

Martin Brady,
Thatched Cottage,
Belview Road,
Termonfeckin, Drogheda, Co.Louth.

25th July, 2011.



Re: Belview Egg Farm – Ref No.: PO934-01

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the foul odour emanating from Belview Egg Farm and the considerable impact it has on this quiet rural residential environment in which I reside with my wife and three young children.

The offensive odour experienced daily is persistent and particularly repugnant and is not one associated with the occasional removal/loading of land spreading of manure of which we have been well accustomed to, having lived in the close proximity to Belview Eggs for over 18 years, when there was no cause for complaint, therefore, this odour is not an “accepted part of normal country life”.

Belview Eggs has now mushroomed into a large scale industry increasing from a rate of 15,000 hens to a staggering 82,000 with extensive plans for storage of hen manure over ground as opposed to the previous underground storage method.

The current scale of the development is out of proportion to its rural setting and the odour is having a detrimental impact on our lives and the neighbourhood.. The home in which I reside is a 200 year old thatched cottage and is a listed building and officially recorded as a “protected structure”. We have done our best in preserving and protected its heritage, thatching it over the years in traditional long straw in keeping with its heritage and fitting traditional timber sash windows and generally preserving its vernacular heritage. We have been kindly supported in our efforts by the Heritage Council and The Department of Environment; we now seek the support of the EPA in protecting this structure. The Louth County Council in their wisdom has allowed this blight on the rural environment to be built within 100 metres of a protected structure. Planning permission was granted with conditions, one of which no.8. clearly states that ***“The development shall be operated in such a manner that there will be no emissions or malodours, fumes, gases, dust or other deleterious waste such as would give reasonable cause for annoyance to any person in any residence in the vicinity”.***

The development is now in breach of its planning conditions as can be seen from the innumerable submissions already made to the EPA from residents in the neighbourhood/vicinity. The residential amenity and enjoyment of our home has now deteriorated.

The future protection of our home and our neighbourhood now lie with the EPA, which can be done in a number of ways, for example, they can withhold the granting of a IPPC Licence until they are satisfied that the development can be operated in such a manner that it cause no offence to any residence outside of its boundary, that an odour abatement plan be implemented in response to the foul odour impacting on the quality and amenity of the lives of families living in the neighbourhood.

A plan that would directly address the primary source of the offensive odour which is the method in which the manure is housed –over ground uncovered in a partly open shed if an alternative method of manure storage could be implemented the problem experienced in the neighbourhood might be more readily resolved be that one of filtering or reverting to the use of sealed or filtered silo for housing the manure or resuming the storage of the manure underground as was the case prior to this malodour been experienced, the detailed pictures included with this submission clearly demonstrate the primary source of this offensive odour, as long as the manure is stored in this manner the odour will continue to escape its boundaries, I have done my best to identify the problem, I now defer the better judgement and expertise of the applicants consultant Mr Padraig Fay and the EPA to implement alternative methods of manure storage, or any such B.A.T. that the EPA could recommend that could alleviate this nuisance.

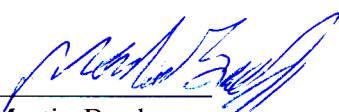
The EPA could also request the extensive planting of evergreen trees in ascending order in a row of three around the entire facility which is a tried and tested method of odour abatement and would also have the additional benefit of greening the more unsightly aspects of the development and enhancing the rural environment. In the drawings submitted to the LCC in the planning application, extensive tree planting was clearly promised and included on their drawings, but LCC in their wisdom have not made it conditional adding to the affront already impacting this small rural community.

Belview Eggs Consultant Mr Padraig Fay was requested by the EPA to assess the odour impact on the residents in the vicinity, it's only fair that we give our assessment on the odour impact to our lives:-

- **On certain days we are confined indoors**
- **The children are denied their natural right to play in their garden**
- **Air quality is severely compromise and poses a potential health risk**
- **The investment and time spent on our home is now rendered worthless and our property is devalued**
- **The opportunity for our children to develop sites near their parents home is denied**
- **On a daily basis when the smell is particularly bad masks are been worn when outdoors as they are by employees of Belview Egg Farm no less than 60 metres away.**
- **This quiet picturesque rural neighbourhood is been marred by association with the scale and impact by the development and malodour**

The EPA are trusted custodians of our environment, it is therefore incumbent to withhold the granting of a IPPC license until Belview Eggs can operate without offending its neighbourhood.

Yours sincerely


Martin Brady

Encl:-

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning Section, County Hall, Millennium Centre, St Alphonsus Road, Dundalk
Tel: 042/9335457 Fax: 042/9320080

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT, 2000

NOTIFICATION OF GRANT OF PERMISSION

TO: Belview Egg Farm
c/o Joseph Cunningham & Associates
Aspen House
76 Seatown
Dundalk
Co Louth

30/05/2011

Register Reference Number: 11115

Date Application Received: 09/03/2011

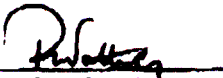
Description of Development: Permission for development consisting of removal of an existing old hen house & construction of new hen house to meet current welfare standards. The application also proposes a 12.75m long extension to existing manure storage shed & a 7.5m wide extension to side of existing egg store & all ancillary structures & associated site works. This application relates to a development, which is for the purposes of an activity requiring an Integrated Pollution Prevention & Control (I.P.P.C.) Licence under Part IV of the Environmental Protection Agency (licensing) Regulations 1994-2007. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has been submitted with this planning application.

Application Type: PERMISSION

Name of Applicant:
Belview Egg Farm

Location Address:
Carstown
Drogheda
County Louth

Permission is hereby granted for the development described above, subject to the 12 conditions set out in the Schedule attached.


Pauline Watters
Administrative Officer

NOTES

CONDITIONS

1. Subject to the following conditions, the development shall be carried out in strict conformity with the lodged plans and specifications received on 9th March 2011.

8. The development shall be operated in such a manner that there will be no emissions or malodours, fumes, gases, dust or other deleterious matter such as would give reasonable cause for annoyance to any person in any residence in the vicinity.

Reason: In the interests of public health.

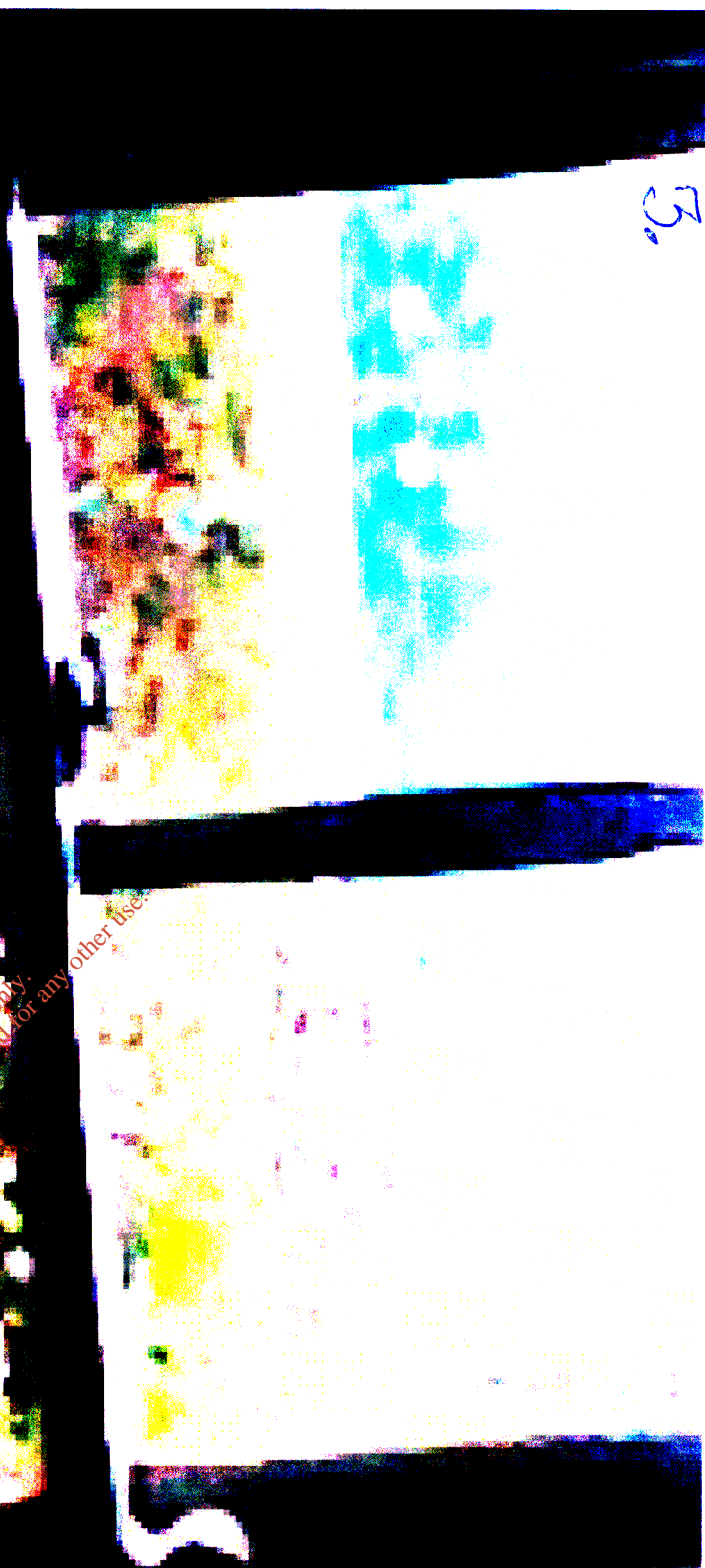
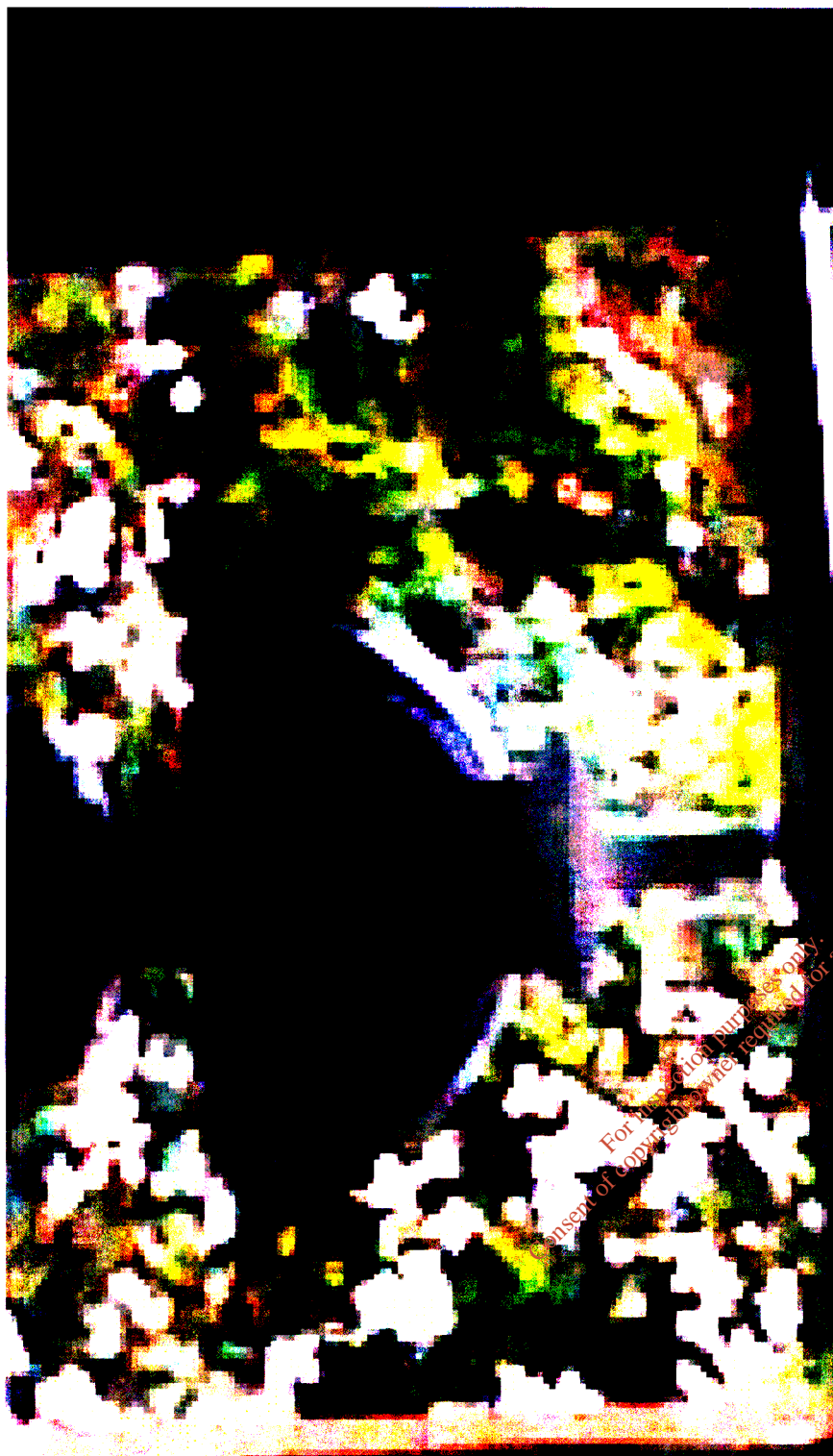
ABOVE - OUR HOME/PROTECTED STRUCTURE...?

* THE EXTENT OF THIS DEVELOPMENT AND FURTHER EXPANSION ALREADY BY
OURSELVES AND OUR NEIGHBOURS IS OVERTHROWING. THIS AWFUL COLOUR
MUST BE ADDRESSED BY THE EPA - 'BROUGHT IS ENOUGH'!



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NOTE: THIS IS A PROTECTED STRUCTURE (Matched Cottage) OUR HOME, PROTECTED BY WHOM? THE PROXIMITY AND SCALE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT TO A LISTED BUILDING IS AN OFFENSE TO THE RURAL ~~Environment~~ ENVIRONMENT ARE WE EXPECTED TO ENDURE REPLANT CROPS AS WELL AS THIS BRIGHT OF OUR RURAL HERITAGE?



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1. PICTURE FROM OUR
BEDROOM WINDOW - PLEASE
NOTE THE PROXIMITY OF
THE NEW SHEDS
(86 mts)
SHOULD NEAREST SENSITIVE
RECEPTOR NOT BE AT LEAST
100 MTS ??



PICTURE FROM OUR
 BEDROOM WINDOW DEPICTING
 LATEST TWO STOREY HOU-
 SEED IN CONSTRUCTION -
 OFFENSIVE ODOUR IS BEING
 EXPERIENCED NOW -
 WHAT, WHEN 40000+ HBS!!