

Minute of the 23rd Meeting of the National Technical Implementation Group for WFD



26 September 2024



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| | <p>Location: Dundrum, County Dublin</p> <p>Date: 26 September 2024 Time: 10:30-15:15</p> <p>Chairperson: Jenny Deakin, EPA</p> |
| | <p>Attendance: Jenny Deakin, Paddy Morris, Matthew Craig, Nigel Hayes, Wayne Trodd, Darragh Cunningham, Katie Smart, Darren McDonald, Anthony Coleman, Cormac McConigley, Vera Donovan, Orla Duffy, Fiona Kelly, Emmett Smyth, Sarah Lynch, Donal Cronin, Eimear O’Keefe, Fiona Doolan, Barry Deane, Niamh Rogan, Monica Lee, Vanessa Cooling, Dymphna Kehoe.</p> <p>Welcome new members: Sarah Lynch - An Bord Pleanála, Deirdre French EPA.</p> <p>Apologies: <i>Lisa Egan, Ruth Hennessy, Roni Hawe, Margaret Keegan, Jimmy McVeigh, Andrew Kirwan, Tadhg O Mahony.</i></p> |
| | <p>Agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Welcome, introductions and minutes of previous meeting 2. Standing updates: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. DHLGH ii. LA Waters Programme iii. ASSAP iv. EPA 3. WFD Chemical Status – policy overview 4. WFD Chemistry – monitoring, status, and emerging issues 5. Persistent Organic Pollutants – overview and the new POP plan 6. The national Hazardous Waste management plan 7. The Water Action Plan 2024 8. The Water Action Plan – actions for NTIG and review of NTIG ToR for the third cycle |

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| 1. | <p>Minutes of previous meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes were agreed for the NTIG meeting held in April 2024. |
| 2. | <p>Updates</p> <p>DHLGH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A written summary of update is in Appendix 1. <p>LA Waters Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A written summary of this update is in Appendix 1. <p>ASSAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASSAP’s work is ongoing in PAAS with a total of 53 ASSAP advisors (20 Teagasc, 33 Coop) now in place. Additional staff are now working on the Slaney catchment project. The Teagasc Better Farming for Water campaign has been launched and will be ongoing for seven years. ASSAP advisors are working with farmers to prepare applications to the Farming for Water EIP. Additional training is being provided to the wider cohort of agricultural advisors. <p>EPA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The EPA Catchments Unit published 46 updated catchment assessments, seven sectoral assessments, an update on the pressures impacting on water quality, and the Catchment Assessment Master Spreadsheet in May. The annual Water Quality Indicators Report for 2023 was published in June. The EPA Water Conference was held in Galway on 12-13 June. All talks are available on YouTube. Under Article 10 of the Nitrates Directive, the EPA is required to prepare a Nitrates Article 10 report every 4 years. The Article 10 Report for Ireland for the Period 2020-2023 has been published and submitted. The nitrates monitoring network has been amended to be more representative of the country. <p>Abstractions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Abstraction Regulations came into operation on 29 August 2024. The EPA is now developing a new licence application form, guidance, ICT system & licence template to license abstractions. The EPA Licensing Team has communicated directly with existing abstraction registrants to make them aware of the new abstraction licensing regime; further communications will go out over the next 6 months in advance of the deadline for licence applications. |
| 3. | <p>WFD Chemical Status – policy overview by DHLGH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This presentation is in Appendix 1. |
| 4. | <p>WFD Chemistry – monitoring, status, and emerging issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This presentation is in Appendix 1. |
| 5. | <p>Persistent Organic Pollutants – overview and the new POP plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This presentation was cancelled and will be rescheduled to a future NTIG meeting.</i> |
| 6. | <p>The national hazardous waste management plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation is in Appendix 1. |

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| 7. | <p>The Water Action Plan 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This presentation is in Appendix 1. |
| 8. | <p>The Water Action Plan – actions for NTIG and review of NTIG ToR for the third cycle</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation is in Appendix 1. • <i>RBMP - Action 5.2: The National Technical Implementation Group will identify the issues preventing water quality objectives from being achieved and will identify any further evidence, legislative, policy or implementation gaps that need to be addressed.</i> • ACTION: The EPA will lead a working group with LAWPRO and DHLGH to redraft the NTIG ToRs, for the third cycle, with input from wider NTIG group. |