is based on the removal of key pollutants from the influent wastewater by the treatment plant. In essence the calculation is based on the balance of load coming into the plant versus the load leaving the plant. The efficiency is presented as a percentage removal rate.

A summary presentation of the efficiency of the treatment process including information for all the parameters specified in the licence is included below:

Parameter	Influent mass loading (kg/year)	Effluent mass emission (kg/year)	Efficiency (% reduction of influent load)
cBOD	3172707	63977	98
TP	75836	10321	86
TN	442163	306528	31
SS	6650047	155065	98

Parameter	Influent mass loading (kg/year)	Effluent mass emission (kg/year)	Efficiency (% reduction of influent load)
COD	9118631	461751	95

Note: The above data is based on sample results for the number of dates reported

2.1.4.2 Treatment Capacity Report Summary - Galway WWTP

Treatment capacity is an assessment of the hydraulic (flow) and organic (the amount of pollutants) load a treatment plant is designed to treat versus the current loading of that plant.

Galway WWTP	
Peak Hydraulic Capacity (m^3/day) - As Constructed	135000
DWF to the Treatment Plant (m^3/day)	45000
Current Hydraulic Loading - annual max (m^3/day)	81180
Average Hydraulic loading to the Treatment Plant (m^3/day)	51736.54
Organic Capacity (PE) - As Constructed	170000
Organic Capacity (PE) - Collected Load (peak week)[Note1]	142911
Organic Capacity (PE) - Remaining	27089
Will the capacity be exceeded in the next three years? (Yes/No)	No

Nominal design capacities can be based on conservative design principles. In some cases assessment of existing plants has shown organic capacities significantly higher than the nominal design capacity. Accordingly plants that appear to be overloaded when comparing a collected peak load with the nominal design capacity can be fully compliant due to the safety factors in the original design.

2.1.5 SLUDGE / OTHER INPUTS - GALWAY WWTP

'Other inputs' to the waste water treatment plant are summarised in table below

Input type	Quantity	Unit	P.E.	% of load to WWTP	Included in Influent Monitoring (Y/N)?	Is there a leachate/sludge acceptance procedure for the WWTP?	Is there a dedicated leachate/sludge acceptance facility for the WWTP? (Y/N)
There is no Sludge and Other Input data for the Treatment Plant included in the AER.							

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
1	Water Pollution	0	1

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)
Uncontrolled release	Network Infrastructure	No	Yes
Other	Shock load to the WWTP	No	No
Uncontrolled release	Network Infrastructure	Yes	No

Incident Type	Cause	Recurring (Y/N)	Closed (Y/N)
Abatement equipment off-line	Plant or equipment breakdown at WWTP	No	Yes

3.2.2 SUMMARY OF OVERALL INCIDENTS

Question	Answer
Number of Incidents in 2024	4
Number of Incidents reported to the EPA via EDEN in 2024	4
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
SW005	133295, 224745	Yes	High Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
SW006	137761, 224817	Yes	Low Significance	Not Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
SW007	131556, 227566	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
SW008	129696, 224768	Yes	High Significance	Not Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW017	126016, 223779	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW018	128635, 224062	Yes	High Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored

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
SW019	129812, 224776	Yes	Low Significance	Not Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
SW020	129645, 225526	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW021	131301, 225796	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
SW022	131199, 226070	Yes	Low Significance	Not Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
SW023	132375, 224416	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
SWOO2	129581, 223202	Yes	High Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
SWOO3	126009, 223156	Yes	High Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Monitored
TBC	-, -	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	-, -	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	-, -	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored

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
TBC	-, -	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	-, -	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	-, -	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	-, -	Yes	Low Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	TBC	Yes	Medium Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	TBC	Yes	Medium Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	TBC	Yes	Medium Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored
TBC	TBC	Yes	Medium Significance	Meeting Criteria	Unknown	Unknown	Not Monitored

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)?	Unknown

SWO Summary	
Is each SWO identified as not meeting DoEHLG Guidance included in the Programme of Improvements?	Yes
The SWO Assessment included the requirements of relevant of WWDL schedules?	Yes
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
D0050-SIP:01	SW009 (SD09) to be discontinued	A	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025. Project to be handed over in 2025.
D0050-SIP:02	SW011 (SD11) to be discontinued	A	21/12/2015	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be

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
							complete in 2025. Project to be handed over in 2025.
D0050-SIP:03	SW012 (SD12) to be discontinued	A	01/05/2011	Yes	Works Completed		
D0050-SIP:04	SW013 (SD13) to be discontinued	A	21/12/2015	Yes	Works Completed		
D0050-SIP:05	SW014 (SD14) to be discontinued	A	01/05/2011	Yes	Works Completed		
D0050-SIP:06	SW015 (SD15) to be discontinued	A	01/05/2011	Yes	Works Completed		
D0050-SIP:07	WWTP upgrade and ancillary works	C	01/09/2012	Yes	Works Completed		
D0050-SIP:08	Upgrade to SWO - SD10	C	01/05/2014	Yes	Works Completed		
D0050-SIP:09	Upgrading of SWO02 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/09/2012	Yes	Works Completed		
D0050-SIP:10	Upgrading of SWO03 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025.

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
	criteria outlined in DoEHLG						Project to be handed over in 2025.
D0050-SIP:11	Upgrading of SWO05 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway. Programmed to be complete in 2025
D0050-SIP:12	Upgrading of SWO06 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway. Programmed to be complete in 2025
D0050-SIP:13	Upgrading of SWO07 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway. Programmed to be complete in 2025
D0050-SIP:14	Upgrading of SWO08 Storm Water Overflows to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025.

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
D0050-SIP:15	Upgrading of SWO17 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025.
D0050-SIP:16	Upgrading of SWO18 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025.
D0050-SIP:17	Upgrading of SWO19 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG.	C	01/05/2014	No	Not Started		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025.
D0050-SIP:18	Upgrading of SWO20 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG.	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025.
D0050-SIP:19	Upgrading of SWO21 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025.

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
D0050-SIP:20	Upgrading of SWO22 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		DAP Stage 4 underway and programmed to be complete in 2025.
D0050-SIP:21	Upgrading of SWO23 Storm Water Overflow to comply with the criteria outlined in DoEHLG	C	01/05/2014	Yes	At Planning Stage		
D0050-SIP:22	Replacement of stand-by pump at Parkavera Pumping Station SD04 emergency overflow	C	14/07/2010	Yes	Works Completed		

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

The utilisation of multiple capital maintenance programmes and the outputs of the workshops with the Local Authority Operations Staff held under the programme can be used to satisfy the requirements of Condition 5 regarding network integrity. Improvement works identified by way of these programmes and workshops will be included in the Improvements Summary Tables 4.2.1 and 4.2.2.

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
D0050-01-Priority Substances 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	No

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

Signed: Date: 28/05/2025

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