

Grainne Power

Subject: FW: Dublin Port DAS permit application S0024-01

From: timothy.butter [redacted]
Sent: 10 August 2015 13:48
To: Licensing Staff
Subject: Dublin Port DAS permit application S0024-01

FAO Noleen Roche

Dear Noleen,

I am writing to ask if it is possible to get an extension to the time allowed for receipt of third party submissions regarding the application for a Dumping at Sea (DaS) permit by Dublin Port Company (Application No. S0024-01).

The DaS permit is required for the Alexandra Basin Redevelopment (ABR) project. The applicant received planning permission for the ABR on Friday 10 July. The granting of planning permission was an act that was outside the control of the applicant. Nevertheless, the applicant was able to deliver the application documentation for the DaS permit to the EPA on Monday 13 July, the next working day.

After submitting the application for the DaS permit to the EPA, the applicant has 21 days to place a notice in a newspaper to inform the public of the intention to apply for the permit. From the date of placing the notice in the newspaper there is a month period for the receipt of submissions from third parties regarding the permit application. I suggest that the use of newspaper notices is a somewhat archaic practice and is inadequate as a method of reliably disseminating information to all interested parties. Even if one is looking for a notice to be published, it is unreasonable to expect every newspaper to be scrutinised every day for 21 days.

The Dublin Port Company published the notice of intent to apply for a DaS permit in the Irish Independent on Friday 31 July, the Friday of a bank holiday weekend. In spite of the fact that the publication of the newspaper notice was entirely within the control of the applicant, they didn't send notification to the EPA until a letter dated 3 August 2015. This letter appears to have then been posted after the last post had been collected on the third of August as it was not received by the EPA until 5 August 2015.

Whilst the Dublin Port Company may argue that they have acted within the framework procedure for the application for a DaS permit, the company appears to have acted in a deliberate, pre-meditated and cynical fashion to drastically reduce the time available for third party submissions.

It is for this reason that I request the extension of the time period for the receipt of third party submissions for DaS permit application number S0024-01.

Yours sincerely,
Tim Butter

Scientific Officer
Irish Underwater Council
78A Patrick Street, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin