From: [redacted]
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Name: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a submission in strong opposition to application MUL260006, relating to Uisce Éireann's proposed assessment of the maritime area for a wastewater outfall serving Lahinch.

I understand that this application relates to the maritime assessment rather than the wastewater treatment plant itself. However, it is an important stage in the overall process, and I believe the potential consequences for Lahinch must be seriously considered from the outset.

I fully recognise that Lahinch's wastewater infrastructure needs to be addressed, as the current situation has been unfit for purpose for many years. However, resolving this problem must not come at the expense of the local environment, economy and community.

Lahinch's identity and livelihood are intrinsically linked to its beach, sea, watersports and golf. The area has already suffered the loss of Blue Flag status and recurring beach closures due to poor water quality for many years. I am deeply concerned about the potential impact of a this new wastewater outfall on marine life, bathing water quality and the reputation of Lahinch as a tourist destination. The consequences for local businesses, employment and tourism could be significant.

I am also concerned that sufficient consideration may not be given to the prevailing onshore wind (south westerly) which will, the majority of the time, blow the wastewater discharge straight back to Lahinch. The current wastewater treatment is obviously not fit for purpose, but at least heavy rain is required before wastewater is flushed into liscannor bay and then often held there for a few days by onshore winds. With the new proposal, the waste water will **always** be flushed into liscannor bay, pumped into the bay by design rather than after heavy rain, and blown straight back to shore, including the main prom at lahinch and the boundary of the golf course.

Having surfed in Lahinch for over 20 years, I have a strong personal connection to the area. As a resident raising a young family here, I am deeply concerned about the long-term implications of this proposal for our community and future generations.

In 2026, it is staggering that a proposal with potentially such significant consequences for a thriving coastal community should be progressed without these concerns being fully addressed. Lahinch is not simply a location for infrastructure; it is a community whose environment and economy depend on the very waters that could be affected.

I strongly oppose this application and urge MARA to give these concerns serious consideration. Lahinch undoubtedly needs a sustainable, long-term wastewater solution, but it must be one that protects the marine environment, public health, local livelihoods and the future of the community.

I sincerely hope MARA recognises the potential consequences of this proposal and ensures that the environmental, economic and social impacts are fully assessed before the process progresses further.

Yours faithfully,

[redacted]