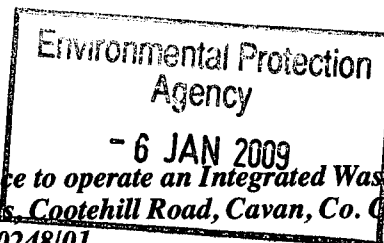


Sub 24



Heney, Cavan
Co. Cavan
January 5th 2009

Re: Application by Oxigen Environmental Ltd., for a Licence to operate an Integrated Waste Management Facility at Lismagratt and Corranure Townlands, Cootehill Road, Cavan, Co. Cavan
Your Reference: W0248/01

Dear Sir/Madam

In reference to the above application, I wish to object to its approval in the strongest possible manner.

I purchased a site and built my family home in Heney some 26 years ago. The location was ideal with a fantastic view of the countryside and within three miles from Cavan Town where I work. Unfortunately over the past years the dump at Corranure, approximately 1 mile from my home, has become a nightmare!!

The dump took a dramatic turn for the worse over ten years ago, when the late Cavan County Manager, Brian Johnston, told us in the local media that we were getting "a windfall for Cavan" with rubbish from Fingal Council, Dublin now coming to Corranure dump and the revenue would be of great benefit to the area. HOW WRONG CAN YOU GET!!!!!!

Since then, the dump has expanded at an alarming rate, with it now a "super dump". Huge lorries from Dublin, Meath, Westmeath, Louth, Longford, Leitrim, Galway (to name but a few) and indeed from Northern Ireland are daily visitors to the dump.

Because of the huge volumes of waste being taken at the dump, the stench has been unbearable over the past ten years. When I complained to Cavan Council about the stench I was made numerous promises that the problem would be resolved in weeks or months - unfortunately all the promises proved to be false. Cavan Council were taken to court by the EPA, for failing to comply with their licence, they were prosecuted and paid a fine.

Cavan County Council sold the Corranure dump to Oxigen over 12 months ago, despite the concerns of the residents in the area as to the suitability of the site (which was at one time a small lake). The volumes of rubbish to the dump has increased dramatically. I am also worried that the "lechiate" being transported in normal slurry tankers from the dump to the local sewerage plant is a disaster waiting to happen.

The sickening smell coming from the dump has made life a "hell" for me and my family. The huge embarrassment caused by explaining the sickening smell when friends and relations gathering at my home for special occasions has gone on for too long. My kids are reluctant to invite their friends to visit us in case they think the obnoxious smell was from our house.

I have always enjoyed such simple pleasures as working in the garden, DIY, cutting the lawns and walking to the nearby historic Shantemon Mountain. On numerous occasions I had to abandon such activities and come indoors to avoid the stench outside. I now go to a different area for a walk with my dog in order to avoid the smell.

Surely the Corranure dump is not on a suitable site with: Cavan Town; 3 Secondary Schools; Cavan College of Further Studies and five National Schools are all within a three mile radius of the dump. These schools cater for thousands of children, who are also exposed to the smell, which I am certain has to be a threat to their health.

I realised some years ago that the solution to the smell problem would be to sell my home and move my family to a new location, as far away as possible from this nightmare. I did try to sell my house, but after trying for a few months I could not get a reasonable offer, as the dump has caused the value of all properties in the area to plummet.

For the reasons above and indeed many more, I plead with the Agency to refuse the Oxigen application for a licence in this matter. Not only that, but I want this "monster" closed, once and for all, to give me and the thousands of others affected by the stench, an improved quality of life. We have endured this nightmare for far too long.

Yours faithfully,

Seamus Watters