

P

Moore,

The Environmental Protection Agency
EPA Headquarters,
P.O. Box 3000,
Johnstown Castle Estate,
Co. Wexford

3rd August 2011

Re: Murphy Environmental Hollywood Ltd.'s application for a hazardous waste license at Hollywood, Naul, Co. Dublin. Application no: WO129-03.

To whom it may concern:

I would like to make the following submission pertaining to the aforementioned application; by Murphy Environmental Hollywood Ltd. for a license to landfill hazardous and toxic waste at Hollywood Great.

The aim of this submission is to express my grave concern and objection to this application in terms of the possible detrimental effects; it may have on my family neighbours and surrounding area. My parents are local residents and landowners of property adjoining the site of the proposed toxic waste facility. My father and a generation of his predecessors have dedicated their whole lives to farming and maintaining this property as their sole livelihood and familial provision. I and my siblings spent our youth also farming this land and hope to settle and bring up our future families here. We cherish our memories of our home place and lands and envisage creating more future memories with our own families here. The possible granting of the license to include hazardous waste at the quarry site would not only devastate myself and my family but would result in numerous concerns in terms of the following:

The environmental and health concerns

The direct effects of the toxic waste on the surrounding and adjoining land itself in regards to; tillage, crop production, livestock and subsequently the processing of foodstuffs for general consumption. There have been numerous health scares nationally and internationally as a result of contamination, which has also had a damaging effect on the livelihood of producers and the agricultural industry. Ireland's agricultural status in terms of GPA is already reported to be in decline and the possible consequences that this site may have on local agriculture and horticulture is inconceivable. Also, in the current unpredictable climate, the possible airborne toxic dust particles emanating from the site, may contribute to and intensify various respiratory problems and health issues of

residents in the surrounding area. The concept of greenhouse gas/emissions are already a topic high on the agenda in terms of a global warming and fears of protecting our ozone layer. The unease in relation to possible emissions that may be discharged from this landfill/toxic waste site and its consequences in terms of the 'greenhouse effect', also create an atmosphere of apprehension and anxiety. The fact that the site is located on the top of a hill, the possible down gradient flow of materials (ash, toxic water and material) is of grave trepidation. The risk to the water supply, in terms of possible contamination via leakage and groundwater movement is also of huge concern, which may put the health of the local residents', livestock, land quality, and food production for general consumption at serious risk. As well as further geological factors that need to be considered in terms of perhaps leakage into estuaries and streams in the proximate location, as well as the possible contamination of the water source at the aquifer located at the Bog of the Ring in Ring Commons. The risk of noise pollution is worrying, in terms of vehicular activity both within and from the site, due to the large consignments of waste material and heavy vehicles transporting the material. The working times and regularity of transporting waste material to this site are also in question; whether early morning, mid-day, late evenings, nights and /or weekends in terms of the noise pollution? As for the local infrastructure: the roads in the surrounding area, especially the Walshestown-Knockbrack road are already in a dangerous condition due to past and recent unsolicited heavy vehicle activity in the area. Residents have been given assurances over nearly two decades that these roads will be resurfaced and repaired, but alas, much to the frustration of local residents nothing has materialised to date. An increase in heavy vehicular traffic would only add to these hazardous road conditions and create further unsafe roads for pedestrians, cyclists and motorists alike. These rural roads are narrow and winding and are not suitable for large volumes of heavy vehicular activity. The 2011 census has noted that the population in the Hollywood Fingal jurisdiction alone has increased by 25% since 2006 (www.cso.ie); this is not taking into account the surrounding areas. This has obvious implications for these individuals and their families in terms of local service provision and effects of the toxic waste site in their immediate vicinity. The sense of community, local amenities and events that local residents partake in, will also fall prey to the commencement and ongoing activity of this proposed toxic waste site facility. The locality has already been subjected to the proposed Fingal county landfill site at the Nevitt, thus exposing residents to even more disquiet.

Given the current economic climate and the indications in the 2011 census of a national population increase, the impact and sustainability of living in urban areas in terms of infrastructure is and will continue to have an effect in relation to: housing, traffic, sewage, water supplies, energy consumption and so forth. The attractiveness of this local area to those envisaging a move from urban life will be impacted upon; when they discover that there is a toxic waste facility in the area. People move to the country to lead a more sustainable, cost effective, healthier life, of clean air, green fields and a safe environment to rear their children, all of which will be compromised and brought into question with this new proposed waste facility site. A further concern is the effect that the site may have on the future sale of land and property in the locality, as well as the effect it may have on tourism in such a historic area. Also, the concern in relation to the natural habitats of the surrounding nature and the growth and preservation of the

picturesque landscape are all in jeopardy. The safety of the children, staff and families that may be attending the new proposed Hedgestown School, by which the vehicles would be required to pass. The location of this proposed facility to incorporate landfill hazardous toxic ash waste, is based on top of one of the highest hills in scenic north country Dublin zoned H/A. This is a windswept hill and in my opinion the toxic contamination of the surrounding lands and towns will be inevitable.

Further concerns:

The environmental liabilities pending the possible commencement and cessation of this toxic waste site in terms of; future closure, restoration and aftercare of the landfill site, in terms of possible risks to the environment, residents and surrounding area. Those applying for this license do not have to reside in the immediate vicinity nor have their families subjected to the probable aftermath of this facility. Can commitments and guarantees be assured that; these concerns will all be fully addressed, all relevant national and international standards, environmental, health and safety legislation adhered to and assurances provided that there will be **no risks** to the local residents, surrounding land, livestock and environment?. I would also like to echo and concur with the previous submissions and views of the local residents, in relation to objecting to this application.

I very much appreciate that you have taken the time to review and consider my objection to this license.

Yours Sincerely,

P

Moore

For inspection purposes only.
Consent of copyright owner required for any other use.