

SUB 24

Billeragh West  
Araglin  
Fermoy  
Co. Cork

12<sup>th</sup> February 2007

SCANNED  
1 + FEB 2007

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY  
14 FEB 2007

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

Dear Sir

**Re: Combined Waste And Power Facility And Ancillary Works At  
Ballard, Araglin, Fermoy, Co. Cork -  
Cork County Council Planning Registration No. 06/6651,  
An Bord Pleanala Ref PL 04.218581  
EPA reference for the proposed development: W0230-01**

We wish to make observations with regard to the above proposed development. We strongly support Cork County Council's decision to refuse the application for Planning in this case and we trust the EPA will refuse to grant a Waste Licence for the application.

My observations are as follows:-

As parents and grandparents we are terrified regarding the health and safety issues for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. We live only about 600m from the proposed waste facility at Ballard, Araglin. Two of our sons have houses built on the home farm, so that they are about the same distance. Both have young children who at the moment enjoy growing up in the countryside in a beautiful, quiet rural setting. We have a daughter who has recently moved away from Araglin; although we thought she might one day move back, we doubt very much that she will, if this development goes ahead. If this development was to go ahead, nobody will want to live here and we will eventually lose our community too.

When we get up in the morning we are able to walk out of our doors and breathe in the fresh air. This is something we will not look forward to anymore if the waste facility is built.

We are so worried about the effect that the possible hydrogen sulphide emissions might have on the health of the people and the animals in our community.

The road infrastructure is unsuitable and the increased traffic would be a nightmare. The local roads are extremely narrow and a constant stream of Heavy Goods Vehicles would put a lot of people off using local amenities. These roads have been used for many, many years by walkers (including mothers with prams), cyclists and for horse-riding and dog-walking and have always been considered very safe. Our children and grandchildren would no longer be as safe on the roads.

Our local school is only 500m from the proposed development. We have grandchildren going to that school and we don't want their lives put in danger. We believe that the proposed development poses a very real threat to their safety in case of accident, fire, leaks (gas or otherwise), and so on. There is also a strong possibility that, with the threat to the school that pupils will be removed and the school could then close down.

We are also worried about noxious smells and noise from the plant, the turbines and the hundreds of trucks passing our roads every week.

We are concerned too about possible pollution in our local rivers and drinking water supplies.

We are worried about the negative effect on local property value, the decline on amenity value, and the heat energy that will be wasted to the environment.

We are ordinary people living our daily lives that we treasure and we feel that this would be compromised and threatened if the planned development was to go ahead.

Finally I would like to ask the people who will be involved in the decision-making of this proposed development at Ballard, Araglin: look into your children or grandchildren's eyes, and ask yourselves, could you make a decision that might endanger their health or lives in any way? We urge you, we plead with you, we beg you to please say NO to this waste licence application.

When you consider this application, please think of the agony that the Araglin people and those of surrounding areas are going through.

Yours faithfully

**Mary & Michael Hynes**

12<sup>th</sup> February 2007

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