

SUBMISSION NO. 6

Noeleen Keavey

From: Licensing Staff
Sent: 11 July 2016 09:19
To: Noeleen Keavey
Subject: FW: New submission entered for Reg no: W0184-02. (Reference Number: W0184-02-160708045228)
Attachments: epa submission 2016.docx
Importance: High

Hi Noeleen,

Please see the email below which was received today.

Regards,
Christina

From: P J Phelan [redacted]
Sent: 08 July 2016 16:53
To: Licensing Staff
Subject: New submission entered for Reg no: W0184-02. (Reference Number: W0184-02-160708045228)
Importance: High

Title: Mr
First Name: P J
SurName: Phelan
Organisation Name:
Address Line 1: 1 Woodlawn
Address Line 2:
Address Line 3: Portlaoise
County: Laois
Post Code:
Email: [redacted]

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ENVA Licence Application 2016 (previous correspondence refers)

In making this submission I wish to record that I do not have the personal resources to police the enforcement section of EPA nor the technical competence to carry out environmental studies to support my experience of nuisance emanating from the licensed plant operated presently by ENVA at Portlaoise.

I am therefore beholden to EPA as a state agency to ensure the plant does not emit harmful substances whether or not such substances are odorous.

Long time failures by EPA in respect of this plant leave me with little confidence in your agency. I wish to remind you of your agency's report issued in April 2015 which concludes:

"Assessment of all of the above information found no evidence of environmental impact as a result of air emissions from the facility, and in particular found that:

☐ Air quality in the vicinity of the ENVA Ireland Ltd. Portlaoise facility and in Portlaoise Town is within ambient air quality guideline values;

☐ Odor nuisance was not identified during independent and EPA odor surveys in 2014 and 2015.

On the basis of these findings, the EPA is satisfied that emissions from the waste oil reprocessing activity have not changed since the licence was granted and the facility is operating in compliance with the requirements of its licence. There is currently no requirement to place any further mandatory controls or monitoring requirements on the emissions from ENVA Ireland Ltd., Portlaoise. "

Later in 2015, at a time when RTE investigations into nuisance attributed to ENVA were nearing a conclusion, your agency summonsed ENVA for creating nuisance. There are many witnesses to say that it had been causing such nuisance before the licence was first issued and throughout the lifetime of the plant since then. Your 2015 report acknowledges 13 complaints – I understand some were made on behalf of a group of people.

Clearly it can be argued that the threat of public exposure of inactivity/ incompetence by EPA had an impact on the case. Yours being a state agency, I fully understand your need to argue that there was no such link at all, at all.

EPA has not demonstrated it's ability to properly regulate the ENVA plant, in my opinion as a resident here since 1977. However my family and I are hopeful that, on this occasion, the matter will be taken seriously.

I am requesting:

1. The monitoring of air borne waste at the point of emission
2. A study of the health impact on residents most exposed to such waste
3. Enforcement of the conditions attaching to any such licence if granted.
4. If it should happen that the EPA experiences a staff/competency deficiency this will be made public by the Board of EPA.