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Environmental Licencing Programme

Office of Climate Licencing & Resource Use

EPA Headquarters

PO Box 3000

Johnstown Castle Estate

Wexford

4 July 2012

Ref: S0015-02 - Drogheda Port Company - Dumping at Sea application

Dear Sir or Madam

Subsequent to recent correspondence and a telephone conversation with Mary Turner, Programme Officer, I wish to formally and without prejudice withdraw my previous submission issued to the Agency (dated 18 May, 2012 – 10.22am) in respect of the above application from Drogheda Port Company in the interests of clarity.

In deciding to pursue this course of action, I would request that this submission be considered for the purposes of the above licence application to have the status of a new submission.

I do not wish to comment in detail at this stage on Drogheda Port Company's response (11/06/12) to my original submission but reserve the right at a subsequent stage, as a member of the Oireachtas, to draw attention where appropriate to a number of important points of principal and rights of privilege inherent in my function as a member of Dáil Eireann with respect to the original submission and indeed in terms of the conduct-of-this-process.

Notwithstanding the aforementioned it is correct and appropriate that I, as a TD, assert my right to reflect and represent the expressed concerns of a number of constituents and civil society organisations in relation to their validly held and considered views in respect of the current situation pertaining to the estuary and the coastline and in regard to the amenities and habitats which require the responsible management of the State and other relevant stakeholders if they are to be sustained into the future.

I want to particularly draw your attention to the submission made by Mr. Leo Boyle, 3, Coney Hall, Mornington, Co. Meath and the perspective offered by the NGO, Coastwatch.

I am anxious to see Port activity in Drogheda continue and this, by definition, requires sustainable dredging programmes.

It also requires the capacity to dispose of materials in a responsible manner which complies with all of the relevant legislative provisions and compliance with the regulatory framework governing this policy area and various EU Directives germaine to this application and to the Boyne estuary area.

Port activity supports jobs and economic development and it should be carried out in a way which allows development to continue and be managed in a sustainable and progressive way, co-existing with the natural environment and the natural amenity and important habitat of the estuary.

I trust that you will give your full consideration to this submission and to the points raised therein when dealing with this application.

/yww/~

Yours sincerely

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