

## Colin Murphy

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**From:** Vincent O'Malley  
**Sent:** Tuesday 21 October 2025 15:39  
**To:** Colin Murphy  
**Cc:** Christian Nea  
**Subject:** Re: LBTMC 4 - NRM 7 - AA Screening

Hi Colin,  
Having reviewed the content of your email and the accompanying attachment, I accept the reasoned determination as set out below.

Sincerely  
Vincent

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*Dr Vincent O'Malley*

*Head of Environmental Policy & Compliance,*

*Transport Infrastructure Ireland*

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**From:** Colin Murphy [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 21, 2025 15:22  
**To:** Vincent O'Malley [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Christian Nea [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: LBTMC 4 - NRM 7 - AA Screening

Hi Vincent,

We have received an AA screening from Roughan & O'Donovan for proposed non-routine maintenance at River Blackwater Bridge (MHN52-002.00) located on the Kells Bypass, directly north of Kells, Co. Meath. I would be grateful if you could review the information below and provide a reasoned determination.

The proposed works will involve the removal of the road surfacing and footpaths for approximately 7.5m on the mainline approaches of the expansion joint, and for approximately 2.5m on approaches from bridge deck. Each of the expansion joints is 13m long. Both existing Type 6 joints will be removed over their entire width. The gaps where the joints once were will be filled with road surfacing material. Full depth reconstruction of the road will be undertaken for 0.6m from each of the expansion joints the on the mainline approach.

The River Blackwater bridge is located over the River Blackwater which is designated for the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC and SPA at this location. The Girley (Drewstown) Bog SAC is approximately 7.9km southwest of the proposed works, and is hydrologically connected to the River Boyne, which is approximately 20km downstream of the proposed works.

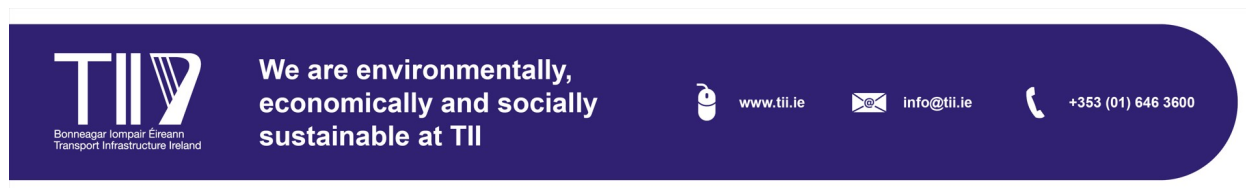
As noted in the document attached, Roughan & O'Donovan have determined that *'given the nature and scale of the proposed works, the location of the works relative to European sites, and the sensitivities of the Qualifying Interests of those sites, that the proposed development, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is not likely to significant effect the integrity of the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC and SPA, or any other European site.'*

Based on the description of the proposed works and associated methodologies provided by Roughan & O'Donovan along with the small nature and scale, the works being confined to entirely within the bridge deck and the lack of potential interactions with the River Blackwater, I agree with the conclusion that the proposed works will not lead to likely significant effects on the River Boyne and River Blackwater SAC and SPA or any other Natura 2000 site.

Having performed screening for Appropriate Assessment in respect of the proposed emergency repair works detailed in the Appropriate Assessment Screening received in an email from Moreno Stellini dated the 9th of October 2025, and entitled 'LBTC 4 - NRM 7 - AA Screening', I accept the recommendation of Roughan & O'Donovan that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European site in view of the best scientific knowledge and the site's conservation objectives. I determine that an Appropriate Assessment of these proposed works is not required, as it can be excluded on the basis of objective scientific information following the screening done that the proposed works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European site.

Regards,  
Colin Murphy  
Ecologist  
Transport Infrastructure Ireland

Address: [Parkgate Business Centre, Parkgate Place, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8, Ireland, D08 DK10](#)



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**From:** Christian Nea [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday 15 October 2025 10:07  
**To:** Colin Murphy [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: LBTMC 4 - NRM 7 - AA Screening

Hi Colin,  
Another one...

Kind regards,

Christian

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**From:** Moreno Stellini [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 09 October 2025 16:54  
**To:** Christian Nea [REDACTED]; Sarah-Jane Phelan [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Peter King [REDACTED]; Evin Murphy [REDACTED]; Aidan Farrell [REDACTED]  
Michael Costelloe [REDACTED]; Jane Stafford [REDACTED]; Patrick O'Shea [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] >; Conor McGroarty [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** LBTMC 4 - NRM 7 - AA Screening

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Hi Christian / Sarah-Jane,

Hope you're well.

Please find attached AA Screening for Non Routine Maintenance No.7 – Blackwater River Bridge.

Let me know if you have any comments.

Thank you

**Best regards**

Moreno Stellini

Roughan & O'Donovan | consulting engineers

[www.rod.ie](http://www.rod.ie)



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