

Our Ref: ABP-301908-18



Michael O'Brien
Dublin City Council
City Hall
Cork Hill
Dublin 2

Date: 21st August 2018

Re: Greater Dublin Drainage Project consisting of a new wastewater treatment plant, sludge hub centre, orbital sewer, outfall pipeline and regional biosolids storage facility
Townlands of Clonshagh, Dubber and Newtown, County Fingal and Dublin City

Dear Sir

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent submission in relation to the above mentioned proposed development and will take it into consideration in its determination of the matter. A receipt for the fee lodged is enclosed.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

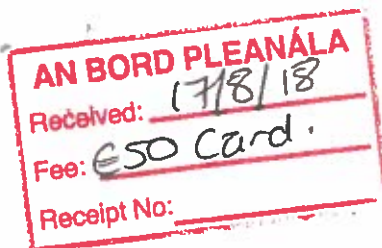
Please be advised that copies of all submissions / observations received in relation to the application will be made available for public inspection at the offices of Dublin City Council and Fingal County Council and at the offices of An Bord Pleanála when they have been processed by the Board.

More detailed information in relation to strategic infrastructure development can be viewed on the Board's website: www.pleanala.ie.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact the undersigned officer of the Board. Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

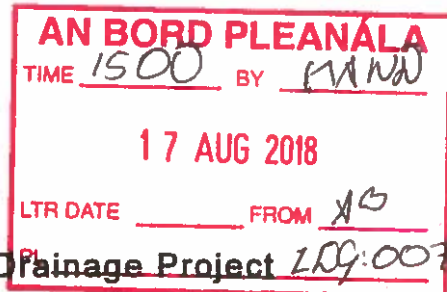
Yours faithfully,

Kieran Somers
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-873 7107



Councillor Michael O'Brien
Dublin City Council,
Richard O'Carroll Room,
City Hall,
Cork Hill,
Dublin 2

An Bord Pleanála,
c/o Dublin City Council,
Civic Offices, MARLBOROUGH ST
Wood Quay,
Dublin 2



Re: Observation of proposed Greater Dublin Drainage Project

To whom it may concern

The planning permission granted for a large scale regional sewage treatment facility in close proximity to Clonshaugh needs to be overturned.

The manner in which this location was chosen by Fingal County Council was cynical. The original long list of nine possible locations across north county Dublin provoked justifiable protest movements from the populations of small villages and settlements being potentially asked to host a regional sized treatment plant.

The subsequent shortlisting process and eventual choice near Clonshaugh was based purely on a political/electoral calculation that the nearest settlements to this proposed location lay just over the local authority border in the Dublin City Council area, namely Clonshaugh, Moatview, Belcamp, Darndale, Clare Hall and the Northern Fringe and that by choosing this location Fingal County Council and its public representatives would be insulated from public anger to a greater degree than if they chose a location close to a Fingal settlement.

Residents in these communities and even those further south in Coolock experience the range in which the odours emanating from the Bewley's coffee plant on the R139. They are also aware of past problems encountered by residents in the only other plant of comparable size in Ringsend. These two factors have fed local concerns about this proposal and the efforts of Irish Water to assuage these concerns among residents have not proved sufficient.

The construction process for a facility of this sized required access from the R139 leading directly to the M50, an area that is already prone to peak time congestion is a recipe for even greater inconvenience for residents and motorist travelling to the M50 from as far as Howth and Malahide.

Outside of the area I represent as a Dublin City Councillor I am aware of concerns on the part of residents particularly in Balboyle, Sutton and Portmarnock that the treated sewage in its entirety will be released off the coast which is a site of a number of work and pleasure activities.

I do not contest the need to treat raw sewage nor the fact that the population of Dublin and surrounding counties has increased to such an extent that new capacity has to be built into the capital's sewage treatment network.

The alternative to this project is clearly to build a number of smaller sub-regional plants that will disperse any potential odour problems to a manageable level but also disperse the locations along the coast into which treated sewage is discharged.

I can report to you that the opposition to a project of this scale is deep seated in the local communities and considerable political pressure will be brought to bear on local and national public representatives as well as public bodies to reconsider the project if the planning permission is upheld.

I enclose the €50 required to accompany this observation.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Michael O'Brien,
Solidarity – The Left Alternative
Beaumont Donaghmede Ward
Dublin City Council