



Submission

Submitter:	Miss Eileen Leahy
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Application

Applicant:	Dairygold Co-Operative Society Ltd and TINE Ireland Ltd
Reg. No.:	P1103-01

See below for Submission details.

Attachments are displayed on the following page(s).

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To whom this may concern,

I am writing this letter on behalf of my family who have been residents of East Ferry since the early 1900s and intend on living here for many generations to come. We have a number of concerns which we would like to voice following on from previous objections made to the EPA. We are strongly opposed to the granting of a waste water discharge licence by the EPA. We are concerned about the consequences to the harbour following the discharge of up to 4 million litres of fats, oils and grease per day.

First and foremost, we do not have an objection to Dairygold Plant in Mogeely, but would question the pumping of waste water more than 14km to the suggested point of entry in East Ferry. It appears that there have been no alternatives considered to manage the waste. As an organization, I would like to remind you of our openness as an agricultural community in considering alternative waste management options in the past. Following previous dealings you have had with our community with the initial mismanagement during the introduction phase of "sewage sludge" or "biosolids". Following on from your very much appreciated input at this time, this has grown from strength to strength and we now realize the importance of it as a method of waste management control not to mention its many benefits, being rich in organic and inorganic plant nutrients and furthermore its ability to be used as a fertilizer substitute (Singh & Agrawal 2008). Perhaps, considering the scientifically proven work of the Canadian company Ostara an alternative option of waste management could be considered for use within the Dairygold plant. Ostara's proprietary Pearl technology removes polluting nutrients from industrial, agricultural and municipal water treatment streams, transforming them into fertilizers that improve crop yields and reduce run off. Potentially a method of treating the concerning amounts of phosphorus and nitrogen that will be discharged to the harbour daily as per Dr. Gordan Reid's submission report highlights.

The harbour in its present state does not need any more effluent being discarded into it. As harbour users we know that all effluent does not get washed out. We need to be improving the water quality in the harbour not polluting it further. East Ferry is a scenic area drawing tourists to the area which in turn boosts the economy. In addition, it is home to the East Ferry Rowing Club and a sailing school based in the East Ferry Marina. Furthermore, it is used by people kayaking, fishing, wind surfing and bird watching to name but a few. Unfortunately due to increased pollution in recent years charitable fundraiser swims have been discontinued due to the concerning health risks associated. I would hope East Ferry waters would continue to boost such recreational facilities to its grateful and respectful users. Moreover, it is home to many different plant and animal species which will be adversely affected as a result of this project, due to the change to their natural habitat.

It is important to consider the long term effects of this project. I would appreciate if other alternatives could be explored as there does seem to be eco friendly sustainable options available thus protecting this area for years to come and in return benefiting residents, water users and maritime life. I appreciate this opportunity to make a submission to the EPA. I'm thankful you have taken the time to read this.

Yours sincerely,

Eileen Leahy.