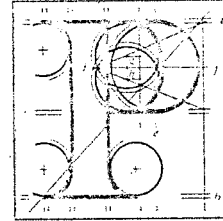


Our Case Number: ABP-318802-24
Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Coimisiún
Pleanála**

Alan Cavanagh
The Breakers
Weavers Point
Crosshaven
Cork
P43 HT04

Date: 26 November 2025

Re: Proposed development of a resource recovery centre (including waste-to-energy facility)
in Ringaskiddy, County Cork.

Dear Sir / Madam,

An Coimisiún 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. Please accept this letter as a receipt for the fee of €50 that you have paid.

The Commission 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 the local authority and at the offices of An Coimisiún Pleanála when they have been processed by the Commission.

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

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

Yours faithfully,

Kevin McGettigan

Kevin McGettigan
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737263

PA04

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Alan Cavanagh

The Breakers

Weavers Point

Crosshaven

Co Cork

P43HT04

alancav@gmail.com

12th November 2025

An Coimisiun Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street

Dublin 1, D01 V902

Ireland

Re: Observations in relation to the SID application - Proposed Incinerator Project at Ringaskiddy, Cork

Case reference: PA04.318802, Ringaskiddy Co Cork Proposed development of a resource recovery centre (including waste-to-energy facility) by Indaver NV t/a Indaver Ireland

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to formally object to the proposed incinerator project located at Ringaskiddy, County Cork. As a long term resident of the Carrigaline/ Crosshaven area, I believe this development will have significant, long-lasting, and detrimental effects on our community, environment, and quality of life.

1. Environmental Impact Concerns:

I am deeply concerned about the environmental consequences of constructing and operating

a waste incinerator in Ringaskiddy.

The following points outline my primary concerns:

- **Air Pollution:** The incinerator will likely release harmful emissions, including toxic gases, particulate matter, and heavy metals, which could adversely affect the air quality in the surrounding areas, including Weavers Point and other areas in and around Crosshaven, Co Cork. Air pollution concerns would also relate to the Cork Harbour SPA which requires the Irish government to meet habitat standards in line with EU Natura 2000 legislation.

- **Health Implications:** The potential release of dioxins and other hazardous pollutants from incineration could result in serious health risks to the residents of nearby communities, especially vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions.

- **Water and Soil Contamination:** Concerns have also been raised regarding the possibility of contaminants leaching into the local water sources and soil, which could have long-term effects on local ecosystems and public health.

Flood Risk

The site is located on a known flood risk area, marked as the same in Table 4.1.17: Specific Development Objectives for Ringaskiddy, and on OPW floodinfo.ie , (Flood Summary ID-1364, 13082, 12085). Mitigation measures to locate the facility at levels significantly above projected flooding levels would exacerbate the negative visual impact of the proposed large structure.

It is my considered opinion that the site is inherently unsuitable for location of a use which processes, and generates hazardous compounds (Oznur Yukel Finn, 2009).

2. Impact on Local Residents and Quality of Life:

The proposed incinerator will be located in close proximity to residential areas, including Crosshaven, Co Cork. The proposed development will also be centered on the world class amenity location of Cork Harbour. This location raises significant concerns about the following:

● **Noise Pollution:** Construction and operational noise from the incinerator will disrupt the peaceful environment currently enjoyed by the residents, particularly in the evenings and weekends.

● **Traffic Congestion and Safety:** The increase in truck traffic associated with transporting waste to and from the facility could lead to congestion on already busy roads, creating potential hazards for both pedestrians and motorists.

● **Visual Impact:** The scale of the proposed incinerator may be visually intrusive in an area of outstanding natural beauty, undermining the aesthetic value of the landscape and the general appeal of the locality. The development will be one of the primary views which visitors on cruise ships will be greeted with when they enter Cork Harbour.

3. Lack of Comprehensive Consultation with the Local Community:

In common with many others I believe that the consultation process for this proposed development has been insufficient and has not adequately addressed the concerns of local residents. It is crucial that the views of the community, who will be most directly affected by this project, be fully considered in the decision-making process. I respectfully request that a more comprehensive and transparent consultation be carried out, which includes accessible information about potential health and environmental risks, as well as the long-term impacts of the incinerator on local residents.

The ongoing nature of this proposed development means that there have been vast changes in the surrounding areas over this time.

While consultation has occurred in the past, the residential profile of the wider Carrigaline, Crosshaven and Passage West areas has significantly changed in the last 5 years due to huge investment in property developments and expansion of employment opportunities in Cork. I strongly feel that a significant proportion of the newer residents of the Cork Harbour area are unaware of this proposed development and have not been given the opportunity to be consulted.

4. Alternative Waste Management Solutions:

I would also like to highlight that there are more sustainable and environmentally friendly alternatives to incineration for waste management. These include increased recycling efforts, composting, and the promotion of waste reduction strategies. I urge the planning authorities to reconsider the need for a waste incinerator and explore alternatives that would align with national and EU policies promoting sustainability and the reduction of carbon emissions.

5. Legal and Regulatory Concerns:

It is also important to ensure that the proposed incinerator fully complies with all relevant Irish and EU environmental laws, including the EU Waste Framework Directive and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive. I am concerned that these regulations may not have been fully adhered to in this instance, particularly with regard to the thoroughness of the Environmental Impact Assessment and its consideration of all potential risks to the local environment and community.

● EIS Insufficiency:

In all three previous reviews of the submitted Environmental Impact Statement by An Bord Pleanála inspectors, the EIS was found to be deficient in substance even where found legally adequate in form. The information as submitted to the Board is therefore insufficient to enable the Board to carry out an environmental impact assessment in an appropriate manner, and to form a basis for an informed decision on the application. (Daly, 2017).

Despite revisions, the updated EIS material continues to repeat earlier conclusions and provide assertions without evidence.

● Contradictory to Ireland's targets around EU Climate Obligations:

The use of waste incineration is in direct opposition to EU Guidance on circular economy targets and the waste hierarchy guidance provided by the EU which prioritises waste prevention and waste recycling over incineration. This is only being further incentivised by stronger EU focus on circular economy.

● Contravention of the Cork County Development Plan

Notwithstanding the zoning of the greater Ringaskiddy area as industrial, the Indaver site area where the incinerator build is proposed (RY-I-09) is zoned as suitable for the extension of the Third Level Educational campus and enterprise related development including marine related education, enterprise, research and development. (RY-I-09, Table 4.1.17: Specific Development Objectives for Ringaskiddy, Cork County Development Plan 2022 - 28). This is dismissed in the August 2025 information but it is of critical importance that this zoning be upheld as it is directly linked to the investment in the NMCI and MaREI Campus areas and the potential for future growth of this sector. The proposed incinerator is therefore in direct contravention of the County Development Plan and contrary to the specified objectives for the immediate area.

Conclusion:

In light of the concerns outlined above, I strongly urge An Coimisiun Pleanála to reject the planning application for the proposed incinerator at Ringaskiddy. I request that the impact on local communities, the environment, and public health be thoroughly reassessed and that alternative, more sustainable methods of waste management be prioritised. I ask that a full hearing be conducted in front of An Coimisiun Pleanála with due process being prioritized for public consultation.

I trust that my concerns will be given full consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Yours faithfully,

Alan Cavanagh