

AN BORD PLEANÁLA
LDG- _____
ABP- _____
11 APR 2022
Fee: € 50 Type: CHG
Time: _____ By: post

The Old Rectory
3 Toureen Villas
Passage West
Co. Cork

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

RE: Observation on PL04.312981 – Belvelly Port Facility, Marino
(Townland), Marino Point, Cobh, Co. Cork (Cork County Council Ref.
20/6955).

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to make this observation on the appeal of Cllr Marcia D'Alton in relation to the development which Gouldings and the Belvelly Marino Development Company propose at Marino Point.

I bought my home 25 years ago and invested heavily in the property and the gardens during that time. My home is approximately 500 meters from the dock at Marino Point. I do not wish to have to sell it now.

When ships currently dock there at night time, with or without the assistance of tugs, the noise can be considerable, especially if the waters are calm. This can also happen very early in the morning. The noise of the tug, Jerry O'Sullivan, is particularly loud. When the ships are berthed there, some of the ships have quiet generators which are not too bad, but some don't and these can certainly keep one awake at night time.

Furthermore, the fact that the proposed use of the grab and hopper for off loading bulk fertiliser so close to residential development is, in my view, dangerous to the wellbeing of the residents of Passage West. The nitrates that are ingredients in fertiliser, can poison people and animals if it is inhaled and there is no doubt but that the dust from the proposal will certainly travel across the water if the wind is from the South and will inevitably affect the health of people in Passage West. Ammonium nitrate, which is also contained in fertilisers can explode under conditions of heat or shock and if that were to happen it would be catastrophic. This is obviously a reflection on how dangerous it can be in certain circumstances.

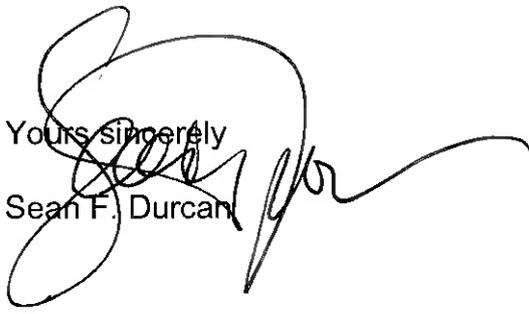
Sometimes when the gas tankers berth at Marino, which are usually very large ships, one cannot but think about the consequences if there was an incident like a fire or an explosion and the effect that would have on the people in Passage West.

I work in an office overlooking the Quays in Cork City and I regularly see fertiliser being taken from ships with the grab and hopper system and loading up the lorries to take the fertiliser to Gouldings. The dust from this operation goes everywhere. I park my car across the river from these operations and in the evening the car is covered in dust from the off-loading. I have no doubt but that similar dust will travel across the water from Marino Point which will cause our windows to need cleaning more often than would be necessary and this dust inevitably will also be injurious to our health. I support the other points being made by Cllr Marcia D'Alton in her observation but I fear that her objection seems to suggest that it is inevitable that the development would go ahead in one form or another. Whereas I don't.

In a nutshell the health and safety and the lives of people who reside in Passage West will be severely compromised if this facility is allowed to proceed in any shape or form. I earnestly request that the Bord refuse this planning application absolutely.

Yours sincerely

Sean F. Durcan



Encl (1) Chq €50

