

Noeleen Roche

Subject: FW: Re Proposed Dredging in Killybegs**From:** tito:hoad [mailto:.....]**Sent:** 11 January 2017 23:02**To:** Licensing Staff**Subject:** Re Proposed Dredging in Killybegs

Dear Sir/Madam.

The reason I am emailing you is to voice my concerns at the application by the Dept of Marine for the dredging and dumping of spoil in Donegal Bay from the Smooth Point in Killybegs Harbour. I am employed as farm manager on an oyster farm in Mc Swynes Bay (Bruckless).

I recently attended a meeting held by the IFA and chaired by Richie Flynn, and it made me realise there are a lots of unanswered questions about this application. No one present is opposed to the development but not in its current form.

The area to be dredged was deemed to toxic to disturb during the last dredging in early 2000s (as this was the location that boats were beached to paint their hulls with antifoulant paint which contained lead among other chemicals). The last 15yrs has hardly lessened the risk !!

There doesn't seem to be any test results for the middle layer (to be dumped at sea) as to how toxic it may be and the fact it contains layers of peat which when disturbed will float in the water column subject to currents and tides and could prove a gill irritant to wild and farmed fish even if it's not toxic. If it contains heavy metals it would leave shellfish unfit for human consumption and our stocks would have to be destroyed.

The proposal to dump at site A (the original dump site) without proper current and tide modules should not be allowed as the module being used is decades old, the site is very central in the bay as is site B and borders 4 SAC areas without proper environmental impact studies being conducted. A lot preferable is site C at least it is outside of the bay and would be more subject to South/North tides and currents, maybe even a site D even further out would be better again !! Better again would be to landfill all the layers above bedrock !!

I would also like to see independent surveyors for testing all dredge spoil and to be aboard the dump barges to ensure that the spoil is dumped on the correct location (everyone knows during the last dredging many loads were dumped not far from Killybegs because of bad weather). And a surety from the the Dept of Marine of a recourse for compensation in the event of an ecological disaster, between the indigenous inshore fishing, fin fish farming, shellfish farming and tourism Donegal Bay is worth 10s of millions per annum in revenue to the local communities.

Your's Concerned

Tito Hoad

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