Sub 16.4

Noeleen Roche

Subject:

FW: Dumping in Donegal Bay

Attachments:

dump sites.PDF

----Original Message----

From: Paddy Byrne [mailto: Sent: 11 January 2017 13:48

To: Licensing Staff

Subject: Dumping in Donegal Bay

To whom it may concern.

My name is Paddy Byrne I run Sliabh Liag Boat Trips I have been doing this on various boats since 1995 and been fishing the bay since 1982

www.sliabhleagueboattrips.com

My work which is seasonal is taking tourists out on Donegal Bay to see first hand the unspoiled beauty of the bay and the sea cliffs at Sliabh Liag.

I am emailing you to please consider the following when looking at a lisence for dumping in Donegal Bay for Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Sliabh Liag and the surrounding area bring in hundreds of thousands of visitors from all over the world every year to see the "unspoiled beauty"

this unspoiled beauty could be threatened by the dumping of the spoil from Killybegs anywhere within the Donegal Bay area.

People won't want to come to an area where there is seen to be a blatant disregard for nature or our natural resources Ireland is already a laughing stock when it comes to management of the fishing and off shore oil and this would be another nail in the coffin of rupal Ireland.

There is a lot more going on in Donegal Bay which will be threatened by the dumping, there is the world class beaches, scuba diving, surfing, sea angling.

Marine mammals such as Whales and Dolphins could suffer and stop coming into the bay.

Donegal Bay is also the home of many Basking sharks who feed on plankton and could fall foul of the peaty silt that would be floating in the water for weeks after dumping.

This peaty silt will make its way onto beaches and into fish farms and into the gills of the many species sea fish that attract anglers from all over the world bringing a much need income to the area.

There are many small shellfish farms along Donegal Bay employing hundreds of people in an area where there is little or no other employment they would be put at risk from dumping in the bay.

Over the last few years we have seen the rise of the Wild Atlantic Way which is probably the best marketing campaign the Irish tourist board have ever undertaken they have poured millions of euros into selling the undeniable beauty of the west coast of Ireland and in its few years it has been very successful this could be put at risk from dumping in Donegal Bay.

Donegal has recently been recognised by National Geographic as the coolest place in the world to visit in 2017 that could all change.

There are 3 proposed dump sites on the bay in my opinion site A. 54° 33.70′N, 8°37.30′W, and site B.54°32.30′N, 8°43.90′W, are completely out of the question due to their closeness to the shore Site B being the farther out of the two is just over 5 nm south of Sliabh Liag cliffs and less then 5 nm north of the seal colony of Bomore rocks Site C. 54°34.40′N, 9°05.00′W although not perfect would in my opinion be the safest option for Donegal Bay as it is in an area where the tides are stronger and better able to disperse the spoil.

The best option is not to dump anything at sea unfortunately when it comes to money these people have no regard for nature.

I could go on and on with figures and statistics there is probaly no point as no one wants to listen

I am emailing to ask you to consider all this when issuing a licence for dumping in Donegal Bay to the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Thank you for taking time to read this Paddy Byrne www.sliabhleagueboattrips.com

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