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SENATOR MARK DALY

Mary Kelly Director General Environmental Protection Agency EPA Headquarters PO Box 3000 Johnstown Castle Estate Co Wexford

CC: LB

DIRECTOR - GENERAL'S OFFICE 29 JAN 2009

28 January 2009

Mary a chara,

I have received a number of representations from the people of Scart, Caherdean and Farranfore, Co. Kerry in relation to the proposed central recycling facility at that location.

I enclose information that I have received from the group, and I ask you to reconsider the proposed location on the numerous and valid grounds listed below or consider placing the facility in a different location.

I look forward to your reply.

Is mise le meas,

Senator Mark Daly. Seanad Spokesperson on Overseas Development.



Seanad Éireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. Seanad Éireann, Teach Laighean, Sráid Chill Dara, Baile Átha Cliath 2. Telephone: +353 (0)1-618 3830 Mobile: +353 (0)86-803 2612 Email: Mark.Daly@Oireachtas.ie Web: www.senatormarkdaly.com Senator Mark Daly, 34 Henry Street, Kenmare, CO. KERRY.

15<sup>th</sup> December 2008 Tom Campbell, Scart, Farranfore, Co. Kerry

## SCART/CAHERDEAN CONCERNED RESIDENTS GROUP HELP US SAVE OUR RURAL COMMUNITY

Dear Senator Daly,

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We on behalf of the people of the Scart / Caherdean and surrounding areas are asking for your support in opposing the planning application by **KERRY CENTRAL RECYCLING FACILITY PLANNING REF NO.:08/2415** at Scart/Caherdean, Farranfore, Co Kerry and the written submissions made to the draft Kerry County Development Plan 2009-2015 reference; Motions 161 & 162. We would ask you to make representations on our behalf to the Kerry County manager, Mr Tom Curran and the Director of Planning Michael McMahon as well as the EPA.

There have been 133 submissions received by Kerry County Council objecting to this development, a number of which contain multiple signatures.

## **OUR CONCERNS:**

- Location/Zoning This is a rural area and not zoned for this kind of development, which should be located in an industrially zoned area not an agricultural/rural residential area. The Farranfore Local Area Development Plan was agreed in 2008. Re zoning was identified. It is proposed to operate this plant 24 hours per day. Is this planning application an attempt to industrialise our area? This is a rural area.
- **Proposed Development-** Size Spectares (12.5 acres) is far too large in area, bulk and building density (One building alone is the length of Croke Park, and the height of 2 Double Decker buses one upon the other, for a country area zoned as Rural in the County Development Plan. The applicant wishes to increase the existing capacity of his waste processing licence from 40,000 tonnes to 95,000 tonges, where is the extra waste coming from? Is it from other counties? It is proposed to process up to 50,000 tonnes / year of municipal waste within 20 meters of peoples homes. How does the "proximity principle" referred to in the regional waste management plan apply? Submissions 161 & 162 refer to rezoning a further 10 acres? For how much more waste 200,000 tonnes?
- Environment There are significant risks to local water courses and in turn water quality, there will also be a significant risk of additional flooding of the Gweestin River plain. We do not believe that proposed mitigations by the applicant will reduce or eliminate noise, dust, odour, vermin, birds, insects and litter, (in fact it is not stated in the EIS, than any of these nuisances will be eliminated but merely reduced). All dust and odour from the proposed development will be carried by the prevailing winds over properties making it unbearable to live in the area. The applicant states all waste is to be processed under cover, this is <u>factually incorrect</u>. What about wind blown litter? Waste and seepage falling off trucks? Fly tipping in the area? Is this to be monitored by EPA?
- **Health** The risk will be greatly increased due to the change in the environment in the area both to human and livestock in the surrounding area.

- **Tourism** With changes in the world economy, Kerry the tourism capital of Ireland will have to fight for its share of the market more than ever before. This proposed facility will be situated on the N22 the main tourism gateway route in Kerry," **Tourism Capital to Waste Capital**".
- Quality of Life promised to the citizens of County Kerry under the Kerry County Council Corporate plan and Meitheal Chiarrai, European Convention of Human Rights Section 8. The right to family life including our homes ~ ours will be destroyed if this is permitted.
- Employment The applicant claims they will create 70 jobs and later re-states that the centre will employ 40 people. We have concerns for existing jobs of the employees in the area Farming enterprises, Tom Campbell Fencing Ltd. Independent Irish Health foods Ltd. How can food processing and farming enterprises, co-exist adjacent to what is effectively a waste transfer station (recycling is incidental).
- **Road Safety** We are concerned that the applicant intends to abuse the local road as a connivance to overcome the restriction by the NRA for access to a national primary route at the maximum speed limit. We are concerned for the safety of the local residents who use the road peacefully and without hindrance. We firmly believe that the introduction of the volume of traffic as outlined in the applicant's E.I.S. report will endanger not only the users of the local roads but users of the N22. We are concerned that slow moving vehicles entering and exiting the N22 will endanger both the lives of motorists and pedestrians. We would like to note there have been 2 deaths on this short stretch of road since May 2008 as well as numerous accidents. In their EIS arguments, the Applicants, and their spokesman persist in ducking one of the real traffic issues. While, if the new N22 were in operation, their own traffic, although of a particularly unpleasant and anti social nature, would not be a gigantic addition to the existing N22, but quite simply, this is not the situation we are facing, In fact, the existing traffic is growing daily, is already dangerous in this area, and will continue to do so for another six or seven years, and beyond, at the very least. It is to that fraffic load that the Applicants wish to add with heavy, usually dirty and badly lit vehicles and a menagerie of private cars and trailers, manoeuvring around, often in the dark, on an already dangerous bend

To grant this permission, even for phase one, is wiping out the good work of almost half a century, of mainly good planning control, on this scenic tourist route. What was the point of preventing other light industrial and service industries from developing, and what about all the people who were, and are, not permitted to retire or return to their roots, to finish their lives. Does all this not matter?

We attach, for information purposes only, copies of two of a great many objections submitted to Kerry County Council, on behalf of a huge number of people. Both of these are fairly comprehensive, and were prepared by:

Hugh A Campbell, Dip.Arch., FRIAI., ARIBA, Chartered Architect, Patrick J Donovan, BE., C Eng., MIEI., Chartered Engineer.

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We would urge you to take the time to read these expert opinions in relation to the planning application. These underpin our grave concerns should this facility proceed.

If you would like to meet with us to discuss any of our concerns feel free to contact any of us via the secretary (Tom Campbell 087-2404262).

Yours in good faith,

The Scart /Caherdean Concerned Residents Committee.Tom Campbell.John Walsh.Tommy O'Leary.Eithne O'Connell.

Michael O'Sullivan Sharon Payne.