

Environmental Protection
Agency
13 MAR 2017

Environmental Protection Agency,
Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use
PO Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
County Wexford

RE: Industrial Emission Licence P037803- Quinn Cement.

To whom it may concern,

I wish to submit an objection in relation to the above licence amendment application for Quinn Cement IE Licence No: P037803.

The applicant intends to apply for an amendment of the existing licence (P037803) for the addition of alternative fuels for use as co-incineration. The proposal is for the use of alternative fuels consisting of Meat and Bone Meal (MBM), Tyre Derived Fuel (TDF), Biomass Fuels, Sludges and Filter Cakes.

My objection pertains to the proposal to use Tyre Derived Fuel (TDF) as an alternative fuel and the potential detrimental atmospheric health effects of this carcinogenic fuel substitute. The pollutants discharged from the burning of TDF such as dioxins (PCDDs) and furans (PCDFs) are of grave concern to the health of the local population. The current location of the existing cement plant (Licence No P037803) is in the small rural town of Ballyconnell which is significantly industrialised with two cement plants, a quarry, a tile factory, a manufacturing facility and a glass plant all located within a less than three mile radius of the town. The environmental impact of all these industries on the surrounding area is not discussed as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment submitted with the amendment licence application. There are no Ambient Air quality monitoring sites specific to Ballyconnell and therefore no assessment exists of the current air quality and health effects that such industries impose on the surrounding environment.

I am concerned for the health of my family and other local residences in the area who over the last number of years have been subjected to numerous dust issues in the atmosphere and environment all of which have been as a result of discharges from the cement plant stack.

Research by the UK Environmental Protection Agency on co-incineration in cement plants found that pre-existing kilns are not suitable for the burning of Tyre Derived Fuel (TDF) without either being replaced or upgraded to allow 'optimum combustion and efficient pollution control'.

As a local resident who resides in close proximity to the cement plant, I am extremely disappointed that no public consultation or engagement with local residents has been instigated by Quinn Cement in order to inform local residents of the environmental impacts and health effects associated with the proposed use of alternative fuels.

I hope that careful consideration will be given to the objections raised in this letter when processing the licence amendment application request.

Yours sincerely,

Chloe McKee, Ballyconnell