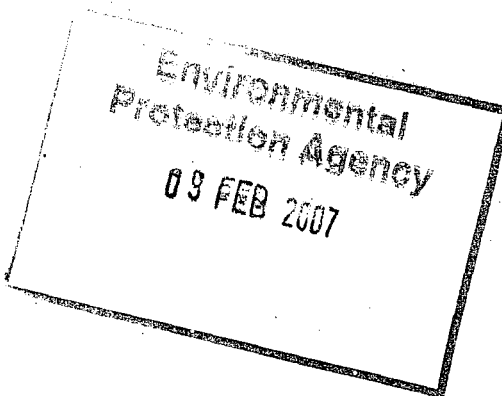


Maryville
Kilworth
Co Cork

6/2/07



Environmental Protection Agency
PO Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co Wexford.

Re: Proposed Anaerobic Digester at Ballard, Araglen Ref No W0230 - 01

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the above waste licence application and wish to express my concerns as suggested for the following reasons:

1. Traffic Concerns:

As a resident of Kilworth, I am concerned about the effect the number of HGVs (70 - 100 per day) will have on our village on a daily basis for the foreseeable future should the proposed Anaerobic Digester go ahead.

Kilworth is an old historic village with narrow main streets and attractively laid out square. Its streets and square are not suitable to the volume of traffic that the proposed digester would bring. Heaphy Grove - a housing development for the elderly, Cois Coillte - a housing estate of over 100 houses and a new development which has only recently received planning permission from Cork Co. Council for a further 46 houses will all open onto the Coach Road and directly into the Ballard traffic. Extra traffic will pose a major safety hazard especially to pedestrians, children and the elderly from these locations should this digester be constructed

The historic bridge at Glansheskin was built in and for an era where HGVs were an unknown species and was not constructed to carry continuous and heavy traffic. Access to the Coillte amenity area at Glansheskin Wood would also be affected.

2. Emissions in Kilworth Village

Possible emissions of exhaust alone from the many HGVs would give rise to serious air pollution in the village. Should loads contain malodorous matter, the residents would be continuously disadvantaged. Furthermore, drips, spillages and at worst accidental discharge from these trucks would prove a major problem. I would raise the question as to who would be responsible for the cleaning up of any such spillage or accident?

The recent EPA report on the steep rise in Ireland of greenhouse gases by 2 % in cities transport as one of the major contributors. Why add to this?

3. Tidy Towns – Kilworth.

For a number of years, Kilworth has participated in this competition and last year had the best ever result with a highly commended award and second place in North Cork. Committees have worked diligently to improve the appearance of the village and are now seeing the fruits of their labour. What a shame to have this work negated by the extra traffic, dirt and pollution caused by the drawing of material to the proposed digester.

4. Siting of the Proposed Digester:

(a) Location.

The proposed site is in a beautiful, unspoiled and picturesque rural setting miles away from the sources of materials destined for anaerobic digestion. The imposition of large buildings and high tower chimneys on this area would in my opinion be a desecration and impact negatively on the environment.

This is a grassland area supporting many dairy farms. Effluent, gases, and other emissions could have a disastrous effect on animals and milk production.

The area contains many wildlife habitats and the balance of nature would change for the worse should plants and animals be subjected to noxious gases, carcinogens and other products which could pose health problems for the future in humans, farm animals and wild life.

Water could be polluted from soakage into land and surrounding streams. In the event of spillages, again I ask who is responsible for sorting out any problems and who is accountable? Will the public be informed should such an incident occur?

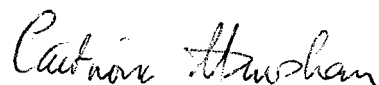
To permit the construction of a facility such as this digester in a clean, agricultural area whose residents presently enjoy a safe and unpolluted environment would be a travesty.

The infrastructure around the proposed site is unsuitable for constant stream of HGVs. Everything that is intended for this plant has to be transported long distances. Roads to and from the proposed site are narrow, third class roads and access to the site is not close to any main road.

(b) Araglen Primary School. The proposed digester will be a mere 500m from this school. What an environment for future generations of children to receive their primary schooling! How could teachers teach and students learn with the constant noise of traffic in their ears, their air polluted by exhaust and noxious gases, their privacy invaded by activity involved in the operation of this digester?

In view of the many potential risks to the safety of the environment and the quality of our lives in this part of rural Ireland, I am of the opinion that this Anaerobic Digester should not be located at this site.

Yours faithfully,



Caitriona Hanrahan