

Bea Claydon

From: Tara Higgins
Sent: 26 June 2014 15:15
To: Bea Claydon
Subject: FW: Buncrana Harbour (S0011-02)
Attachments: MI comments Buncrana DAS application.pdf

From: Terry McMahon
Sent: 26 June 2014 15:11
To: Tara Higgins
Subject: RE: Buncrana Harbour (S0011-02)

Tara

MI comments on the above DAS application attached.

All the best

Terry

From: Tara Higgins [mailto:T.Higgins@epa.ie]
Sent: 23 June 2014 09:51
To: EMcElroy; Francis X O Beirn; Jimmy King; Joe Harrington; kdubsky@coastwatch.org; Margot Cronin; Shane O'Neill; Terry McMahon
Subject: Buncrana Harbour (S0011-02)

Good morning all,

As you will be aware from previous correspondence, an application for a dumping at sea permit was received from Donegal County Council in respect of Buncrana Harbour on 02/04/2014.

In response to a Section 5(2) notice issued by the Agency, further information including a Natura Impact Statement and Marine Mammal Risk Assessment was received from the applicant on 10/06/2014.

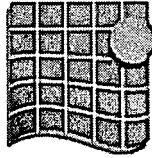
This further information is available to view on the EPA website at: <http://www.epa.ie/terminalfour/DaS/DaS-view-filter.jsp?regno=S0011-02&filter=b&docfilter=go>

If you wish to submit comments or observations in relation to this application, can I ask that you please do so in writing as soon as possible.

Kind regards,
Tara

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Date: 26 June 2014

Tara Higgins
Office of Climate Change, Licensing & Resource Use,
Environmental Protection Agency,
PO Box 3000,
Johnstown Castle Estate,
Wexford

Re: Dumping at Sea Permit application from Donegal County Council in relation to Buncrana Harbour, Co. Donegal ((S0011-02)

Dear Tara

Donegal County Council has made an application for a 3-year Dumping at Sea Permit to facilitate the dredging of 15,000 – 20,000 tonnes annually of sediments (mainly sand) at Buncrana Harbour in Co. Donegal. It is intended that Plough Dredging will be used. The area to be dredged is shown in Map 1, dated March 2014, in Appendix D.2(ii) of the application documents.

Dredging of similar amount of material has been carried out, under Permit, on an annual basis in this area since 1999 with the most recent dredging being carried out in July 2013.

The material to be dredged is mainly sand. Chemical analysis of the samples of the material shows that the levels of contaminants are low and the material can be considered as being clean and suitable for unconfined disposal at sea.

There are a number of licenced aquaculture sites in Lough Swilly. The nearest licenced aquaculture site is located circa 2.4Km to the west of the area where the plough dredging is proposed.

Given the physical and chemical characteristics of the material, the location of the plough dredging area and the relatively small volumes of material involved the Marine Institute is of the view that the activity will not have a significant adverse impact on aquaculture or the marine environment in the area and has no objections to a Permit being issued.

Kind regards,

Dr. Terry McMahon
Section Manager, Marine Environment and Food Safety Services,
The Marine Institute.