

**APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT  
AND  
CONCLUSION STATEMENT**

**(A) Project Details**

<b>Planning File Ref</b>	Part VIII
<b>Applicant name</b>	Laois County Council
<b>Development Location</b>	Canal Road, Portarlinton
<b>Site size</b>	6 acres (2.4 ha.)
<b>Application accompanied by an EIS (Yes/No)</b>	No
<b>Distance from Natura 2000 site in km</b>	The site is located approximately 0.6km south west of the River Barrow And River Nore Special Area of Conservation

**Description of the project/proposed development**

The proposed development will include the following:

- The removal and disposal, to an authorised facility, of the existing concrete floor on the site,
- The construction of a service road including a 2 x 3.5m carriageways and 2 x 2m footpaths, as illustrated on the Site Layout,
- The provision of underground services including, but not limited to;
  - Public Water,
  - Public Wastewater,
  - Public Lighting Ducting/Cabling,
  - Gas,
  - Telecoms,
  - Broadband
- The creation of a new vehicular/pedestrian access point at the Canal Road.

**(B) Identification of Natura 2000 sites which may be impacted by the proposed development**

	<b>Yes/No</b>
	<b>If answer is yes, identify list name of Natura 2000 site</b>

			likely to be impacted.
<b>1</b>	<b>Impacts on sites designated for freshwater habitats or species.</b>  <u>Sites to consider:</u> River Barrow And River Nore SAC	<i>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include freshwater habitats and/or species, or in the catchment (upstream or downstream) of same?</i>	<b>No</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Impacts on sites designated for wetland habitats - bogs, fens, marshes and heath.</b>  <u>Sites to consider:</u> River Barrow And River Nore SAC	<i>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include wetland habitats (bog, marsh, fen or heath)</i>	<b>No</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Impacts on designated terrestrial habitats.</b>  <u>Sites to consider:</u> River Barrow And River Nore SAC  River Nore SPA	<i>Is the development within a Special Area of Conservation whose qualifying interests include woodlands, dunes or grasslands, or within 100m of same?</i>	<b>No</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Impacts on birds in SPAs</b>  <u>Sites to consider:</u> River Nore SPA	<i>Is the development within a Special Protection Area?</i>	<b>No</b>

**Conclusion:**

If the answer to all of the above is **No**, significant impacts can be ruled out for habitats and bird species.

No further assessment in relation to habitats or birds is required.

If the answer is **Yes** refer to the relevant sections of **C**.

**(G) SCREENING CONCLUSION STATEMENT**

*Selected relevant category for project assessed by ticking box.*

<b>1</b>	AA is not required because the project is directly connected with/necessary to the conservation management of the site	
<b>2</b>	No potential significant affects/AA is not required	<b>X</b>
<b>3</b>	Significant effects are certain, likely or uncertain. Seek a Natura Impact Statement Reject proposal. (Reject if potentially damaging/inappropriate)	
<b>Justify why it falls into relevant category above (based on information in above tables)</b>		
<p>Based on the distance and lack of pathways the proposed works will not impact on any designated sites.</p> <p>Based on the above it is considered that there is no need to proceed to a stage 2 NIS.</p> <p>The Planning Authority concludes that the works proposed, individually or in combination with other plans and projects, will not have a significant effect on any European Site.</p>		
<b>Name:</b>	Olive O'Donnell	
<b>Position:</b>	Executive Planner	
<b>Date:</b>	30/01/2024	

