

29th January 2013,

Marco Salino
34 Harcourt Hall
Carlotte Way
Dublin 2

Office of Climate Licensing & Resource Use
PO Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co. Wexford

Ref: Application submitted by Dublin City Council for the Disposal of spoil generated by the tunneling of the Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Works Long Sea Outfall Tunnel commencing early 2014 for a period of 3 years

To whom it may concern:

I would like to submit my objection to DCC's application for a license to dispose of the Ringsend Water Treatment expansion works' spoil.

It is vastly recognized that Dublin Bay is a great resource for all the people who take part in the various water sports, which have been becoming more and more popular in the past few years, or simply enjoy spending a few hours or a day outdoors in the area. It is known that the water quality has improved significantly, mostly thanks to the development of Ringsend water treatment plant, and now there are areas who regularly receive blue flags.

The need to improve and expand the capacity of the Ringsend Plant cannot really be argued but I strongly believe that the solution chosen by D.C.C. to dispose of the spoil generated by the above works will cause a dramatic deterioration of the water quality in Dublin Bay for the whole duration of the works and for years to follow, causing irreparable damages to the marine life.

This drastic deterioration of the water quality will not only destroy the rich marine life of the Dublin Bay area but will also horribly affect all the many businesses that currently depend on it to stay alive. I do not believe that enough investigation and testing has been carried out to seriously and satisfactorily demonstrate that this will not be the case. The tidal movements will cause the spoil to be dispersed across a much larger area than the one designated for its dumping, causing a vast destruction of the marine life that has recently returned and thrived in the bay. It seems absolutely illogical and shameful to me to destroy all the good results of the Ringsend treatment plant only to choose the simpler and arguably cheaper solution for dumping the spoil generated for further improving the same plant.

The area from Rockabill to Dalkey Island is one of the new marine sites recently proposed by the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht as Special Areas of Conservation. In the past few years this area has been regularly visited by dolphins and porpoises and we should be encouraging their presence and do everything we can to protect them and their environment.

I urge Dublin City Council to reconsider their proposed way and location for dumping the spoil and to choose a better, less destructive and environmentally friendly solution, such as using a landfill or at least dumping the spoil at much greater distance, out to deeper sea where there will be less risk of it affecting the bay and its life.

I believe that any proposal to dump this spoil must also include a detailed account on how this will be regulated and, even more important, who will monitor and regulate it. I do not find acceptable that any chosen operator will also act as the sole controller of its own work and operations. An external, independent and well respected organization should be appointed to monitor and report, on a daily basis, the dumping operator compliance with conditions specified in the contract and a clear list of penalties fees for any kind of infraction should be also clearly defined and published.

I believe that nowadays any concerned citizen should be able to check the progress and compliance of these works and of the disposal of the generated waste on a website, which should be created and maintained by an independent and respected organization, at the operator's cost.

Only this way we could be relatively confident that the silt, should this be dumped further out to sea, will be disposed of in compliance with the imposed conditions.

I hope that these concerns will be taken into consideration when this application is being examined,

Yours faithfully,

Marco Salino

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Bea Claydon

From: Marco <marcosalino@gmail.com>
Sent: 29 January 2013 11:18
To: Licensing Staff
Subject: Submission to object the "Application submitted by Dublin City Council for the Disposal of spoil generated by the tunneling of the Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Works..."
Attachments: DCC Application Submission Marco Salino.pdf

Hello,

I would like to file the attached submission against the "Application submitted by Dublin City Council for the Disposal of spoil generated by the tunneling of the Ringsend Wastewater Treatment Works...", as described on your website.

Please let me know if this is not the correct email address for submitting my observations.

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Kind Regards,

Marco Salino

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