

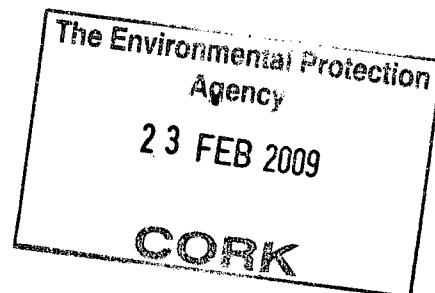


EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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18<sup>th</sup> February 2009

**Planning Application – Kerry Central Recycling Facility, Planning Ref No.: 08/2415 at Scart / Caherdean, Farranfore, Co. Kerry**

Dear Mr. Curran,

I am writing in representation of the Caherdean Concerned Residents Group to express my opposition to the Planning Application by Kerry Central Recycling Facility, Planning Ref No.: 08 / 2415 at Scart / Caherdean, Farranfore, Co. Kerry.

I wish to emphasise the grave concerns of the people of the Scart / Caherdean and surrounding areas should this facility proceed.

I believe that giving the go ahead to the proposed development would be contrary to the nature of this area zoned as Rural in the County Development Plan.

Placing a plant of such large scale (12.5 acres) that would operate 24 hours per day would industrialise an area completely unsuitable for this kind of development.

I am concerned about the applicant's intention to increase the existing capacity of his waste processing license from 40,000 tonnes to 95,000 tonnes. To have a big central recycling facility as opposed to a small scale plant requires the transportation of waste from a large catchment area, which will subsequently result in significant and unsustainable energy usage. Waste should be dealt with locally.

My constituents do not believe that proposed mitigations by the applicant will reduce it eliminate noise, dust, odour, vermin, birds, insects and litter. As the proposed facility is to process up to 50,000 tonnes per year of municipal waste within 20 metres of peoples homes I am extremely concerned about the wellbeing and quality of life of my constituents and their families in terms of noise and harmful odours.

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Noise above a certain volume threshold (from 60 Ldn dB(A) according to the European Environment Agency) affects not only wellbeing, but also the health of citizens.

I wish to point out that Directive 2002/49/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 June 2002 relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise is aimed at controlling noise perceived by people in areas such as quiet areas in open country.

This Directive is part of the EU's efforts to tackle noise pollution. The EU has laid down a common approach to avoiding, preventing or reducing on a prioritised basis the harmful effects of exposure to environmental noise.

The proposed facility will have a devastating impact visually on an area designated for tourism. In the current economic climate I feel that it is irresponsible to jeopardise Kerry's position as the tourism capital of Ireland, especially as the proposed plant is to be situated on the N22.

I appreciate the current need to create new jobs as so many jobs are lost every day. However, the applicant claims that the plant will create 70 jobs and then re-states that the facility will employ only 40 people. In my opinion, the creation of 40 jobs is too big of a price to pay considering the negative impact of the proposed development on the community.

I also believe that the proposed development is unsuitable due to the lack of appropriate infrastructure. My constituents use the road peacefully and without hindrance. I sympathise with my constituents' fears for the safety of the local residents in the case of introduction of the volume of traffic as outlined in the applicant's E.I.S report.

I believe that the proposed development will have permanent negative consequences for this rural community.

I urge you to take the above points into consideration and request to be informed of any further developments in relation to this proposed facility.

Thank you,

Kathy

Kathy Sinnott MEP for Munster

Vice-President Petitions Committee  
Member Employment and Social Affairs Committee  
Member Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee