



County Waterford

Ref No 0A10-323575

The direct planning application to an Coimisiún Pleanála by the port of waterford company for port facilities comprising a c.250m wharf extension to support offshore renewable energy (ORE) development and general port development

Dear Sir/ Madam

I would like to make a submission on the application, given the potential of the proposed general port development in its entirety – wharf- dredging – dumping at sea. I believe the Port of Waterford are required to apply for a derogation under regulation 54 of the European communities (Birds and Natural habitats) regulations 2011. Because there is potential for negative affects on the estuary environment, SAC and the shellfish designated waters.

I would also request An Coimisiún Pleanála in the event that the Coimisiún grants permission for the application that a condition be applied restricting the depth and length of vessels berthing at the 250m wharf and restricting the vessels to ORE only vessels. In the interests of sustainability development, through out the estuary.

I also request that An Coimisiún Pleanála review the decision by An Bord Pleanála when permission was granted for Waterford port to relocate to Kilkenny where it has become known as the Port of Waterford. The information supplied in the application subsequently turned out to be incorrect. (The files from that application, and oral hearing would be in the An Bord Pleanála archives I ask that the Coimisiún review the files as part of the present application) The information supplied at that time resulted in the opposite to what was proposed happening which was a massive amount of dredging in places where it was predicted no dredging would be needed, which is a unsustainable amount of dredging at the bar outside Cheekpoint.

There are increased dredging area proposed as part of the general port development, All I believe to be unsustainable, with two questionable the area across from Cheekpoint below great island power station this area has nothing to do with the channel to the port? There is a bizarre situation proposed for Cheekpoint where Groyne was constructed to create flow and a sink for the silt from the channel, Now it is proposed to plough dredge the silt from the sink out into the channel on a continuous basis, along with plough dredging the channel on a continuous basis. The groynes appear to be playing a pivotal role in the increased dredging, rather than removing the need for dredging as they were supposed too.

I would also like to bring the Coimisiún attention to the water quality in Ireland report 2019 – 2024 “Excess nutrients in our waters from agriculture and waste remains the greatest issue, together with activities impacting on physical habitat conditions(Hydromorphology)”

That indicates that planning and licencing are over 90% responsible for the environmental destruction partial extinction of species in the water environment through out Ireland and through out the Waterford estuary, A truly shocking situation.

In order to limit the negative effects on the estuary environment, SAC and the shellfish designated waters of the estuary I ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to put a condition that limits the depth and length of the ships berthing at the Port of Waterford

I also submit my submission of the 22-3-204 + letter from 2022 and attachments to the EPA on the dredging licences and dumping licences sought by the port of Waterford to accommodate the wharf extension

Your Sincerely

