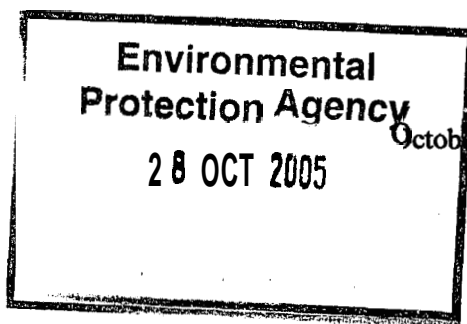


Kilshine Lodge,  
Wilkestown,  
Navan,  
County Meath



Sub No. 19  
219-1  
%

Reference: 219-1

We are writing to express our **concern in relation to a proposed con** posting site in Wilkestown, Navan, County **Meath** that **has** been given planning permission dependant on an EPA licence. We are aware of the need to deal with **waste** and applaud recycling **as long as** it is undertaken in accordance with regulations and in a location suitable to its operation. We express our concern for the following reasons:

- The **proposed** state of the art facility is an agricultural shed and is in no way comparative to a **state of the art facility**
- The near proximity of the facility to the village of Wilkestown, housing, school and shop, facilities. The operation of the facility will have a hugely negative impact on the village under a number of variables: physical (water, **air**, noise (from transportation), **visual** and social. The smell emanating from the facility during its time of operation ( and to this day) was unbearable. Similar facilities in Britain are located in the centre of agricultural land with minimal impact on the local villages
- Previous processing of waste breaching rulings indicate the management's attitude to the operation of such a facility - a worrying indication of things to come
- There is a worry that this facility is a **front** for a **far** larger organisation and if this is the case, that a precedent may be set in granting a license for such **an** operation - this could lead to a very large facility which does not have the supporting **infrastructure** and could impact and decimate community life and **associated** economic activities in the area.
- In February 2005, Meath County Council made a decision based on a site visit to a similar plant in Britain that the **method** used for composting **was** not suitable. However, they granted planning permission to **Organic Gold** in Meath for a composting facility in July 2005. **This** information was obtained under the FOI Act - however was only forthcoming in early September thus not within the specified **4** week period to allow this document accompany the appeal to the Planning Board. **This** information **was** presented to a meeting of the community of Wilkestown on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October. A county **granting** permission to a facility (of which they were a customer) **against** a prior decision made in relation to the process does not particularly create **an** air of confidence about the operation/management of **the** council - though their decision that it **was** not suitable must have been based on some criteria.

We feel that it would be remiss of ourselves not to comment on such a development particularly in light of the academic qualifications and work experience that we both have in this **field**. We **trust** the process and the involvement of the EPA and we hope that **this** development is evaluated in every aspect before a license is granted.

Kind regards,  
Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine G O'Brien". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Catherine G O'Brien B.Sc. M.Sc. Enviro. Sc. MBS  
Billy O'Keeffe PhD M.Sc. Civ. Eng