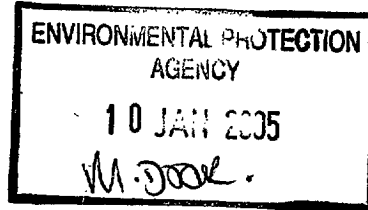


Sub (2) 213-1

19 Deerpark Close
Blessington
Co. Wicklow

Email: deerpark_residents@eircom.net

TO:
Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland
Johnstown Castle Estate
P.O. Box 3000
Co. Wexford



A Chara,

I am writing on behalf of the Committee of Deerpark Residents Association in Blessington, Co Wicklow.

We are very concerned about the application by Roadstone Dublin Ltd for a landfill license in Blessington. As you are no doubt aware, there are at least 110,000 tonnes of waste dumped illegally on Roadstone lands. This poses a major health and environmental hazard for the people of Blessington and in particular for the people of Deerpark estate as well as other estates close to these dumps. We in Deerpark have already had scares over contaminated drinking water and are now concerned about air quality. We have been told that Wicklow County Council cannot guarantee the safety of our water any more.

This waste material MUST be removed. There is no room for compromise here. The waste is situated in a sand and gravel quarry which lies above a very large aquifer. That is NOT the place for any kind of dump, and allowing Roadstone to move waste around within the site is the wrong thing to do.

It must surely be obvious that no matter how carefully even a cell-based landfill system is built, it could still leak. That leak could be disastrous, as it would penetrate and poison the aquifer underneath. How do we know for sure that there is no link from there to the reservoir a few hundred metres away, which supplies 55% of Dublin's water?

There are naturally concerns that if a legal dump was established over this aquifer, there could be an application in the future for more waste to be added. Roadstone have given assurances that this will not happen, however, Roadstone also claim not to have known about the 110,000 tonnes of waste brought into the site – so they either knew about the waste and are lying or did not know and have no control over what goes on at their Blessington site.

We, the people of Deerpark CANNOT live with this.

We ask you please to refuse the application for the legalisation of a dump in Blessington.

Mise, le meas,

Ruairí Ó hAilín

Three handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is "Ruairí Ó hAilín", the middle one is "Anna Hamilton", and the bottom one is "Bill Hoyle". The signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.