

Ann Kehoe

Advisory Committee Comments - NI
(Francis O'Beirn).

Subject: FW: Wicklow

From: Francis X O Beirn [mailto:fobeirn@marine.ie]
Sent: 09 May 2012 10:11
To: Tara Higgins
Subject: RE: Wicklow

Additional comments below.

Dear Tara,

I have read through the Environmental report on the proposed Wicklow Dump site and I am of the conclusion that there is insufficient information contained within it to draw the conclusion that there will be no significant impact on the SAC Wicklow Reef.

In order to provide a fuller assessment, I recommend the applicants address the following issues:

- Description of the receiving environment - there is no information provided on the spoil site and if there are any sensitive habitats or species found therein.
- Sensitivity of habitat in the SAC - their report contains no reference to the biogenic features and their sensitivity (e.g. see <http://www.marlin.ac.uk/speciessensitivity.php?speciesID=4277>). This analysis highlights that the species is tolerant to sedimentation and increasing suspended load in the water.
- Analysis of tidal streams and directions from chart (tidal diamonds), while broadly applicable over western Irish Sea area, may not be applicable to the immediate vicinity of the spoil site - more detailed sediment dispersion/tidal analysis model may resolve this data deficiency.
- Stating that sediment is not likely to disperse outside the spoil site is highly unlikely given the fine nature of the material to be disposed and the strong tidal streams experienced at the site - this may be validated by sediment dispersion model.

I hope this is of some help in assessing the application?

All the best

Francis

Francis O'Beirn PhD
Benthos Ecology
Marine Institute
Rinville, Oranmore
Galway, Ireland

ph: 353 (0)91 387250
mobile: 353 (0)87 9683094

This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual(s) named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail. Please notify the sender immediately by e-mail if you have received this e-mail by mistake and delete this e-mail from your system. E-mail transmission cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error-free as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete, or contain viruses. The sender therefore does not accept liability for any errors or omissions in the contents of this message, which arise as a result of e-mail transmission.

Is don té atá ainmithe an teachtaireacht seo agus inte tá eolas rúnda. Muna tú an té atá ainmithe nior chóir duit an ríomhphost seo a eis-sheacada, scaipeadh ná a choipáil. Má fuir tú an ríomhphost seo tré thimpist cur a té a sheol é ar an eolas láthaireach tré ríomhphost agus scríos é ó do choras féin. Ní féidir a chintíú go bhfuil ríomhphost gan lucht ná sábhaithe de bharr módh seachadadh na ríomhphost. D'fhéadfach sé go ndéanfaí tascradh ar an eolas, go mbeadh sé curtha as rocht, go gcaillfí nó go scríosfí é, go mbeadh moill ar, é easnamhach nó go mbeadh vireas curtha leis le linn a sheachadadh. Dá bhri sin