

An Bord Pleanála

Marlborough Street

Dublin 1

D01 V902

AN BORD PLEANÁLA	
LDG- _____	
ABP- _____	
12 SEP 2024	
Fee: € _____	Type: _____
Time: <u>9.00</u>	By: <u>post</u>

Aoibhneas

Newtown Lower

Windmill Hill

Rathcoole

Co. Dublin

D24H008

10th September 2024

Case Number: ABP-310461-21

Re: Behan's Quarry, Windmill Hill, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin

Dear Sir/Madam,

I refer to the above case number and thank you for forwarding submissions/observations from Cunnane Stratton Reynolds and South Dublin County Council. As a local resident living in close proximity to the quarry for the past 23 years, I wish to make a submission on the basis of the impact of further development of the quarry on my home and that of my family. These concerns are as follows:

Air Quality:

In previous submissions I have raised concerns about the impact the quarry has on air quality in particular dust particles, odours and emissions. In addition the generation of dust from the quarry is a considerable nuisance with our cars and property constantly covered in layers of dust.

Noise and Vibration:

Over the past number of years, I have noticed the frequency and severity of blasts at the quarry have increased to the point where I have serious concerns for my property and the local environment. The blast vibrations are significantly stronger and more frequent than heretofore suggesting the blasting sites are moving closer to the protected Windmill site as well as the residential properties in the vicinity which includes my own house. These blast vibrations are so strong that my entire house shakes as if being hit by an earthquake which is of course very frightening especially to children. Over the past 23 years I have never once

received an advance notification of blasting or heard any warning sirens. I note that this advance notification matter has been highlighted in point 9.3.5 (d).

My property has already suffered structural damage due to the continuous blasting over the years. In all likelihood it has led to negative equity on my property as the possibility of being able to sell my property with an expanded active quarry in close proximity a negative factor for potential buyers.

Traffic:

The Planning Authority has noted that the traffic generated by the quarry on the N7 national road is quite significant. It must also be noted that the traffic generated by the quarry also impacts on the local minor public road, Farmersvale Road. Trucks regularly travel this road from the quarry with the quality of the road compromised due to spillage of rock/stone. Equally the safety of the road is compromised due to the narrow aspect of the road in places, making it impossible for trucks and cars to pass each other safely. I note that Condition 35 Access to Quarry would be imposed in the event that ABP grant permission.

Water:

In the interest of public health and that of my family I also have concerns about the erosion of the water table as we rely on drilled springs to provide water for our property. I am concerned that expansion of the quarry may impact on the quality of water supplied to our home.

It would appear that this quarry remains operational, regardless of proceedings against them, while it continues with unauthorised development, works and uses on rural zoned lands. Indeed, the Planning Authority have recognised that works have continued unabated since the submission of the application(s) and that works have taken place outside of the application red line (9.2.1).

I acknowledge that the proposer has accepted numerous conditions stipulated by SDCC should ABP grant permission however there is no guarantee that these conditions will be enforced by SDCC or complied with by the proposer.

I would be grateful if you would give my concerns and observations due consideration when assessing the granting of any application for Substitute Consent.

Yours sincerely,



SHONA KINSELLA