

Eve O'Sullivan

Subject: LI-LCE-A131216-0022 Dumping at Sea Foynes Port Limerick

From: David Lyons - (DAHG) [mailto:David.Lyons@ahg.gov.ie]
Sent: 04 February 2014 09:47
To: Tara Higgins
Subject: LI-LCE-A131216-0022 Dumping at Sea Foynes Port Limerick

Dear Dr Higgins,

In relation to point of clarification sought by Ms Sheila Downes of RPS acting on behalf of the proponent, Point 7 has been modified from Departmental guidance to exclude "night time" from the sentence. However, the commencement of operations in conditions where the exclusion zone could not be secured by direct visual observation of the surrounding area is specifically mentioned in Point 3- for clarification:

" Dumping activities shall only commence in daylight hours where effective visual monitoring, as performed and determined by the MMO, has been achieved. Where effective visual monitoring, as determined by the MMO, is not possible the activities shall be postponed until effective visual monitoring is possible".

The implication of this point is that dumping operations can not proceed in night time because it would not be possible to ensure the exclusion zone is clear of marine mammals. This condition has been suggested to the EPA to ensure that the risk of potential injury to particularly bottlenose dolphins is minimised and to ensure the future conservation status of that qualifying interest for Lower River Shannon Special Area of Conservation.

Best regards
David

Dr. David Lyons

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*An Roinn
Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta
Department of
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht*

From: Tara Higgins [mailto:T.Higgins@epa.ie]
Sent: 03 February 2014 17:05
To: David Lyons - (DAHG)
Cc: Karen Creed
Subject: EPA training noise training workshop

Good afternoon David,

As discussed earlier, I'm helping to organise a training workshop on noise and vibration for EPA licensing and enforcement inspectors. The training workshop will take place on **Thursday 27th March** at the EPA Headquarters, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford and will cover a range of topics relevant to the Agency's licensing and enforcement work.

We think it would be very beneficial if someone from NPWS was available to give a talk on the new guidance document *Guidance to Management the Risk to Marine Mammals from Man-made Sound Sources in Irish Waters* published in December 2013, which is highly relevant to the Agency's Dumping at Sea permitting and enforcement functions.

If you or any of your colleagues are available to attend and wish to discuss further, I can be reached at the number below.

Best regards,
Tara

Dr Tara Higgins

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