

Qualifications and Professional Experience

My name is Lisa Courtney. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts, Honours Degree in Archaeology and a Masters of Science (Ag) in Environmental Resource Management from University College Dublin. Since 1992 I have been employed as a professional archaeologist and I am a member of the Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland (MIAI). I commenced work with Margaret Gowen & Company in 1996 where I am now a senior archaeologist and specialise in the area of archaeological impact assessment and manage the output of cultural heritage reports for inclusion in the planning process. I have worked on numerous large-scale infrastructural projects and small-scale developments alike including the production of archaeological constraints studies, site selection studies and environmental impact statements for road, pipeline and landfill developments. I have undertaken research projects, for the Department of Heritage, Environment and Local Government and prepared a guidance document for the National Roads Authority (NRA) in relation to the assessment of archaeological heritage impacts of National Road Schemes and best practice. In 2007 two historic landscape characterisation projects in relation to the lands of Fingal were completed for the Heritage Council and Fingal County Council by Margaret Gowen & Co Ltd.

I researched and prepared the baseline information for the archaeological chapter of the EIS and have reviewed all of the information for the purposes of this statement.

The services of Margaret Gowen & Co. Ltd were engaged to prepare the archaeological chapter of the EIS for the proposed Fingal Landfill in 2005.

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- 5 *In addition, Figure 2.8 in Volume 2 of the EIS suggests that the illegal dump encroaches on the proposed archaeological buffer. No consideration has been given to the risk to archaeological features which may underlie the illegal dump and no communication of this risk to their local heritage has been made public to local people and other stakeholders.*

The presence of an historical landfill and its proximity to a newly revealed sub surface archaeological monument detected by geophysical survey is discussed and highlighted throughout the archaeological chapter of the EIS and in the accompanying figures.

The impact of the historical landfill on the landscape is clearly shown on the aerial photograph included in the archaeological report as figure 3. All sites and features revealed as a result of on going archaeological investigations in 2005 and 2006 have been recorded for the purpose of the EIS and brought to the attention of the relevant authorities.

Given the level of earthmoving works (fig 3), it was considered by the consultant archaeologists and the authorities that the most appropriate mitigation strategy to investigate this area is licenced monitoring. This is stated under the heading 'Monitoring' in the 'Mitigating Adverse Impacts on Cultural Heritage' section of the archaeological chapter of the EIS.

All archaeological issues will be resolved to the satisfaction of the Minister of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

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