



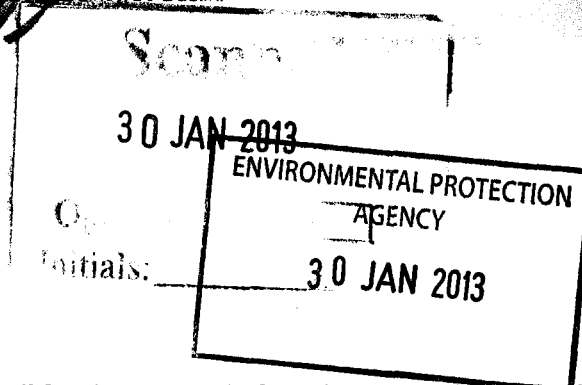
# Trident Sub Aqua Club

Bulloch Harbour, Dalkey, Co Dublin.



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

Thursday, January 24, 2013



**Re: Application submitted by Dublin City Council for the Disposal of spoil generated by 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:

We the members of Trident Sub Aqua Club, Dalkey wish to urge your office to reject the application by Dublin City Council (DCC) to grant a permit to allow dumping of tunneling spoil in Dublin Bay. Perhaps more than most our members are keenly aware of the fragile eco system that exists in Dublin Bay. We have seen first hand over the past number of years the result of improvements in the water quality and are witness to the abundance of marine life now resident in the Bay. Set out below are the reasons why we believe this non reversible action should not be permitted.

1. The location of the tunnel has not been decided and so it is not possible at this time to determine the impact this project will have when all information is not available.
2. Dublin Bay is a sensitive area and the dumping of material into the Bay will have a significant impact on the marine environment. This material will be suspended in the water column and will cause the water turbidity to increase, thereby possibly affecting the plants and animals that depend upon these plants.
3. For divers, increased turbidity means reduced underwater visibility making diving dangerous and no longer viable.
4. We have seen a large increase in the abundance and diversity of marine life in the Bay over the past number of years. The spoil from this dumping will smother the seabed killing any benthic fauna and other reef habitats present.
5. The fact that this dumping will take place daily over a three year period will prevent any recovery of the Bay during this time and for some time afterwards.
6. We are aware that the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has proposed six new marine sites for designation as Special Areas of Conservation, Dublin Bay being one of these. This plan seems to contravene the spirit of such designation.

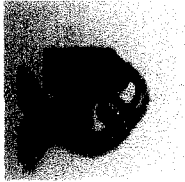
Chairman: John Fahy

Diving Officer: John Earle

Treasurer: Paul Finnegan

Correspondence: Gerry Pluck, Secretary, Trident Sub Aqua Club.

C/O 71 The Grove, Woodbrook Glen, Bray, Co. Wicklow.



# Trident Sub Aqua Club

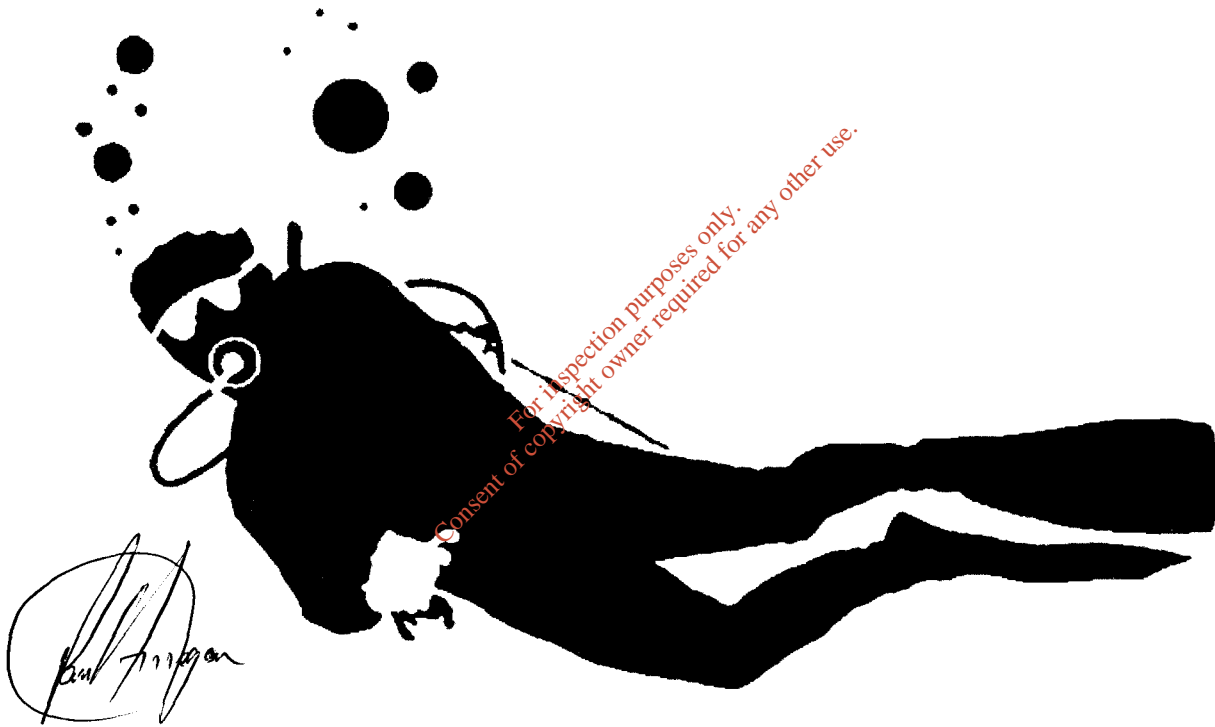
Bulloch Harbour, Dalkey, Co Dublin.



As regular users of Dublin Bay our club members will be directly affected by this action should it be granted permission? Not only will the safety of our members be affected but the irrevocable damage this dumping will have on the rich diversity of marine life will greatly reduce the enjoyment of our sport.

In conclusion, the spirit of our sport is to "take only photos, leave only bubbles". It seems incomprehensible that Dublin City Council would consider dumping this potentially damaging material into such a beautiful resource. We would ask that you reject this application in the interest of preserving the marine life of Dublin Bay

Kind regards,



Paul Finnegan,

Club Treasurer.

CC: Minister Jimmy Deenihan TD, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, 23 Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Chairman: John Fahy

Diving Officer: John Earle

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Submission no. 43 CLARIFICATION

Trident Sub Aqua Club

Here below is transcribed the first paragraph, and items 1 and 2 of the above submission, which are partially obscured by the imprinted logo on the letterhead:

We the members of Trident Sub Aqua Club, Dalkey wish to urge your office to reject the application by Dublin City Council (D.C.C.) to grant a permit to allow dumping of tunnelling spoil in Dublin Bay. Perhaps more than most, our members are keenly aware of the fragile eco system that exists in Dublin Bay. We have seen first hand over the past number of years the result of improvements in the water quality and are witness to the abundance of marine life now resident in the Bay. Set out below are the reasons why we believe this non reversible action should not be permitted.

1. The full design and specification of the tunnel has not been decided and so it is not possible at this early stage to know the impact this project will have when all information is not available.
2. Dublin Bay is relatively shallow and the tidal streams acting within the bay do not allow for material dumped within its confines to be easily flushed away. This material if left suspended in the water column will increase water turbidity and reduce light penetration, thereby possibly affecting phytoplankton and seaweed growth and in turn the animals that depend upon these plants.