

EPA  
PO Box 3000  
Johnstown Castle Estate  
Co Wexford



Donoughmore  
Donard  
Co Wicklow  
29 May 06

Sub on Obj 2  
W0204-01

**Re: Proposed Decision on Reg No. WO204-01 Brownfield Restoration Irl Ltd, Whitestown, Co Wicklow.**

Dear Sirs,

With reference to the above proposed decision, we wish to support the submissions made by WAG, Chrysalis, An Taisce, WCC and local residents. In particular we wish to support the point made by Michael Nicholson for WCC that there is no need for a composting unit given the age of the materials involved. We also wish to make the following observations on the Golder submission:

**1. Stephenson's Quarry and other illegal dumps**

To suggest that Brownfield exists for the sole purpose of remediating illegal dumps other than that at the Whitestown site formerly John O'Reilly's Quarry is disingenuous to say the least. While there is no doubt that Stephenson's quarry represents a potential environmental hazard, the full extent of the contents of their site is still unknown at least as far as can be established, and the full rigours of the law have yet to be applied to that illegal operation. It is for the authorities, namely WCC, the EPA, the DPP and the courts and **not** for Brownfield Restoration Irl Ltd to decide on the appropriate measures to be taken to remediate the Stephenson site. In due course it is a matter for the owners of Stephenson's Quarry to go through the official channels and apply for the necessary permissions and licence to remediate the environmental mess they have created at their site.

**2. Facilities**

It is our understanding that the waste management facilities at Ballinagran together with Rampere have sufficient capacity to receive that which cannot be recycled either off site or as inert material on site. To our knowledge nobody was suggesting that most of the wastes just be *'disposed of'*, as it was clear in the proposed decision that anything capable of being recycled/reused would be transported off site for that purpose. Our understanding is that most of the waste on site comes into this category one way or the other.

**3. Red Herrings**

It is completely irrelevant to this application whether or not Co Manager, Mr Eddie Sheehy suggested that BRI should purchase Stephenson's Quarry. It is a separate entity and will have to be treated as such.

#### 4. Release of documents and other comments

We understand that in the interests of transparency, the file relating to this or any other application to the EPA is available for public inspection. Therefore we are at a loss to know why the agency should be called upon to *'give an explanation about the timing of the release of documents relating to this application'*. This suggests that the process should be kept secret. Thankfully it is not.

We consider the comment suggesting that objections to this application are made from a NIMBY perspective to be arrogant and ignorant of the true facts. It somehow seems to have escaped the attention of the applicant that people in this area are genuinely concerned about the environment, and that the applicant's proposal seeks to endanger it further. Our original complaint to WCC in 1998 outlined our concerns about the potential pollution of the Carrigower River and we made every possible attempt to stop the illegal dumping which we witnessed, to no avail regrettably.

It seems important to reiterate the point that the Whitestown site was never suitable for the planned activity, and all the engineering in the world will not make it suitable. It must be remediated and returned to a Greenfield site. Nothing else is acceptable.

Yours sincerely



Russ and Emer Bailey

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