



Oifig an Aire
Office of the Minister

9th April 2019.

Ms Josepha Madigan, TD
Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht,
23 Kildare Street,
Dublin 2
D02 TD30

Re: Sligo County Council Registry Reference PL18/210 – Proposed Upgrading of Lough Talt Water Treatment Plant (IROPI)

Dear Minister,

I write in respect of the above matter, namely a statement of case for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), a copy of the planning application and a Natura Impact Statement, referred to me by Sligo County Council pursuant to section 177AA of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), in respect of a planning application lodged with the Council by Irish Water for proposed upgrading of Lough Talt water treatment plant.

I wrote to you on 14 March 2019, in accordance with section 177AB (1)(a) of the 2000 Act, enclosing a copy of the relevant documentation as submitted to me by Sligo County Council, to request your views as to whether the compensatory measures proposed are sufficient to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 network is protected.

I would like to acknowledge receipt of the letter of 02 April 2019 (attached for reference) issued on your behalf which advises that you are of the view that the compensatory measures proposed are sufficient to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 network is protected.





Therefore, I would now like to request that you furnish an opinion, pursuant to section 177AB(2) of the 2000 Act, as to whether the compensatory measures, as proposed in Sligo County Council's statement of case for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI), as previously issued to you on 14 March 2019, are sufficient to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 network is protected.

Yours sincerely,

Eoghan Murphy, TD

Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government

Appendices:

- 1. Letter from Sligo County Council to Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, 08 March 2019*
- 2. Letter from Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government to Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 14 March 2019*
- 3. Letter from Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht to Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government, 02 April 2019*