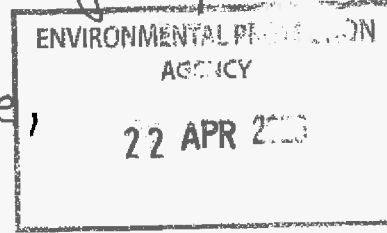


Environmental Licensing Programme,
Office of Sustainability,
Environmental Protection Agency,
P.O. Box 3000,
Salmstown Castle Estate,
Co. Wexford.

Tony Reshoff,



21/4/2020

Ref: Application submitted by Waterford Port Company seeking permission to dredge silt from the Rivers and the Wexford/Waterford Estuary + to dump this silt at Sea.

Dear Sir,

As chairman for the Traditional Salmon fishing group I would suggest that the importation of nitrates should be cut to a minimum or stopped out right.

In 2017 the EPA stated that Irish Rivers were in a critical condition due to the runoff from nitrates applied to the surrounding lands.

In 2018 16,000 tons of nitrates were imported through Waterford port alone.

For 15 years traditional Salmon fishermen have had their income sacrificed by 100% due to the Salmon fishing ban. This ban was put in place to allow the Salmon stocks to recover.

New Waterford port want to dredge the Rivers of silt whose build up is directly attributed to the application of nitrates. These are the same rivers that the EPA described as in a critical condition due to nitrate run off.

It is exasperating that this policy of excess application of fertilizers on the land with no regard to the healthy balance of the ecosystem of a river and no regard for the livelihood of people who make a living from fishing these rivers, is allowed to continue.

As an owner of a registered bi-valve fishing boat I also have grave concerns about the impact on the shellfish/bi-valve habitats should the proposed dredging take place in the Estuary.

Yours Faithfully,

T Besheff