

Office of the Minister

Ref:4037 2 March 2004

> Mr Kieran O'Brien Regional Manager Environment Protection Agency Inniscarra Cork



Quality and Fairness A Health System for You

Dear Mr O'Brien

I have been contacted by a number of residents concerning the proposed incinerator at Ringaskiddy.

Notwithstanding the current position with regard to the incinerator, would it be possible for you to comment on the agency's position with regard to the suitability of the proposed incinerator for Cork Harbour.

I would be particularly interested on your view with regard to it's suitability as a site for a thermal incinerator given the thermal inversions experienced often experienced in Cork Harbour and the World Health Organisation's guidelines on the unsuitability of sites which experience thermal inversion for incinerators.

The residents are concerned that were an accident to occur at a time of thermal inversion, emissions would be retained in the Harbour and would not be dispersed and have serious mplications for the environment of Cork Harbour.

I would appreciate any views you may have on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Micheál Martin T.D.

Minister for Health and Children

tal Protection

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