

From: kfinn [kfinn@esatclear.ie]
Sent: 20 June 2006 02:05
To: Sean O'Donoghue; John Doheny
Cc: Wexford Receptionist
Subject: FRE: DAIRYGOLD IPC 404 & 775 - mal-odour & health and safety hazard - deposit of sludge in open unprotected pits.
DAIRYGOLD IPC 404 & 775.

Dear John/Sean

Re my complaint of 16th June 2006 in re the effluent sludge deposit at Dairygold.

I find it hard to believe that the EPA could approve the practice of depositing Effluent Sludge from DG's Effluent Treatment Plant in an open, unguarded and unsupervised pit. I note that:

HEALTH HAZARD:

1. The effluent is live with bacteria, viruses and microbial organisms of all sorts which if it came into human contact would be a health hazard in itself.
2. The storage pit(s) are open to the air, and airborne bacteria, viruses and micro organisms pose a serious health risk down wind of the pit(s), chiefly Castle Avenue, King's Square & Kingston Close as well as Ballinwillin and Limerick Road.
3. Storage of such material in an open unprotected and uncovered pit, attracts flies, vermin, rodents etc. which by their nature pose a serious health risk at locations remote from the pit(s).
4. The material and associated contamination poses a particular risk of being broadcast and transmitted when being loaded, transported and /or deposited in the open pits and subsequently when being handled and/or reloaded for onward disposal, when this is done in an uncovered, unsealed and non isolated environment.
5. You are well aware that there have been ongoing complaints by members of the public, including myself, regarding mal-odours from this facility, particularly this year and last. In this context, I consider it quite unbelievable that the EPA would permit or continue to permit storage of such material at this facility in an uncovered, unguarded, un-housed and non isolated environment over a considerable period of time.
6. The farm on which the pits are located is leased to third parties, and therefore not in DG occupation or control. The gates to the premises are open and there are public rights of way to and through the premises and the premises is open to anyone including children to access at any time. The pits are open, unguarded and unsupervised. In this context the material itself and practise of storing this material in open, unguarded and unsupervised pits poses a particular health risk and danger to any third party, particularly children who may happen upon the material and come in contact with it or breath the fumes from it.
7. In short, the storage of such material, even temporarily, in such open, unguarded and unsupervised pits poses a serious health risk to persons such as myself and my family living in proximity to this facility. I therefore call on you to insist that the practise is terminated immediately.
8. I also call on EPA to ensure that any such material is:
 - a. Kept only in sealed containers while being handled on site and while being transported from the site.
 - b. Is no longer stored on site in any shape, form or fashion whatever.
 - c. Is transported and disposed of immediately it is extracted from the effluent, in an environmentally friendly manner at a secure location remote from this site.
9. I draw to your attention that the site on which pit in question is located is, I understand, leased to third parties and is no longer in the controle and/or supervision of Dairygold. Therefore, the material in question has in fact been disposed of off site rather than stored on site. This is a further breach of DG's licence.

SAFETY HAZARD:

10. For similar reasons, the material itself and practise of storing this material in open, unguarded and unsupervised pits poses a particular safety hazard to any third party, particularly children who may happen upon the pits and/or material and come in contact with it or breath the fumes from it.
11. I therefore request that the above be taken account of and incorporated in any new or revised licence for this facility.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and kindly confirm within 7 days that such

effluent sludge material will not be stored on site in the future.

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