

Submission

Submitter:	Trish Smullen
Submission Title:	GSI Submission
Submission Reference No.:	S010085
Submission Received:	27 August 2021

Application

Applicant:	Saint-Gobain Construction Products (Ireland) Limited
Reg. No.:	P0519-04

See below for Submission details.

Attachments are displayed on the following page(s).

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Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes
following European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018
(S.I. No. 296 of 2018)

Geological Survey Ireland Programme	Dataset	Relevant EIA Topic	Coverage	Description / Notes	Link to Geological Survey Ireland map viewer
Geohazards	Landslide: National landslide database and landslide susceptibility map	Land & Soil/Climate/Landscape	National	Associated guidance documentation relating to the National Landslide Susceptibility Map is also available.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=b68cf1e4a9044a5981f950eb9c5625c
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Historic)	Water	Regional	Provide information of historic flooding, both surface water and groundwater. [A lack of flooding presented in any specific location of the map only indicates that a flood has not been detected. It does not indicate that a flood cannot occur in that location at present or in the future]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Groundwater Flooding (Predictive)	Water	Regional	Provides information on the probability of future karst groundwater flooding (where available). [The maps do not, and are not intended to, constitute advice. Professional or specialist advice should be sought before taking, or refraining from, any action on the basis of the flood maps]	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=848f83c85799436b808652f9c735b1cc
Geohazards	Radon Map	Land & Soils/Air	National		http://www.epa.ie/radiation/radonmap/
Geohazards	County Geological Sites as adopted by National Heritage Plan and listed in County Development Plans	Land & Soils/Landscape	Regional	All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=a30af518e87a4c0b2fbd2aaac3c228
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	National	1:100,000 scale and associated memoirs.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Bedrock geology:	Land & Soils	Regional	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Sediments	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Quaternary geology: Geomorphology	Land & Soils	National	1:50,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=de7012a99d2748ea9106e7ee1b6ab8d5&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Physiographic units:	Land & Soils	National	Broad-scale physiographic landscape units mapped at 1:100,000 scale in order to be represented as a cartographic digital map at 1:250,000 scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=afa76a20fc54877843aca1bc075c62b
Geological Mapping	GeoUrban: Spatial geological data for the greater Dublin and Cork areas	Land & Soils	Regional	Includes 3D models	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9768f4818b794c16093beb2212a850ce6&scale=0
Geological Mapping	Geotechnical database	Land & Soils	National	Digital geotechnical and Site Investigation Reports and boreholes which can be accessed through online downloads	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=a2718be1873d47a585a3f0415b4a724c
Goldmine	Historical data sets including geological memoirs and 6" to 1 mile geological mapping records	Land & Soils/Water	National	Available online	https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/goldmine/index.html
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater resources (aquifers)	Water	National	Data limited to 1:100,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater recharge.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale; long term annual average recharge	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater vulnerability.	Water	National	Data limited to 1:40,000 scale; sites should be investigated at local scale	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Group scheme and public supply source protection areas.	Water	National	Not all PWS / GWS have SPZ / ZOC. Check with IW / coco / NFGWS for private supplies.	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater Protection Schemes	Water	National	Data is limited to scale of 1:40,000. Data does not include all of the source protection areas	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Catchment and WFD management units.	Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	karst specific data layers	water	National	For areas underlain by limestone, includes karst features, tracer test database; turf/rough water levels (gwlevel.ie)	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Wells and Springs	Water	National	Not comprehensive, there may be unrecorded wells and springs	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7e8a202301594687ab14629a10b748ef
Groundwater & Geothermal	Groundwater body Descriptions	Water	National	Not exhaustive; only those in designated SACs; could be other GWDTEs; for more information contact NPWS / EPA / site investigations Also, Roadmap for a Policy and Regulatory Framework for Geothermal Energy, November 2020	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/activities/understanding-ireland-groundwater/Pages/Groundwater-bodies.aspx
Groundwater & Geothermal	Geothermal Suitability maps	Land & Soils/Water	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=9eae46bee08de41278b90a9916d00b9e
Marine & Coastal Unit	INFOMAR - Ireland's national marine mapping programme; providing key baseline data for Ireland's	Water	National		https://secure.dcaa.gov.ie/GSI/INFOMAR_VIEWER/
Marine & Coastal Unit	CHERISH - Coastal change project (Climate, Heritage and Environments of Reefs, Islands, and Headlands)	Water	Regional		http://www.cherishproject.eu/en/
Marine & Coastal Unit	Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI).	water / Land & Soils	Regional	Currently the project is being carried out on the east coast and will be rolled out nationally	https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/marine-and-coastal-unit/projects/Pages/Coastal-Vulnerability-Index.aspx
Minerals	Aggregate potential	Land & Soils/Material Assets	National	Consideration of mineral resources and potential resources as a material asset which should be explicitly recognised within the environmental assessment process	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Active quarries	Land & Soils	National		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee8c4c285a49413aa6f1344416dc9956
Minerals	Historic mines	Land & Soils/Cultural Heritage	National	Inventory and Risk Classification 2009. Environmental Protection Agency, Economic Minerals Division and Geological Survey Ireland (DECC).	https://gis.epa.ie/EPAMaps/default?zesting=7&nothing=7&lid=EPA:LEMA_Facilities_Extractive_Facilities
Tellus	Geochemical data: multi-element data for shallow soil, stream sediment and stream water	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	Airborne geophysical data including radiometrics, electromagnetics and magnetics	Land & Soils	Regional	A national mapping programme	https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754
Tellus	urban geochemistry mapping (Dublin SURGE project).	Land & Soils	Regional		https://dcenr.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=6304e122b733498b99642707f72754

Notes:

- The maps and data listed above are available on the Geological Survey Ireland map viewer <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/data-and-maps/Pages/default.aspx>
- Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data
- Geological Survey Ireland and Irish Concrete Federation published guidelines for the treatment of geological heritage in the extractive industry in 2008.



Environmental Licensing Programme
Office of Environmental Sustainability
EPA
Johnstown Castle Estate
Wexford, Y35 W821

27 August 2021

Re: IE Licence Review – Saint-Gobain Mining (Ireland) Ltd. Gypsum extraction facility near Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan and landfill and processing facility at Lisnabow, Kilmainhamwood, Kells, County Meath

Your Ref: P0519-04

Our Ref: 21/248 [cf. 20/72]

Dear Sir/Madam,

Geological Survey Ireland is the national earth science organisation and is a division of the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications. We provide independent geological information and advice and gather various data for that purpose. Please see our [website](#) for data availability. Use of our data or maps should be attributed correctly to 'Geological Survey Ireland'.

With reference to your email received on the 7 July 2021, concerning the industrial emissions licence review for the Saint-Gobain Mining (Ireland) Ltd. Gypsum extraction facility, Geological Survey Ireland would encourage use of and reference to our datasets. Please find attached a list of our publicly available datasets that may be useful to the environmental assessment and planning process. We recommend that you review this list and refer to any datasets you consider relevant to your assessment. The remainder of this letter provides more detail on some of these datasets, with particular reference to the proposed development site.

We are pleased to see use of our Bedrock, Geoheritage and Groundwater datasets within the EIAR.

Geoheritage

Geological Survey Ireland is in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage), to identify and select important geological and geomorphological sites throughout the country for designation as geological NHAs (Natural Heritage Areas). This is addressed by the Geoheritage Programme of Geological Survey Ireland, under 16 different geological themes, in which the minimum number of scientifically significant sites that best represent the theme are rigorously selected by a panel of theme experts.

County Geological Sites (CGSs), as adopted under the National Heritage Plan, include additional sites that may also be of national importance, but which were not selected as the very best examples for NHA designation. All geological heritage sites identified by Geological Survey Ireland are categorised as CGS pending any further NHA designation by NPWS. CGSs are now routinely included in County Development Plans and in the GIS of planning departments, to ensure the recognition and appropriate protection of geological heritage within the planning system. CGSs can be viewed online under the Geological Heritage tab on the online [Map Viewer](#).

The audits for Co. Monaghan and Co. Meath were carried out in 2013 and 2007 respectively. The full report details can be found [here](#) and [here](#). **Our records show that there is no CGS in the vicinity of the landfill and processing facility at Lisnabow, Kilmainhamwood, Kells, County Meath. There is a CGS located within the mining operations located at Knocknacran, Co. Monaghan.**

Knocknacran Gypsum Mine, Co. Monaghan (GR 281006, 299448), under IGH themes: IGH7 Quaternary, IGH9 Upper Carboniferous and Permian, and IGH15 Economic Geology. Further information can be found in the site report: [MN010](#).



The Irish Geological Heritage Programme has numerous working quarries on its database where there are significant geological sections or features exposed within the quarry, and it is never the intention to prevent ongoing extraction. In fact, new exposures through quarrying may reveal new features of interest to the geologist, and we have in the past requested that periodic monitoring of the new faces be permitted.

Geological Survey Ireland would request that the operator might assist our geological heritage goals with the following (and ideally this would be written into the restoration / closure plan) and be included as a condition of planning as deemed appropriate by the planning authority:

1. Allowing access to quarry faces by appropriate scientists (upon request and with due regards to Health and Safety requirements) during quarrying to check for interesting new stratigraphies / relationships as they might become exposed and to establish if the quarry site is worthy of recognition post extraction and through aftercare/restoration planning.
2. If deemed appropriate in (1) above, leaving a representative section of the quarry face at the end of the quarry life or inclusion of information panels to promote the geology to the public or develop tourism or educational resources if appropriate depending on the future use of the site. Natural exposures are few, or deeply weathered, this measure would permit on-going improvement of geological knowledge of the subsurface.

The Geoheritage Programme tries to promote a partnership between geological heritage and active quarrying, with such measures as those outlined in the 'Geological Heritage Guidelines for the Extractive Industry', which can be downloaded [here](#). This document, written in association with Irish Concrete Federation, acts as a comprehensive guide in the sustainable extraction of natural resources while preserving the geological heritage of Ireland.

Groundwater

Geological Survey Ireland's [Groundwater and Geothermal Unit](#), provides advice, data and maps relating to groundwater distribution, quality and use, which is especially relevant for safe and secure drinking water supplies and healthy ecosystems.

Proposed developments and emissions licensing applications need to consider any potential impact on specific groundwater abstractions and on groundwater resources in general. We recommend using the groundwater maps on our [Map viewer](#), which should include: wells; drinking water source protection areas; the national map suite - aquifer, groundwater vulnerability, groundwater recharge and subsoil permeability maps. For areas underlain by limestone, please refer to the karst specific data layers (karst features, tracer test database; turlough water levels ([gwlevel.ie](#))). Background information is also provided in the Groundwater Body Descriptions. Please read all disclaimers carefully when using Geological Survey Ireland data.

The Groundwater Karst viewer indicates the presence of a karst spring 1km north of the Knocknacran mine site. As stated in the EIAR, the Groundwater Resources (Aquifer) indicates the site is primarily underlain by a 'Poor Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive except for Local Zones', though a 'Locally Important Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Moderately Productive' underlies the margins of the mine site.

The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates variable groundwater vulnerability within the area of the Knocknacran mine site. We would therefore recommend use of the Groundwater Viewer to identify areas of High to Extreme Vulnerability in your assessments, as any groundwater-surface water interactions that might occur would be greater in these areas.

As stated in the EIAR, there are Public Water Supply Schemes located 1.2km ([Kingscourt Mullantra PWS](#)), and 2km ([Kingscourt Descart PWS](#)), from the Knocknacran mine respectively .



The Groundwater Data Viewer indicates two aquifers classed as a 'Poor Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive except for Local Zones' and a 'Poor Aquifer - Bedrock which is Generally Unproductive', underlie the landfill and processing facility at Lisnabow, Kilmainhamwood, Kells, County Meath. The Groundwater Vulnerability map indicates the area covered is classified as 'High' Vulnerability.

The Groundwater Protection Response overview and link to the main report is here: <https://www.gsi.ie/en-ie/programmes-and-projects/groundwater-and-geothermal-unit/projects/protecting-drinking-water/what-is-drinking-water-protection/county-groundwater-protection-schemes/Pages/default.aspx>

I hope that these comments are of assistance, and if we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact me Clare Glanville, or my colleague Trish Smullen at GSIPlanning@gsi.ie.

Yours sincerely,

Clare Glanville
Senior Geologist
Geological Survey Ireland

Enc: Table - Geological Survey Ireland's Publicly Available Datasets Relevant to Planning, EIA and SEA processes.

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From: [CorporateSupport.Unit](#)
To: [Licensing Staff](#)
Cc: [CorporateSupport.Unit](#)
Subject: Reply from DECC re EIS 21/248 IE Licence Review - Landfill Facility near Kells, Co.Meath and Carrickmacross, Co.Monaghan
Date: Friday 27 August 2021 10:46:36
Attachments: [21_248 IE application facilities near Kells Co.Meath & Carrickmacross Co.Monaghan_Final.pdf](#)
[GSI datasets relevant to EIA & SEA_20210421.pdf](#)

EPA reference P0519-04

Good morning,

Please see attached and below a reply from Ms. Trish Smullen and Dr Clare Glanville (Senior Geologist) on behalf of Geological Survey Ireland, (a division of the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications) for the subject below.

Please forward an acknowledgment of receipt to CorporateSupport.Unit@decc.gov.ie at your earliest convenience.

Regards,
Enda Brady,
Corporate Support Unit,
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications.
087 623 7714

From: GSI Planning
Sent: 27 August 2021 09:14
To: CorporateSupport.Unit
Cc: Clare Glanville; GSI Planning
Subject: RE: EIS 21/248 IE Licence Review - Landfill Facility near Kells, Co.Meath and Carrickmacross, Co.Monaghan

Hi Enda,
Please see attached response and dataset sheet for return to the EPA.
Thanks and regards,
Trish

From: Trish Smullen
Sent: 08 July 2021 08:59
Cc: GSI Planning
Subject: EIS 21/248 IE Licence Review - Landfill Facility near Kells, Co.Meath and Carrickmacross, Co.Monaghan

EIS 21/248

Industrial Emissions Licence Review - Landfill Facility near Kells, Co.Meath and Carrickmacross, Co.Monaghan.

Request for observations by the EPA for return via the CSU Mailbox. Letter attached.

Regards,

Trish

From: noreply Reply [mailto:noreply@epa.ie]

Sent: 07 July 2021 15:30

To: An Bord Pleanála; An Taisce - The National Trust For Ireland; Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine; Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht; Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport; CorporateSupport.Unit; WPPR; Fáilte Ireland - Spec. Body; Health & Safety Authority; Health Service Executive (HSE); Inland Fisheries Ireland - Spec Body; Irish Water - Spec. Body; Meath County Council - Environ Section Spec Body; Meath County Council - Planning Section Spec Body; Monaghan County Council -Environ Section Spec Body; Monaghan County Council- Planning Section Spec Body; Teagasc; The Heritage Council

Subject: Notification from EPA in relation to P0519-04 Saint-Gobain Construction Products (Ireland) Limited EPA043927

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please review the attached notification. Any response should be submitted to licensing@epa.ie.

EPA Correspondence Ref# LACT00008280 EIS/EIAR - Further Specified Body Notification.

Please note that there is **no requirement to acknowledge receipt** of this e-mail.

Yours faithfully,
Environmental Protection Programme
Office of Environmental Sustainability
Tel: 053-9160600

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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.