

Vartry Water Supply Project – Update 14th December 2016

Wicklow County Council has granted planning permission to Irish Water for the upgrade of the existing water treatment plant at Vartry, subject to conditions. Information on the planning permission can be found on the Wicklow County Council website here:

<http://www.eplanning.ie/WicklowCC/AppFileRefDetails/161090/0>

Water has been abstracted and treated at Vartry since the 1860s and supplies over 200,000 customers across Wicklow and south Dublin. There has been no major upgrade or refurbishment at the site since it was first built and this work, along with other planned upgrades to the existing site, is now urgently required to secure the long-term future of the water supply and ensure the Vartry Scheme meets all drinking water standards.

As part of the planning permission received, Irish Water will release sustainable freshwater flows of five million litres per day to the River Vartry, ensuring the protection of the ecology of the river throughout the year. This will be the first time in the 150 years operation of the plant that a sustainable flow of freshwater to the river will be guaranteed. This will be especially important at times of drought. The amount of water abstracted will also remain the same as it has been since 1860.

In line with additional planned Irish Water works, this upgrade will benefit a supply area including Rathdrum, Aughrim, Avoca, Ballinaclash, Roundwood, Laragh, Annamoe, Redcross, Conary and Glenealy. The Vartry Scheme serves more than 200,000 people and is one of Irish Water's priority projects.

We would be very happy to meet with you and brief you on the project if you would like further information, or do not hesitate to get in touch with us directly if you have any additional questions.

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Further information is also available on the dedicated project website www.water.ie/vartry