



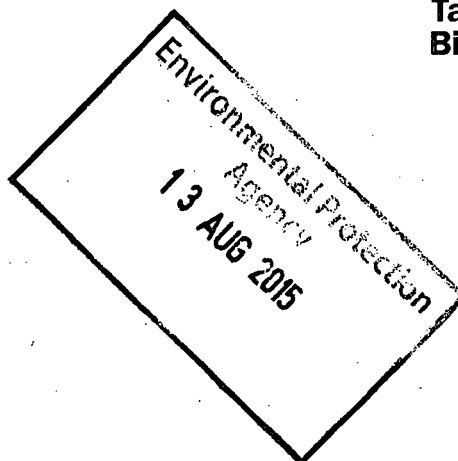
Department of
**Agriculture,
Food and the Marine**
An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**

Eve O'Sullivan
Environmental Licensing Programme
Environmental Protection Agency
P.O Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
County Wexford

12th August 2015

Your Ref: S0007-02

Our Ref: FW/9/10



Re: Dumping at Sea Permit application from Kerry County Council in relation to Fenit Harbour.

Dear Eve,

Further to your letter dated 24th March 2015, below please find observations from this Department.

There is potential for conflicts with other harbour users, such as recreational users, fishing and commercial interests and the Tralee Bay Oysters Fishery.

Section 5.6 of the Natural Impact Statement, Assessment of Potentially Significant Cumulative Effects, and Section 5.7 Mitigation, identifies a number of possible conflicts and also recommends measures to mitigate against their impact and cumulative impact. It is proposed to undertake a Water Quality Management Plan incorporating fixed monitoring stations, mobile monitoring station, visual monitoring and laboratory monitoring. It is proposed to time the dredging works to reduce the probability of conflicts, i.e. no dredging during the Bathing Season or during the Oyster Spatting Season.

The Natural Impact Statement also outlines Additional Water Quality Measures (5.7.2.2) including consultations with relevant stakeholders, incorporating the requirements of all licences, consents and agreements in the contracts and fully briefing the contractor on the sensitivities of the site.

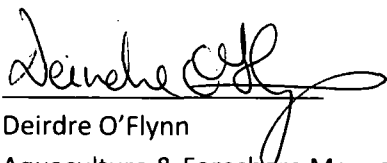
On the basis of the results of chemical analysis of sediment samples taken from the dredge area, these sediments are considered essentially clean and the quality of the material would not preclude Dumping at Sea, in the absence of a feasible alternative. The only elements established to be in concentrations exceeding their lower action levels are Arsenic and Nickel, both of which can be considered as low category 2. Similar results were found in 2006 and are believed to reflect the natural geology in the area.

An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

There are no licensed aquaculture sites in the vicinity of the proposed dump site and therefore significant impacts on aquaculture activities in the area are not considered likely.

Based on the above, the Department would not have any objection to the granting of a Dumping at Sea permit for this project, based on the recommendations in Section 5.7 (Mitigation) of the Natura Impact Statement being implemented. The fact that no dredging should take place during Bathing season or during the Oyster Spatting and Harvest season should however be included as a specific condition in any licence granted.

Yours sincerely,



Deirdre O'Flynn
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