

Noeleen Roche

From: Licensing Staff
Subject: Submission No 476 Stephen Rea

-----Original Message-----

From:
Sent: 28 August 2015 08:55
To: Licensing Staff
Subject: Submission Re: DAS application by Dublin Port Company

Licensing | Environmental Protection Agency licensing@epa.ie

I write to you to express my concern and opposition at the recent proposal of Dublin Port to undertake a dredging project that will see 9.7 million tonnes of dredge waste into Dublin Bay.

Dump sites have been proven not to maintain integrity in the Bay with over 80% moving elsewhere including as silt to negatively affect inshore locations. If EU environmental controls discourage or prevent the EPA allowing dredge waste further out from the Bay - some of it contaminated with metals like arsenic - it is wrong to bulldoze an application through for a part of Dublin Bay which has unique flora and fauna that need nurturing not measures to potentially wipe them out.

Cruise Ships can access the Port now but as a large wave has slammed the Port's Southern wall, damage to people and the wall's sound structure may worsen existing damage that is already apparent from ongoing commercial activity and weather events.

Dun Laoghaire has no commercial shipping at present and is a viable alternative for cruise ships. Ongoing dredging is not a sustainable environmental or commercial means to enhance super-story cargo ships. Just because something is 'inseen' by 'many' (ie underwater) does not make something 'right'.

The granting of a licence for this dump will cause immense environmental damage. Alternative commercial and environmental proposals have not been developed fully by applicants and their political proxies. What looks like an 'easy option' cannot be overturned once the waste is dumped.

The EPA has held many lectures on the tipping point part of 'Climate Change' - this matter is a tipping point for Dublin Bay. It is the EPA that will most likely 'facilitate' the eradication or even extinction of unique species (eg Dublin Bay Porpoise - not 'viewable' by eyesight - needs specialist underwater sound detection equipment).

The EPA will not be standing in the way of commerce by refusing a licence it will be saying that the environmental eco- system in Dublin Bay must 'co-exist' with humans and wildlife and that all commercial considerations have not been proven to have been explored to the extent that would allow this destruction and - on past experience- inevitable downside effects (past reports on coastal topology changes have not been shown to be held up when rigorously examined by scientific scrutiny 'after the event').

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Rea

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