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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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To: Minister Micheál Martin

Fax No: 01 671 4429

From: Karen Vaughey

Date: 22nd March 04

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Message:

Dear Minister Martin,

Please find attached a copy of the Agency's response to your letter of 3rd March 04. This was posted to your office on Friday 19th March 04.

Regards,
Karen Vaughey
Programme Officer
Office of Licensing & Guidance



Environmental Protection Agency
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Micheál Martin T.D.,
Minister for Health and Children
Office of the Minister
Department of Health and Children
Hawkins House
Dublin 2

19th March 2004

Reg. No. 186-1

Your Ref: 4037

Dear Minister

I am to refer to your letter of 3rd March 2004 in relation to the waste licence application, which is before the Agency in respect of a proposed waste incinerator to be located in the Ringaskiddy area of Cork harbour. Your letter has been referred to me for reply.

As you are aware the Agency is in the process of examining and assessing this application with a view to determining whether to grant a licence for the facility or not.

Your letter is being taken as a submission in relation to this application having regard to the concerns of the residents as outlined in it.

The issue raised in your letter is one that the Agency will consider in the context of assessing the application. You will appreciate that the licensing process is a quasi-judicial one, which the Agency must complete in accordance with the statutory provisions of the Waste Management Act and supporting licensing regulations. It is for this reason that the Agency cannot answer your query or express any views with regard to the licence application at this time.

I should like however to advise that the statutory provisions governing the licensing process are very clear in that the Agency cannot grant a licence unless it is satisfied with regard to a number of matters including, that the activity concerned will not cause environmental pollution.

Yours sincerely

Paddy Nolan
Programme Manager
Licensing Unit
Office of Licensing & Guidance



Guardians of the Environment