



**Role:** Environmental Specialist  
**Area:** Major Projects  
**Location:** Dublin  
**Duration:** Specific Purpose **Salary:** Competitive  
**Ref:** MPR290

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Ervia is a commercial semi-state company which provides strategic national gas and water infrastructure and services in Ireland. Through our regulated business, Gas Networks Ireland, we build and operate one of the most modern and safe gas networks in the world. In 2014, we took responsibility for the operation and maintenance of Ireland's water and wastewater assets through our other regulated business Irish Water. Ervia directly employs over 1,600 people who deliver services to 1.6 million customers daily. Our infrastructure supports economic and social development, protects the environment and enhances the health and quality of life of the Irish people.

### **The Role:**

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The delivery of projects requires the relevant consents and permissions to be obtained under the Planning and Development Act and related national and European legislation. Reporting to the Environmental Manager, the Environmental Specialist will have responsibility for assisting with Environmental Impact Assessment and Appropriate Assessment process requirements for Major Projects. They will be responsible for liaising with Irish Water on environmental matters related to both ecology and water including ensuring that Major Projects and the external service providers are following relevant policy and legislation. A key part of this role will be building and maintaining relationships with Third Party service providers and driving quality outputs in accordance with established procedures. The responsibility for building and maintaining relationships with external stakeholders will be a large function of the role.

### **Duties and Responsibilities:**

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- Responsible to ensure that Programme and Project Managers are fully apprised of water catchment and ecological regulatory requirements and implications therein.
- Responsible for providing expert advice to Project Managers on matters related to statutory obligations such as the Water Framework Directive and Habitats Directive both pre and post planning.
- Responsible for ensuring that the Project Managers are aware of implications to projects from determinations stemming from ecological and water catchment case law.
- Responsible for horizon scanning for the identification of further legislative requirements with regards to water catchment and ecology at national and EU levels.
- Responsible for providing advice on water catchment and ecological risk for projects, and coordinate key support to deliver actions to reduce risk.
- Assist the Major Projects Environmental Manager with the coordination and technical review of the following processes Environmental Impact Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Water Framework Directive Assessment. Particular focused technical responsibility associated with the Appropriate Assessment and Water Framework Directive processes to ensure that they are in line with statutory obligations.
- Responsible for managing service providers on specific aspects related to the delivery of Appropriate Assessment Screenings, Natura Impact Statements and Water Framework Assessments and driving the resolution of key issues, ensuring robustness in decision making process.
- Assist the Major Projects Environmental Manager with coordination of service providers in relation to EIA and AA required surveys.
- Responsible for the review of technical reports associated with the EIA and AA process.
- Responsible for the technical review and provision of advice in relation to Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessments on Irish Water plans and programmes that have implications on Major Project activities.
- Responsible for ensuring that projects adhere to Irish Water and GNI policy and guidance.

- Responsible for leading major projects on technical stakeholder management with the Environmental Protection Agency, Inland Fisheries Ireland and the National Parks & Wildlife Service. This task involves close liaison with the Irish Water Ecological Specialist.
- Responsible for managing liaison with Irish Water in relation to AA Screening Reports that require Irish Water to make a determination as the competent authority.
- Develop and promote effective working relationships with other water, ecological and environmental functions within Irish Water.
- Actively develop and maintain skills and expertise across a number of areas that are relevant to the water catchment, ecology and environmental fields.
- Effectively present technical information, in an easy to understand format to statutory and non-statutory stakeholders, in conjunction with technical, environmental and planning experts.
- Review submissions from stakeholders and provide expert responses to these.
- Perform other such duties as Ervia may reasonably require.

### **Knowledge, Skills and Experience:**

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- Relevant third level qualification (Degree / Masters) in Engineering, Environmental Science, Water Catchment Science, Ecology or related discipline;
- Have at least 7 years satisfactory post-graduate experience in an environmental role.
- Extensive ecological and environmental knowledge of water and ecology statutory processes and regulatory bodies in Ireland e.g. Water Framework Directive, Habitats Directive and associated regulations.
- Experience and expertise in Strategic, Environmental Assessment, Environmental Impact Assessment, Appropriate Assessment and Water Framework Directive Assessment.
- Strong collaborative and negotiation skills, with experience of stakeholder management, and statutory and non-statutory consultation in particular with environmental bodies representing water and ecology.
- Project Management skills, particularly in respect of multifaceted projects requiring document control and decision tracking of actions.
- Strong knowledge of project supervision, interface management and programme planning with the ability to ensure costs control is adhered to.
- Experience of working on infrastructural projects and in particular large infrastructural projects.
- Have excellent analytical skills and be able to identify and analyse problems and potential improvements, and propose and implement solutions.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills along with the ability for fast turnaround reviews of technical reports.
- Ability to work in close consultation with key internal and external stakeholders.
- Ability to achieve delivery of competing demands within prescribed timelines and deadlines.
- Detail oriented with an ability to connect issues and think laterally.
- It would be an advantage to have the following:
  - Membership of a relevant Chartered Institute for Engineering, Water, Ecology or Environmental Science
  - Competency in ArcGIS or other GIS package.

**Applications, including current Curriculum Vitae, should be emailed to the following address stating the job title and reference number in the subject line of your email:**  
[recruit@ervia.ie](mailto:recruit@ervia.ie)

The closing date for receipt of applications for this vacancy is **4<sup>th</sup> August 2021**.  
 Please note that applications submitted after this closing date will not be accepted.

*We are committed to providing a diverse and inclusive place of work and have a robust strategy and framework called ibelong to enable this. We are an equal opportunity employer and through our recruitment process we welcome and encourage applications from interested and suitably qualified individuals regardless of gender, age, racial or ethnic origin, membership of the traveller community, religion or beliefs, family or civil status, sexual orientation/gender identity or disability.*

**Ervia is an equal opportunities employer.**