

**From:** [Jose Alonso](#)  
**To:** [Eve O'Sullivan](#)  
**Cc:** [Ann Marie Donlon](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Request for comments (Berth 52 and Ferryport Basin) : DAS application Dublin Port Company S0033-01  
**Date:** Thursday 14 November 2024 16:04:27

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**From:** Margot Cronin <[margot.cronin@marine.ie](mailto:margot.cronin@marine.ie)>

**Sent:** Thursday, November 14, 2024 3:27 PM

**To:** Jose Alonso <[J.Alonso@epa.ie](mailto:J.Alonso@epa.ie)>

**Subject:** RE: Request for comments (Berth 52 and Ferryport Basin) : DAS application Dublin Port Company S0033-01

Hi Jose,

Attached is my response regarding sediment chemistry of Ferryport and Berth 52 vibracore sediment.

Let me know if you need me to clarify anything.

All the best, Margot



**To: Jose Alonso, EPA**

**From: Margot Cronin, MI**

**RE: Dublin Port Company Dublin Harbour -Results of vibracores sample analysis**

**Dumping at Sea permit application**

**Date: 14/11/2024**

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**Background**

This application relates only to follow-up sampling at depth for capital dredging and dumping at sea of material from Ferryport Basin and at Berth 52. Bathymetry indicates the following depth of sediment to be removed:

Ferryport Basin	1.5 - 4 m in north third 0 – 2 m in middle third 0 – 2 m in south third
Berth 52;	0.5 – 8 m

**Discussion**

In terms of QA, the recovery yield for the CRM is considered marginal for some metals, and quite low for some PAH.

**Ferry Port:** In the Ferry Port samples, there is evidence of contamination in several samples, and of several contaminants (metals and PAH). The area of greatest contamination appears to be in the surface meter at the north end of the Ferry Port area, with several class 3 and class 2 results. In my opinion, the surface sediment in this area is not suitable for conventional dumping at sea. This surface material could be dredged but should be treated separately, i.e. not permitted for conventional dumping at sea. It is noted that DPC has proposed an exclusion zone of 50 m in this area and remove the area from the project.

Note, the remaining deeper sediment has a small number of minor exceedances of lower action levels and would be considered to be of similar quality to the broader port area.

**Berth 52:** Chemistry of the samples from Berth 52 indicates lower concentrations of contaminants than found at the Ferry Port area but, nonetheless, with some exceedances of lower action levels. In particular, there appears to be a layer of higher

concentrations for several metals, PAH and PCB at about 3 m depth. These lower action level exceedances are mostly low Class 2, with some low/mid Class 2 and one mid Class 2 and are broadly similar in quality to the earlier sediment chemistry results for the project.

### **Recommendations**

Apart from the surface 1 m at the north end of the Ferry Port, the remaining sediment is broadly similar in quality to the surface samples from earlier testing for the Dublin Harbour project. It may be possible for DPC to find an alternative use for the deep sediment at Berth 52, given that the particle size analysis indicates predominantly clean sand.

In the event of there being no feasible alternative, this sediment would not be considered unsuitable for dumping at sea at the designated dumpsite.