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Sent: 28 November 2013 17:00

To: Jamie Burke

Subject: Consultation on Water Regulation

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the above. In the context of the consideration and approval of the Irish Water capital expenditure programme, sufficient flexibility needs to be provided to ensure that IW can respond to events/or other plans that may not be foreseen, in particular:-

1. In relation to economic development project/opportunities, an example of which would be FDI, it may be necessary to provide services to facilitate a project, expenditure on which might not have been included in the capital programme. Failure to do so, or any hesitancy in committing to same, may result in the loss of projects to other jurisdictions. It is not sufficient to argue that the project can be directed to a more suitable site within Ireland from an IW perspective. Our experience is that projects proposers have done considerable background research before approaching a local authority re a particular site, a site which suits them for their particular reasons. That research will have included looking at sites in other jurisdictions, one of which will become the default next choice in the event of a problem on the preferred site.

2. In relation to new strategic roads construction, the IW capital expenditure will need to provide for the funding of services to be included in the construction of the road. The concern is that the strategic requirement for the road (ie. traffic alleviation) may be ahead of when IW or the Regulator consider that there is commercial basis for the provision of services. Provision of IW services cannot be dealt with by the provision of ducts as is done with energy and comms providers? Has construction the road to be wait until IW is ready? Or alternatively, will IW be retrospectively installing the services into a new road, with all the consequent cost and damage issues? This is not a satisfactory possibility.

I am happy to clarify or discuss any of the above.

Regards

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