

Noeleen Roche

From: Licensing Staff
Subject: Submission No 496 Jenny Lawler

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

From:
Sent: 28 August 2015 10:14
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 the UNESCO biosphere of Dublin Bay.

This is Ireland's only designated biosphere. It has particular significance for our wildlife, recreational activities and brings hundreds of thousands of visitors to the area each year. It is crucial that this area is protected from potential harm caused by the dumping this amount of dredge waste.

The redistribution of such a vast amount of sediment and dredge waste could have potentially disastrous effect of the epifauna of the bay and could negatively impact on the protected wildlife species the bay is famous for.

I am very concerned about the potential for the release of hydrogen sulphide in the area around the dredging. Similar emissions of hydrogen sulphide were reported in Cork and that operation was 10 times smaller than this proposal. Further to these potential emissions is the possibility of dredging up heavy metal deposits often found in shipping ports. Such deposits are often harmless when trapped in the sediment but could prove disastrous if disturbed and then redistributed into the coastal waters.

I live locally and Dublin Bay is not just part of the local scenery, it is part of my home and my community. I swim and scuba dive in Dublin Bay and this proposal has the potential to severely and negatively impact my life.

Yours sincerely,

Jenny Lawler

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