



3, Woodbrook,
Lisgoold,
Leamlara,
Co.Cork

Dear Sir/Madam

Appendix 1 of this note contains a copy of an email I received from Mr. Niall Dunne of the EPA unit based in Co. Cork. He outlines to me the facility to make a submission regarding Cork County Council plans for a waste water licence in my area. I wish to make a submission in this regard.

The proposal by Cork County Council is for the full activation of a new waste water treatment plan (WWTP) in my village, a couple of hundred metres from my house. In general, once certain important conditions are met, I have no objection to the activation of this new facility, and indeed welcome it as an opportunity for the Council to finally close down the WWTP directly behind my house. What I do object to is the complete lack of clarity from the Council concerning their intentions as regards the current WWTP next to my house.

In the autumn of last year, we had a number of visits to our house from a Council engineer (Kevin O'Donoghue – since retired). These visits were for the purposes of eliciting our support for the laying of a drain in our property to facilitate the operation of the new WWTP through the full closure of the WWTP behind my house. These visits were followed up by letters from the Council outlining this essential proposal. However, the representatives of the Council could offer no assurance as to how the existing WWTP will be decommissioned (aside from "turning it off"), and indeed when I enquired as to what regulations govern the decommissioning of WWTP I received no reply.

In the absence of any clarity concerning the practical arrangements for the decommissioning of the existing WWTP, I wish to register a complaint against the Council practices in this essential area of health and safety – namely the safe operation of and discontinuation of WWTP. Please take this note as a submission that the Council and the EPA must address before any activation of any new WWTP.

If our concerns regarding the full and proper decommissioning of the existing WWTP directly behind my house are addressed I have no objection to the new WWTP facility. We have had long and difficult history with the operation of the existing WWTP (indeed we involved the EPA in certain matters in the past). We need assurances, in writing, from the Council as to their intentions in this matter.

My contact number is 086-8244833. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith McSweeney".

Keith McSweeney
19/05/10

APPENDIX 1 – EMAIL FROM EPA TO KEITH MCSWEENEY29/04/10

Dear Mr. Mc Sweeney,

I refer to your complaint regarding the Lisgoold Waste Water Treatment Plant WWTP, received on the 04th December 2009;

As you may be aware, all Water Services Authorities waste water discharges are to be subject to control and regulation under new legislation. [Waste Water Discharge (Authorisation) Regulations, 2007 (S.I. 684 of 2007)]. In the processing of licence applications, the EPA considers any submissions received in writing during the appropriate time period in respect of each agglomeration.

A licence application for the Lisgoold agglomeration is expected to be submitted by Cork County Council. In anticipation of this, you may make a submission to the EPA, which will be considered in the processing of the licence application.

Should you wish your complaint to be treated as a submission in respect of the Lisgoold agglomeration, it should be sent in writing to the following address:

Waste Water Discharge Authorisation Submissions,
Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use,
Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters
P.O. Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co. Wexford

You may wish to note that submissions received are made available in the public domain via the EPA website as supporting documentation to the licence. Please also refer to the link below, which contains information on how to make a submission.

Submissions - Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland

Yours Sincerely

Niall Dunne

Niall Dunne
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