Submission No 779

From: <u>Licensing Staff</u>
To: <u>Grainne Power</u>

Subject: FW: Dublin Port Company Dumping at Sea Objection

Date: 23 March 2016 08:28:24
Attachments: EPA Submission PMG.docx

From: Pauhla McGrane Sent: 22 March 2016 23:52

To: Licensing Staff

Subject: Dublin Port Company Dumping at Sea Objection

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please see attached submission regarding the application by Dublin Port Company for a Dumping at Sea Permit.

Regards,

Pauhla

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Environmental Licensing Programme Office of Environmental Sustainability EPA, PO Box 3000, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co Wexford

22nd March 2016

RE: Application by Dublin Port Company for Dumping at Sea Permit

Dear Sir/Madam.

I write to you to express my concern and opposition to Dublin Port Company's application for a licence to dump over 6 million tons of contaminated dredge spoil at Burford Bank (Ref. No. S0024-01) in the UNESCO biosphere and Special Area of Conservation of Dublin Bay.

I refer specifically to the issue of settlement of dumped materials and the ultimate fate of this material as it is dispersed and settles over the Dublin Bay area. Sediment transport is somewhat inadequately addressed in Chapter 9 of the EIS where model results clearly indicate the build-up of silt within the lagoon on the western side of the Buthsland. Further investigation is required to determine the impacts of such significant silting over the lifetime of the dumping (ca. 6 years) and beyond. In addition, the redistribution of such a vast amount of sediment and dredge waste could have potentially disastrous effect of the epifatina of the bay and could negatively impact on the protected wildlife species the bay is famous for.

I am also very concerned about the contaminant levels measured in dumped sediments along with 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.

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.

Regards,

Pauhla