22nd December 2008

Keadue Ballyhaise Co Cavan 2 4 DEC 2000 POTECTION

To
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Climate
Licensing & Resource Use
P.O Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co Wexford

Re Application by Oxigen Environmental Limited, for a licence to operate an Integrated Waste Management Facility at Lismagratty and Corranure Townlands, Cootehill Road, Cavan, Co Cavan

Your Reference: WO248/01

Dear Sir/Madam

I refer to the above application. As result of the pollution caused by the present landfill over the years, I feel that the granting of this new license would be inappropriate. Therefore, I would like to object on a number of grounds.

- Several damning reports have been produced by the Agency over the years in relation to the poor management of the present facility. Cavan County Council have been prosecuted for a number of breaches as regards the existing license. Despite numerous assurances that improvements were being put in place and that problem would soon be solved, the situation still remains unacceptable and local residents continue to suffer as a result of the gases being pumped out of the facility. Given the fact that the problems associated with the current facility have still not been rectified, one must feel that its expansion poses additional problems which will increase the adverse affect on the surrounding community.
- People should not have to become prisoners in their own home as result of the smell. Like many others, I enjoy walking the countryside. However, my house is situated two miles from the dump and as a result is frequently surrounded by the gases produced by the landfill. Going outside for some "fresh air" is not so simple anymore. People should be allowed to enjoy recreational activities without the nuisance of these foul odours.
- O The close proximity of the landfill to the town of Cavan and to the villages of Butlersbridge and Ballyhaise is inappropriate to say the least. Numerous homes, schools and business are situated in these places. The entire population

of the area would feel that the zoning of the landfill is totally inappropriate and that it should be re-classified as agricultural land. The present facility should be closed down when it reaches capacity. The current situation does nothing to enhance the reputation of the County town as well as the two neighbouring villages.

O There are also major health concerns as regards the gases emanating from the current site. Nobody can state definitively what chemical reactions are taking place or where the wind might blow on a particular day. Both of these factors affect the lives of local people. Some people are constantly worrying whether this is the right area to be bringing up young children. Indeed, I worry about my own family. Although there is no definite proof that living near such a landfill is dangerous, several studies would say that there is a significant risk to health. The truth is that nobody knows for sure at this present time what health risks may be involved. However, this does not mean that any such risks should be ignored in favour of financial gain. Public health is a much more important concern.

It is clear to me, in view of the reasons outlined above that the expansion of this facility will only cause more suffering to the wider community. I thank-you for your time and hope that you will take our concerns into consideration when reaching a decision.

Yours faithfully,

Sean Rehill