21 January 2009

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

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY 2 6 JAN 2009

RE: Application by Oxigen Environmental Ltd., for a Licence to operate an Integrated Waste Management Facility at Lismagratty and Corranure Townlands, Cootehill Road, Cavan, Co Cavan. Your Reference: WO248/01

anyother

Dear Sir/Madam

1. I reside approximately ¹/₂ mile from the mentioned waste facility. I have recently commenced a Bed and Breakfast business at my home. At different times within the last two years the odour coming from this facility has been intolerable. It is a constant worry to me when I have paying guests staying that this odour will be present. In November 2008, four American tourists called to my home for accommodation for the night. One of the females commented on the smell and said "what is that terrible stench"; when I told her that it was from our local landfill site approximately ¹/₂ mile away, she commented "have you any laws in this country". They said that they would not stay the night in Cavan, that they would move on to the next town. If this present operation at this facility continues it will cause me serious financial loss as tourists will not want to stay in our area where there is a foul odour.

Because of this odour I feel that the health of myself and my family are at risk. One of my sons was away in college in Edinburgh for two years. He returned to our home in the summer of 2008 and commenced work locally. While in Edinburgh he had good health with no ailments. Since his return he has had three serious throat infections all requiring heavy dosage of antibiotics.

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- 3. This facility is inappropriately positioned, being in close proximity to Cavan town, Ballyhaise and Butlersbridge villages and many rural houses. The value of property in the area has been adversely affected by this facility and granting of this licence will compound this and further devalue private property. An example of this is a private elevated site next door to my home that is for sale for at least eighteen months. Even though this is a prime site there is no interest or offer on it.
- 4. Oxigen Environmental Ltd have already accepted that pollution and bad management of the present facility are normal practice and Cavan County Council have already been prosecuted successfully for breaches of the existing licence. I also question the ability of the local sewerage works to deal with the lechiate from the present facility and the manner in which it is conveyed to sewerage treatment works.
- 5. Finally I wish to state that I and my family of four boys like where we reside, it being adjacent to Cavan town and the local schools. My wife Francis died four years ago aged 45 years from cancer and 'health' is now our priority. If this waste licence is granted then our health is in great danger. Moving from the area is not an option as nobody would want to buy our house because of our intolerable stench (odour).

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Yours faithfully