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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COHESION FUND

1995

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IRELAND
ENVIRONMENT

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project Number: 93/07/61/010/022/026

1. Name of project River Barrow Water Quality Improvement Scheme

2. Organization responsible for the application

2.1 Name: Department of the Environment

2.2 Address: O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2, Ireland

3. Organization responsible for project implementation

3.1 Name: Carlow Co. Council Athy Urban Distr. Council New Ross Urban Distr. Council

3.2 Address: County Offices Rathstewart The Tholsel
Carlow Athy, Co. Kildare New Ross, Co. Wexford
Ireland Ireland Ireland

4. Location of project

4.1 Member State: Ireland

4.2 County: Co. Carlow, Kildare and Wexford, Ireland

5. Description of project

This Decision covers three sewerage schemes in Athy, Muinebheag and New Ross which are all intended to improve significantly water quality of the River Barrow.

a) Athy

The Decision covers the first two stages of this project which includes the replacement of the existing pipeline network, the provision of a new secondary treatment plant and 2 new pumping stations. This Decision covers the Preliminary Report, the CBA and detailed design. The second - construction - stage comprises inlet works, 2 aeration basins, 3 circular clarifiers, 2 stormwater tanks, a sludge pumping station and flow dividing chambers, a sludge press building and a holding tank and the administration and control building. The also covered mechanical contract includes post inlet works and aeration basins.

b) Muinebheag

This project consists of the provision of a secondary treatment works and the construction of 3 pumping stations, foul and stormwater sewers, and rising mains in the town of Muinebheag. The treatment works are designed to serve a population equivalent of 4,000 at Stage 1. Approximately 4 km of sewers ranging in size from 225mm - 600 mm diameter will be installed including short sections of 150 mm diameter rising main and 3 submersible pumping stations.

c) New Ross

The Decision covers the initial construction phase on the New Ross Main Drainage scheme involving interceptor and collection network development. The whole includes the construction of pumping stations, a pipe network and a treatment plant. The treatment works will include secondary biological treatment, settlement tanks and sludge treatment facilities which will cater for sludge from the New Ross and West Wexford area.

6. Objectives

The principle objectives of the whole project are:

- compliance with objectives of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)
- elimination of existing discharges of untreated sewage
- improvement of water quality in River Barrow estuary
- elimination of periodic flooding of streets
- reduction of pollution in waters used for bathing and recreational facilities
- protection of public health
- protection of aquatic life and fish stocks
- improvements in tourism, industrial, commercial development in the area

7. Timetable

	START DATE	COMPLETION DATE
Design studies	<i>February 1978</i>	<i>1995</i>
Land acquisition	<i>1984</i>	<i>1995</i>
Main works	<i>March 1993</i>	<i>1997</i>
Operational phase	<i>post 1997</i>	

8. Cost-Benefit Analysis

The cost-benefit analysis shows an internal rate of return on the project of 8.9 % (Athy), 6.7 % (New Ross) and 6.3 % (Muinebheag). The evaluation assumes significant benefits in the areas of health and safety, tourism and amenity improvement, housing, industrial and commercial development with related benefits to the port of New Ross, benefits to fisheries, plus direct benefits from the project implementation.

9. Environmental Impact Assessment

In accordance with the provisions of the European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations, 1989, which transposes Directive 85/337/EEC into Irish law, an environmental impact assessment is not required at this stage for the three parts of the Scheme. However, the Irish authorities prepared an EIS for the treatment works element of the New Ross project.

Moreover, the operation of the facilities shall be subject to full compliance with Article 12 of Directive 91/271/EEC in particular with regard to the regulation and/or specific authorization of discharges. The operation of the treatment plants shall also be within the framework of quality objectives under Council Directive 76/464/EEC.

10. Total costs (in MECU)

Total costs	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant
11.754	0.286	11.468	9.748

* Expenditure incurred after 1 January 1993 is eligible

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project summary

No: 94/07/61/007

1. **Project title:** Lough Derg Water Quality Improvement

2. **Authority making the application**

2.1. Name: Department of the Environment

2.2. Address: O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2

3. **Authorities responsible for implementation**

3.1. Name:	Offaly County Council	Tipperary County Council
3.2. Address:	Courthouse Tullamore Co Offaly	Courthouse Nenagh Co Tipperary

Name:	Clare County Council	Westmeath County Council
Address:	New Road Ennis Co Clare	County Buildings Mullingar Co Westmeath

Name	Galway County Council	Roscommon County Council
Address:	Prospect Hill Galway	Courthouse Roscommon

4. **Location**

4.1. Member State: Ireland

4.2. Region: Counties Galway, Clare, Roscommon, Tipperary, Offaly and Westmeath

5. **Description**

Lough Derg is the largest lake on the River Shannon system which drains a large part of the west and midlands of Ireland. The lake is 40km by 13km at its widest point. The principle economic importance of Lough Derg derives from its actual and potential significance for the tourism industry since it is part of the Shannon waterway system, the largest single non-coastal tourism amenity in Ireland. This potential is being threatened by a deterioration in water quality, especially high concentration of phosphorous and algae consistent with a highly eutrophic lake.

Lough Derg is classified as 'sensitive waters' and under the terms of the Urban Waste Water Directive waste water from agglomerations of more than 10,000 population equivalent must have treatment more stringent than secondary treatment by end-1998.

The project's aims are to implement a monitoring system for the lake, to design and construct or upgrade treatment works at the six largest urban areas in or around the lake and to plan future work at other smaller sites.

The items covered are:

- Assessment programme for the future management of water quality including the development of a hydrodynamic model of the lake system plus extensive data collection.
- Provision or upgrading of collection, secondary treatment and phosphorous removal facilities at the towns of Nenagh, Birr, Ballinasloe, Tullamore, Roscrea and Athlone.
- Planning and design of future facilities at Portumna, Clara and Moate.

6. **Objectives**

- Presentation and enhancement of Lough Derg as a water resource by arresting and reversing the eutrophication of the lake;
- To protect and improve water quality in the tributaries of the catchment;
- To establish a water quality monitoring system for the Lough;
- To comply with the Urban Waste Water Directive.
- To contribute to implementing the phosphorous pollution reduction programme (in particular the attainment of the phosphorous quality objective) applicable to Lough Derg which is required under Directive 76/464/EEC.

7. **Work schedule**

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Design studies	01/01/1991	31/12/1997
Land acquisition	01/01/1995	31/12/1996
Main works	01/01/1995	31/12/1998
Operational phase	01/01/1999	

8. **Economic and social cost-benefit analysis**

The Lough Derg group of projects was evaluated by consultants appointed by the European Commission. The study sought to quantify the direct benefits of the projects in the sense of the contribution of each project to meeting a target reduction of Biochemical Oxygen Demand and phosphorous in the lake and also the cost-effectiveness of each project.

The indirect benefits of the projects to maintaining or generating tourism in the area were assessed and so also was the extent to which the lack of water treatment facilities was impeding residential, industrial and commercial development. However, in view of the absence of adequate data to quantify indirect benefits, the choice of priority projects was largely based on the cost-effectiveness and environmental impact analysis. The projects chosen are the priority projects identified in this evaluation.

9. **Environmental Impact Assessment**

Environmental Impact Assessments are not required for any of the individual projects within this group of projects.

10. Cost and assistance (MECU)

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
13.098	-	13.098	11.133	85

Expenditure after the date of submission of the project, 13 October 1994, is eligible.

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project summary
No:94/07/61/009

1. **Project title:** Tralee Sewerage Scheme
2. **Authority making the application**
 - 2.1. Name: Department of the Environment
 - 2.2. Address: O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2
3. **Authority responsible for implementation**
 - 3.1. Name: Kerry County Council
 - 3.2. Address: County Buildings, Tralee, Kerry
4. **Location**
 - 4.1. Member State: Ireland
 - 4.2. Region: County Kerry
5. **Description**

Tralee Sewerage Scheme consists of the provision of a sewerage scheme for Tralee town and the surrounding area, including the upgrading of under-capacity sewers, the provision of separation chambers for foul/storm water separation, the installation of new storm and foul sewers, new storm and foul pumping stations, and the construction of a new waste water treatment plant and an outfall pipe to Tralee Bay. The treatment plant will have a biological loading of 25,400 population equivalent.

The provision of ultraviolet disinfection at the treatment plant is necessary to comply with the Bathing Water Directive.

The installation of foul and storm sewers and the upgrading of defective sewers was assisted under the ENVIREG programme. The present decision covers the remainder of the project and will include the following works:

- six pumping stations
- main pump house with storm and foul pumping units
- construction of sewage treatments works comprising the following:
 - inlet works with screening, storm overflow and flow measurement
 - sedimentation in two 22m diameter tanks
 - high rate biofilters
 - activated sludge reactors
 - secondary sedimentation in three 19.4m diameter tanks

- disinfection plant using UV radiation
- outfall pipe with flow measurement
- storm holding tank
- sludge treatment area (including sludge thickening, digestion, storage and dewatering) and combining heat and power unit
- control building, dewatering building, compression house and sludge control building

6. **Objectives**

- to comply with the Urban Waste Water Directive
- to comply with the Bathing Water, Shellfish Water and Sewage Sludge Directive
- to provide for tourism, industry, commercial and residential development

7. **Work schedule**

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Main works	01/01/95	31/12/97
Operational phase	01/01/98	..

8. **Economic and social cost-benefit analysis**

The economic assessment of the project notes that untreated waste water discharges are leading to pollution of the estuary of the River Lee from a physical/chemical and bacteriological point of view. It notes for example that mandatory levels of pollution for shell fish water are being exceeded. Provision of a secondary treatment plan will lead to more rapid growth of this industry and of tourism, which is the major source of income in the area, and also of industrial and commercial development.

Secondary treatment must be provided in Tralee by the year 2000 under the terms of the Urban Water Directive.

A cost effectiveness analysis indicates that the design size of the plant is not excessive assuming moderate population and industrial growth. The unit costs of the project are lower than for six projects of similar size using similar treatment technology.

9. **Environmental Impact Analysis**

An EIA for the project was completed and certified by the Minister for the Environment in August 1992.

10. Cost and assistance (MECU)

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
10.868	0	10.868	9.238	85

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project summary
No: 94/07/61/016

1. **Project title:** Sligo Main Drainage (Stage I)
2. **Authority making the application**
 - 2.1. Name: Department of the Environment
 - 2.2. Address: O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2
3. **Authority responsible for implementation**
 - 3.1. Name: Sligo Corporation
 - 3.2. Address: Town Hall, Sligo
4. **Location**
 - 4.1. Member State: Ireland
 - 4.2. Region: Co. Sligo
5. **Description**

The project concerns the planning and design phase of a waste water collection and treatment system for Sligo town which is required by the year 2000 under the terms of the Urban Waste Water Directive.

At present, all effluent is collected and discharged untreated at one point in the estuarial waters of Sligo Bay. The intention is to build a new sewer to a new effluent treatment works 800m from the existing sewage collection point. A treatment plant will provide secondary treatment before discharge. It is also intended that Sligo town will act as a hub to provide sludge treatment and disposal facilities for the town and the surrounding area.

6. **Objectives**

- compliance with the Urban Waste Water Directive;
- protection of the environment from the effects of untreated sewage;
- provision of sludge treatment facilities for Sligo and the surrounding area;
- protection of the amenity of Sligo Bay;
- protection of public health by prevention of sewage overflow onto public streets.

7. Work schedule

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Design studies	1972	1997
Operational phase	1998	

8. Economic and social cost-benefit analysis

An assessment of the socio-economic benefits of the project will be carried out as part of Stage I of the project. Future Cohesion Fund assistance will depend on this assessment and on the outcome of the EIA (see below).

9. Environmental Impact Assessment

An EIA is required for the project and will be completed as part of Stage I.

This decision is without prejudice to the outcome of procedures under Part IV of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 1990.

10. Cost and assistance (MECU)

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
2.035	--	2.035	1.730	85

* Expenditure after the date of submission of the project, 28 November 1994, is eligible.

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project N°: 94/07/61/019

1. **Project title:** Lough Mask Regional Water Supply
2. **Authority making the application**
 - 2.1. **Name:** Department of the Environment
 - 2.2. **Address:** O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2, Ireland
3. **Authority responsible for implementation**
 - 3.1. **Name:** Mayo County Council
 - 3.2. **Address:** Aras an Chontae, Castlebar, Co. Mayo
4. **Location**
 - 4.1. **Member State:** Ireland
 - 4.2. **Region:** Co. Mayo
5. **Description**

The application concerns the completion of construction of the Lough Mask Regional Water Supply Scheme, (Ballinrobe/Claremorris) CF reference: 93/07/61/038, together with the completion of planning for the remaining elements of the scheme.

Commission Decision No. C(93) 3257/13 of 15th November 1993 approved the planning, design and start-up construction costs for the first stage of the construction of a reservoir and central building, laying of a trunk main to Claremorris and connections to the existing distribution system. Approval is now sought for the completion of the construction of these works and for the completion of planning of further extensions to the distribution networks.

East of Claremorris, the two principal population centres and areas of economic activity, Knock and Ballyhaunis, are served by small public water supply systems which lack capacity and are subject to quality variation. A further 15 private group water schemes serve the rural population. Many of these are served by poor quality private sources. These schemes lack basic treatment facilities and are unable to supply water in compliance with the standards for drinking water.

Claremorris town is the last major population centre within the Lough Mask catchment discharging low quality effluent to surface waters within that catchment. In order to protect and enhance the water quality in Lough Mask, the source for the Lough Mask Regional Water Supply, it is also proposed to upgrade the Claremorris sewerage scheme and this application includes a proposal for the completion of planning of this scheme.

6. **Objectives**

- provision of a treated water supply throughout the region in compliance with the Drinking Water Directive 80/778/EEC;
- provision of facilities to treat effluent from Claramorris town;
- to protect the aquatic environment of the River Robe which flows into Lough Mask.

7. **Work schedule**

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Design studies	5/1/98	31/12/97
Land acquisition	1/1/95	31/12/97
Main works	1/9/94	31/12/97
Operational phase	1/1/97	

8. **Economic and social cost-benefit analysis**

The primary justification for the project is the substitution of substandard water sources with a new source meeting current standards plus the reduction of pollution into Lough Mask. However, a cost-benefit analysis carried out as part of Phase I of the project (which was assisted by the Cohesion financial instrument) indicated that the project would generate economic benefits primarily from increased tourism and also from more rapid industrial commercial and agricultural activity.

9. **Environmental Impact Analysis**

An EIA is not required for this project.

10. **Cost and assistance (in M ecu)**

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
17.686	-	17.686	15.033	85

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project N°: 94/07/61/022

1. **Project title:** Wexford Main Drainage (Stage II)

2. **Authority making the application**

2.1. Name: Department of the Environment

2.2. Address: O'Connell Eridge House
Dublin 2, Ireland

3. **Authority responsible for implementation**

3.1. Name: Wexford Corporation

3.2. Address: Municipal Buildings, Wexford

4. **Location**

4.1. Member State: Ireland

4.2. Region: Co. Wexford

5. **Description**

At present sewage from Wexford town is discharged untreated from over twenty outfalls into the Slaney Estuary and Wexford Harbour. This results in gross pollution of the harbour area and is an obstacle to growth in the industrial, commercial and tourist potential of the region.

The scheme provides for the construction of

- a comprehensive modern sewerage collection network for the town and the surrounding area and associated pumping stations;
- an interceptor sewer along the quay and main lift pumping station. This will involve the demolition of the existing timber pier/boardwalk and the reclamation of a large varying in width from 15 to 25 meters;
- a treatment works including preliminary units, primary settlement tanks, secondary biological treatment units, secondary settlement tanks and sludge treatment facilities together with an outfall pipe to a discharge point in the main channel of the harbour.

6. **Objectives**

compliance with the Urban Waste Water Directive 91/271/EEC;

- compliance with the Bathing Water Directive 76/166/EEC, the Shellfish Water Directive 79/923/EEC and the Salmonoid River Directive 78/659/EEC;
- improvement of water quality in the Slaney Estuary including the elimination of visual pollution and odours;
- to allow for further development of tourism, fishing and the shellfish industry;
- lifting of constraints on commercial, industrial and residential expansion.

7. **Work schedule**

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Design studies	1/7/93	31/12/96
Land acquisition	1/7/93	1/4/97
Main works	1/1/95	31/12/98
Operational phase	1/1/99	

8. **Economic and social cost-benefit analysis**

A cost-benefit analysis was carried out as part of Stage I of the project which received assistance from the Cohesion financial instrument.

The CBA identified more rapid tourism development as the main economic benefit generated by the project with additional benefits to local fisheries and to industrial and commercial development.

9. **Environmental Impact Analysis**

An EIA is required for the project has been completed and was certified by the Minister for the Environment in November 1992.

10. Cost and assistance (in Mecu)

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
36.750	0.500	36.250	30.813	85

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project N°: 94/07/61/024

1. **Project title:** Monaghan Water Supply
2. **Authority making the application**
 - 2.1. Name: Department of the Environment
 - 2.2. Address: O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2, Ireland
3. **Authority responsible for implementation**
 - 3.1. Name: Monaghan County Council
 - 3.2. Address: County Offices, the Glen, Monaghan
4. **Location**
 - 4.1. Member State: Ireland
 - 4.2. Region: Co. Monaghan
5. **Description**

The existing water supply for Monaghan town comes from three sources:

- a borehole at Rooskey producing approximately 1000 m³ per day with excessive levels of ammonia, sulphate, iron and hardness;
- surface water from Lamb's Lake, approx. 1000 m³/d, A2 category water receiving only chlorination, with excessive trihalomethane and chloroform levels;
- Togan Treatment Plant, approx. 200 m³/d treated water, settlement and rapid gravity filtration. This treatment plant is adequate and would be retained.

There is a problem with supply capacity leading to rationing during the summer. Drinking water returns show exceedences for Aluminium, Coliforms, Colour, Copper, Fluoride, Iron, Kjeldahl Nitrogen, Odour, Sulphates and Turbidity.

The overall project consists of the establishment of good water capacity. This will be achieved by the drilling and testing of wells. In the initial phase, having established the capacity to yield the anticipated ultimate demand of 9,100 m³/per day, works will be constructed to provide 4,550 m³/day to Monaghan Town.

The project will consist of the following elements:

- planning/design of the total project;

- establishment of test and production wells;
- completion of EIS and cost effectiveness analysis;
- construction of treatment plant, trunk mains, water tower, clearwater reservoirs and provision of telemetry system and pumping equipment.

6. **Objectives**

- to comply with the Drinking Water Directive;
- to increase capacity to cater for existing summer demand and to end rationing in summer;
- to provide for future development in the area.

7. **Work schedule**

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Design studies	1985	1995
Land acquisition	1993	1994
Main works	1996	1998
Operational phase	1998	

8. **Economic and social cost-benefit analysis**

An economic assessment of the benefits of water quality improvement and an increase in the capacity available indicated a benefit-cost ratio of 1.6:1.

9. **Environmental Impact Analysis**

In accordance with the provisions of the European Communities (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 1989, which transpose EC Directive 85/337/EEC into Irish law, an Environmental Impact Assessment is required for this project. This will be undertaken as part of the planning and design stage of the project.

10. **Cost and assistance (in M ecu)**

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
7.219	-	7.219	6.136	85

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project summary
No: 95/07/61/001

1. **Project title:** River Boyne Catchment Protection Scheme (Stage I)

2. **Authority making the application**

2.1. **Name:** Department of the Environment

2.2. **Address:** O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2

3. **Authority responsible for implementation**

3.1. **Name:** Meath County Council

3.2. **Address:** County Hall, Navan, Co Meath

4. **Location**

4.1. **Member State:** Ireland

4.2. **Region:** Counties Cavan and Meath

5. **Description**

This decision concerns the first phase of a group of projects intended to improve the water quality of the River Boyne, a catchment which is classified as 'sensitive waters'.

The first stage of the project concerns the planning and design of treatment plants in Navan and Trim, the largest towns on the upper Boyne and also the establishment of a management and monitoring system to ensure the maintenance of water quality in the catchment.

6. **Objectives**

- to comply with the Urban Waste Water Directive (action is required by 1998);
- to maintain the quality of water in the catchment.

7. Work schedule

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Design studies	1986	31/12/1997
Land acquisition	-	-
Main works	-	-
Operational phase	01/01/1998	

8. Economic and social cost-benefit analysis

An assessment of the benefits of the group of projects will be carried out as part of Stage I.

9. Environmental Impact Assessment

An Environmental Impact Assessment is required for the treatment works in Navan and will be carried out as part of Stage I of the project. An EIA is not required for the project in Trim.

10. Cost and assistance (MECU)

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
2.877	-	2.877	2.446	85

* Expenditure after the date of submission of the project, 15 January 1995, is eligible.

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project summary
No: 95/07/61/005

1. **Project title:** Geographical Information System

2. **Authority making the application**

2.1. Name: Department of the Environment

2.2. Address: O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2

3. **Authority responsible for implementation**

3.1. Name: Local Government Computer Services Board

3.2. Address: Phoenix House
Conyngham Road, Dublin 8

4. **Location**

4.1. Member State: Ireland

4.2. Region: whole country

5. **Description**

This technical assistance project concerns the creation of a database to be presented graphically to collect, store and illustrate data about the environmental status of water ways in Ireland. The following layers of data will be graphically represented:

General information: including county boundaries and major towns including population figures, population equivalents, industrial loadings and industrial licences.

Waterways: hydrometric area boundaries, river sampling points and stretches of river with their water quality.

Infrastructure: waste water treatment works and landfill sites with types of treatment, capacity and existing loads.

Other: sewage sludge management regions and existing and proposed regional water supply schemes, and ground water catchments. Sewage sludge treatment and disposal methods and volumes will also be included.

It is intended that the detailed layers of information will be digitised and that the capacity to allow public as well as central and local government access to the material will be included.

6. Objectives

- to ensure a standardised approach to the development of detailed monitoring and management regimes for projects funded by the Cohesion Fund and other instruments;
- to improve the quality of decision-making at local and national level;
- to provide improved reporting of expenditure and performance of environmental improvement projects;
- to provide public access to information about the Irish water services programme and to thereby generate interest in it.

7. Work schedule

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Main works	1/7/95	31/12/97
Operational phase	1/1/98	

8. Economic and social cost-benefit analysis

In view of its nature and small size, a conventional economic analysis is not appropriate for this project. The benefits largely derive from the future provision of a coordinated national register of environmental assets and infrastructure. Public access to a system showing the nature of water resources and their management should also be regarded as a benefit although this is unquantifiable.

9. Environmental Impact Assessment

An EIA is not required for this project.

This decision is without prejudice to the outcome of procedures under Part IV of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 1990.

10. Cost and assistance (MECU)

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
0.178	--	0.178	0.152	85

* Expenditure after the date of submission of the project, 2 May 1995 is eligible.

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

Project summary
No: 95/07/61/008

1. **Project title:** Lough Swilly Water Quality Improvement (Stage I)

2. **Authority making the application**

2.1. Name: Department of the Environment

2.2. Address: O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2

3. **Authority responsible for implementation**

3.1. Name: Donegal County Council

3.2. Address: County House, Lifford, Co. Donegal

4. **Location**

4.1. Member State: Ireland

4.2. Region: Co. Donegal

5. **Description**

This decision covers the planning and design stage of the extension and upgrading of the existing secondary treatment plant for the town of Letterkenny. It will also include the establishment of a water quality monitoring system for the Lough Swilly catchment, in which Letterkenny is the largest town.

6. **Objectives**

- to preserve the amenity and resource value of Lough Swilly by reducing discharges of pollution
- to comply with the terms of the Urban Waste Water Directive (secondary treatment for Letterkenny is required by 2000)
- to establish a water quality management system for the Lough Swilly catchment

7. Work schedule

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Design studies	2/6/95	31/12/97
Operational phase	2/1/98	

8. Economic and social cost-benefit analysis

An assessment of the economic benefits of the project will be undertaken as part of Stage I.

9. Environmental Impact Analysis

A EIA is required for this project and will be carried out as part of Stage I.

This decision is without prejudice to the outcome of procedures under Part IV of the Local Government (Planning and Development) Regulations 1990.

10. Cost and assistance (MECU)

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
1.035	-	1.035	0.880	85

* Expenditure after the date of submission of the project, 2 June 1995, is eligible.

**Publication of the main points of the Decision to grant assistance under
Regulation 1164/94 establishing the Cohesion Fund**

**Project summary
No: 95/07/61/010**

1. **Project title:** Dublin Region Waste Water Treatment (Stage II)
2. **Authority making the application**
 - 2.1. **Name:** Department of the Environment
 - 2.2. **Address:** O'Connell Bridge House
Dublin 2, Ireland
3. **Authority responsible for implementation**
 - 3.1. **Name:** Dublin Corporation Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council
 - 3.2. **Address:** Civil Offices, Dublin 8 Town Hall, Dun Laoghaire, Co-Dublin
4. **Location**
 - 4.1. **Member State:** Ireland
 - 4.2. **Region:** Dublin city and county
5. **Description**

The Dublin Region Waste Water Treatment Scheme is a major waste water collection, treatment and disposal (including sludge treatment) system for the Greater Dublin Area. The preliminary results of studies at present underway indicate that treatment of waste water for the area should be undertaken at one expanded plant at Ringsend in the port area of Dublin. The present decision assumes this option.

The overall project will involve the provision of secondary treatment facilities for the Dublin Region at Ringsend with the capacity to cover a population equivalent of 1.6 million.

The scheme will also include the construction of interceptor sewers and pumping stations to transport all flows from the Dun Laoghaire area south east of the city to the Ringsend plant. Major sewers will also be constructed in the north of the city to eliminate the discharge of untreated sewage at Howth (current loading 330,000 p.e.) and divert these flows for treatment at Ringsend.

Stage I of the project involved the planning of secondary treatment for Dublin, the planning of the diversion of flows from Dun Laoghaire and the planning of sludge treatment and disposal. Assistance from the Cohesion Fund for different parts of this stage was granted by Commission decisions C(93) 2798/2, C(93) 3257/2, C(93) 2798/4 and C(93) 3257/10.

Stage II covered by this decision involves the following works:

- cleaning, surveying and relining existing culvert in the Dun Laoghaire area
- seawall and coastal protection using rock-armour
- construction of 1.8km sewer in tunnel plus subsidiary sewers and culverts

- demolition of existing screening house at Bullock Harbour and provision of new pumping station including the design, supply and installation of all mechanical and electrical works
- planning and design of further phases of construction in the Dun Laoghaire area
- planning, design and construction of a primary sludge management scheme for the Dublin area. This work will involve thickening, screening and dewatering to a cake of 12,000 tonnes of dry solids produced at Ringsend each year. This will then undergo alkaline stabilisation on site to produce treated sludge; the exact stabilisation process will be selected after trials on the site.

It is proposed to formulate a strategy around the disposal of dried, digested sludge to landfill with a parallel development of agricultural outlets.

6. Objectives

- to comply with the Urban Waste Water Directive (compliance required by 2000 and by 1998 in the case of sludge dumping at sea)
- to eliminate discharges of untreated sewage
- to reduce pollution of bathing and recreation areas
- to protect aquatic life and fish stocks
- to allow for tourism, industrial and commercial development in Dublin Bay

7. Work schedule

Category of work	Commencement	Completion
Design studies	1995	1997
Land acquisition	1995	1997
Main works	1995	1998
Operational phase	1998	

8. Economic and social cost-benefit analysis

An assessment of the economic benefits was carried out as part of stage I of the project. It assumed significant benefits, over a 25 year economic life-time of the project, in the areas of health and safety, tourism and amenity improvement, housing, industrial and commercial development and fisheries. The CBA estimated the internal rate of return of 8-9%.

9. Environmental Impact Analysis

An Environmental Impact Assessment is not required for this stage of the project

10. Cost and assistance (MECU)

Total cost	Expenditure before eligible date*	Total eligible costs	Cohesion Fund grant	Grant rate (%)
31 784	0	31.784	27.016	85

* Expenditure after the date of submission, 2 June 1995, is eligible.