

K Byrne

## Dáire Littleton Caden

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**From:** Bord  
**Sent:** Dé Máirt 17 Meán Fómhair 2024 09:23  
**To:** Appeals2  
**Subject:** FW: Substitute Consent, Quarry, Windmill Hill, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin, Case Number: ABP-310461-21

**From:** Tara Hayes <tarasian@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 16, 2024 10:31 PM  
**To:** Bord <bord@pleanala.ie>  
**Cc:** Mam <Ritakiernanhayes@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** Substitute Consent, Quarry, Windmill Hill, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin, Case Number: ABP-310461-21

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16<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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**RE: Substitute Consent, Quarry, Windmill Hill, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin, Case Number: ABP-310461-21**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the above matter and having resided on Windmill Hill for close to fifty years, I am making this due to the significant impact the quarry's activities have had on my home and family over the years as well as the continued impact it continues to have as of today. My neighbours continue to share similar concerns and I am aware that they have also shared similar concerns.

My concerns are as follows:

### **Air Quality**

The quarry continues to have an impact on the air quality in the area in particular when it comes to dust particles, odours, and emissions. The continuous generation of dust from the quarry significantly affects my house, leaving the windows, cars, and outdoor areas consistently covered in layers of dust. This has become more significant over the last couple of years.

### **Noise and Vibration**

In recent years, there has been an increase in both the frequency and intensity of the blasts at the quarry. This has led me to be seriously concerned regarding the safety of my house and property along with the surrounding environment. The tremors from the blasts have become notably stronger and more frequent, suggesting that the blasting sites are moving closer to both the protected Windmill structure, the site the structure is on and residential properties, including my home. It is evident that my property has suffered structural damage over the years. I'd also like to point out that there is no adequate early warning system in place to notify residents about upcoming blasts.

### **Traffic**

The Planning Authority has acknowledged the significant impact of quarry traffic on the N7 national road. However, it is also important to note the impact on the local minor road, Farmersvale Road. Trucks frequently use this road, and the spillage of rock and stone has compromised its quality which is evident to see. The safety of the road is also a concern due to the narrow nature of the road in certain areas which makes it unsafe for trucks and cars to pass one another. We note that Condition 35, relating to Access to the Quarry, would be imposed should permission be granted by ABP.

### **Water**

For the sake of public health and the well-being and health of myself, I am concerned about the depletion of the water table, as I rely on drilled springs for my water supply. The expansion of the quarry raises concerns about the potential impact on the quality of the water supplied to my home.

### **Protected Structure**

The unauthorised development of the quarry is encroaching into the field where the protected Windmill structure is located. There is now a visible overhang from the N7, with previous restrictions around the protected structure seemingly bypassed by blasting downwards and beneath the field. As a result, the long-term preservation of this structure is under threat.

The quarry continues to operate on rural-zoned land, with unauthorised development taking place. The Planning Authority has acknowledged that work has continued unabated since the submission of previous applications and has even extended beyond the designated application boundary (9.2.1).

It is also worth noting that South Dublin County Council has denied planning permission to local landowners' children for building standalone homes on land owned by their families for generations, citing the protection of the environment, landscape, and local flora and fauna.

I acknowledge that the applicant has agreed to the conditions stipulated by SDCC in the event ABP grants permission. However, there is no assurance that these conditions will be enforced by SDCC or fully adhered to by the applicant based on past experience.

I respectfully request that my submission is considered during your decision-making process and please don't hesitate to contact me should you require any further thoughts or information.

Yours sincerely,  
Rita Hayes