

Grainne Power

From: Licensing Staff
Subject: Submission No 607 Noreen O'Kelly

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

From:
Sent: 29 August 2015 18:00
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.

This is the latest in the long line of attempts by Dublin Port Company to destroy Dublin Bay. As a state-owned company it is showing total disregard for the environment and the residents of Dublin. They ought to be ashamed of themselves.

The proposed site of the dumping, the Burford Bank, is a shallow bank sloping inwards towards the bay, and it is more than likely that within a very short time the spoil will wash back into the bay and onto and surrounding Bull Island. This could have serious implications for the continued existence of tidal flow in the inner bay at the Clontarf Promenade. Any dumping such as has been applied for should take place well out in the Irish Sea where it is not likely to be washed back in or damage fish stocks.

In 2012 Dublin Port did maintenance dredging and dumped 1 million tons there. They checked the site in 2013 and only 15% of the material remained there, 850,000 had been swept off by wave and tide. How much of this ended up inside the blue lagoon / Sutton creek no one knows. Virtually none of the 6.9 million Cubic Meters - 10 to 12 Million tons will remain on the dumpsite. It is properly called a dump/dispersal site.

The planned new sea lane goes out almost to the Bailey lighthouse. It is a given that all life on the Sea floor for the 10.32 Km of the proposed fairway / sea lane would be killed/wiped out. Similarly at the dumpsite all life would be wiped out and all re-colonisation killed off again each year when dumping recommenced. Recovery time is all that is discussed none of the dead animals will recover!

The materials to be dumped are called Sands and Muds. The mud will form a plume and envelope the entire bay as the dumping is planned for all states of the Tide and all weathers 24/7 there will no recovery time at all. There has been no study, no research; no consideration on how much of the material planned to dump will end up inside the Bull Island and possibly blocking up Sutton Creek and the channel itself. The channel between Bull Island and the roadway Clontarf Rd to James Larkin road and finally Dublin Rd. is silting up at an alarming rate. It is only now that people are beginning to see the relationship of the dumping in the Bay and this silting up. It is possible that the dumping of such a massive amount of material could close in the Lagoon from the sea altogether. It is obvious that all sand or excess sands in Dublin Bay builds up on the Bull Island and it is also building up inside the Blue Lagoon. It is a given that some of the contaminated materials dumped plus some the heavily contaminated material being excavated for land fill will end up on the silt beds inside the Blue lagoon / creek. This area is one of the most important winter bird feeding grounds in all of Europe.

All of this potential devastation of the environment so that cruise ships can sail into Dublin Bay - when Dun Laoghaire is the obvious place for docking.

Can you please stop this vandalism.

Yours sincerely,

NOREEN O'KELLY

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