

Sub (25)

Received 26 Feb 07

**From:** Valerie Rice [mailto:ricevaleriem@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** 25 February 2007 18:45  
**To:** Infomail  
**Subject:** Submission against W0230-01

Good evening,

Please find attached my submission against the anaerobic digester at Ballard, Araglin, Kilworth, Co Cork.

If you have any queries (attachment will not open etc.), please do not hesitate to contact me @ 087 6982976.

Yours sincerely,

Valerie Rice

The Rice Family  
Billeragh  
Araglen  
Kilworth  
Co. Cork  
20<sup>th</sup> February 2007

Environmental Protection Agency  
P.O Box 3000  
Johnston Castle Estate  
Co Wexford

**RE: PROPOSED ANAEROBIC DIGESTOR at Ballard, Araglen, Kilworth, Co Cork**

**Ref: W0230-01**

Dear Sir / Madam,

I am writing, on behalf of the Rice family, Billeragh, Araglen, to state our outright shock and dismay at the possibility of planning permission being granted to the building of an anaerobic digestion plant at Ballard Araglen. Planning permission has already being refused for very substantial reasons and on that occasion justice was done.

We cannot possibly believe that all reasons will be rectified sufficiently, so that planning permission should be allowed on a second occasion. Araglen, as a community has suffered the ignominy of the planning process, the reporting of illegal dumping at this site since the early 1990's and subsequent lack of enforcement of the law by Cork County Council. Our trust in the official authorities was at an all time low. Despite this, we assiduously followed and put our trust in the law and the planning authorities and relevant authorities. The blatant disregard for the law, shown

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by Cork County Council was highlighted in the European Court Case 494/01, in a decision that rapped the Irish Government for failure to abide by the law.

We fervently believe that it is only because of the tight knit community of Araglen and the belief of its residents, to do what is right and follow this to the bitter end, that this development has not already gone through. The most recent decision to refuse planning permission for this abomination has confirmed and endorsed our reasons why this proposal for the anaerobic digestion plant at Ballard Araglen should go ahead.

We, as a family, are distressed as the unprecedented size and scale of the proposed facility. Millions of tonnes of waste will be transported to this site on an annual basis. The catchment area, from which this harmful waste will be transported, flies in the face of Ireland's own waste management policy. This states that, as far as possible, waste should be treated at source, so not to add to Ireland's emissions through transporting this waste many miles from source.

We wish to re-iterate the reasons again behind the initial planning refusal:

1. The proposed development consists of a number of industrial type buildings with a total floor area of 30,000 m<sup>2</sup> and a height of up to 40.3m. The development would, therefore, result in the creation of very large non-agricultural structures in an open rural landscape and would therefore be contrary to the existing character of the area and would also result in unacceptable visual impacts on a number of existing nearby residences; would seriously injure the residential amenities of adjoining properties and depreciate the value of adjoining properties. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

2. The proposal, as submitted, has not adequately considered the assessment and evaluation of possible alternative sites. This application is, therefore, considered premature pending the completion of a rigorous selection process.

3. The proposed development would, given its location, scale, bulk and the lack of adequate natural screening, be unduly obtrusive on the landscape when viewed from Scenic Route A3, as designated in the County Development Plan, would be out of character with and seriously detract from the scenic amenities of the area and would interfere with a view of special interest which it is necessary to preserve.

We would like to thank you for taking the time to read this submission. We sincerely hope that common sense and justice will prevail and the granting of a waste license to Bioverda to operate in Araglen will not be countenanced.

Yours sincerely,

Valerie Rice (on behalf on Maurice, Mary, John and Mairead Rice.)

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