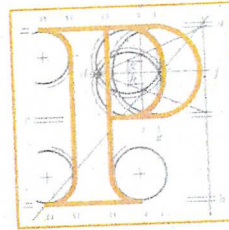


Our Case Number: ABP-318802-24
Planning Authority Reference Number:



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Mick Keating
7 Whitepoint Drive
Cobh
Co. Cork

Date: 24 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
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737263

PA04

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Formal Objection to PA04.318802 – Indaver Ringaskiddy Resource Recovery Centre

We wish to object to the above application on the grounds of the Environmental & Health impacts, local quality of life impacts and the supposed economic benefits the incinerator will bring.

I along with my wife and our three daughters live in Whitepoint in Cobh which is in very close proximity to proposed incinerator and having done our research on incineration are very concerned about this project on a number of levels

Environmental and health impacts

- **Air pollution & Health Risks:** Waste incineration creates and/or releases harmful chemicals and pollutants, including:
 - Air pollutants such as particulate matter, which cause lung and heart diseases
 - Heavy metals such as lead and mercury, which cause neurological diseases
 - Toxic chemicals, such as PFAS and dioxins, which cause cancer and other health problems

These chemicals and pollutants enter the air, water and food supply near incinerators and get into people's bodies when they breathe, drink, and eat contaminants.

Studies find that proximity to waste incineration may increase risks of cancers, birth defects, and other adverse health impacts. Cobh already has higher levels of cancer per capita versus other areas of the country.

- **Water and soil contamination:** Incineration can lead to the pollution of surrounding water sources and soil with toxic substances. Cork harbour has undergone a €64 million clean up in the last number of years and this has had a significant impact on marine life. As a regular swimmer in Whitepoint we are now seeing seals, otters & pods of dolphins regularly swimming in the area.
- **Landfill Avoidance:** The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) emphasises landfill avoidance but the incineration process produces toxic ash that must be disposed of in landfills, meaning incineration does not eliminate the need for landfills.
- **Climate change:** The combustion process releases carbon dioxide contributing to climate change and global warming. Incineration of plastics emits more CO₂ per tonne than coal, directly conflicting with Ireland's Climate Action Plan and the EU Green Deal.

Local quality of life impacts

- **Aesthetics:** Proximity to an incinerator can negatively impact the aesthetic and social-cultural environment of a community. Cork Harbour is a place of natural beauty and economic value through tourism — attracting over 100 cruise liners annually, Spike Island was awarded "Europe's Leading Tourist Attraction" at the World Travel Awards in 2017 and Fort Camden has been redeveloped for tourism in recent years.

From an amenity and tourism perspective, the facility's scale- an eight-storey building and a 70-metre chimney- has the potential to alter views across Cork Harbour, including from Cobh and Spike Island.

Fáilte Ireland and local authorities aim to transform Cork Harbour into a world-class tourism destination, focusing on maritime heritage, greenways, blueways, cruise tourism, and cultural trails.

Highly visible industrial development could undermine these objectives, reducing the area's appeal for leisure and heritage tourism and causing economic harm to local communities.

- **Traffic:** The transportation of waste to the facility requires 150 truck movements per day which will increase local traffic, noise, and air pollution causing further strain the L2545 and M28 routes.

Narrow roads and sharp bends on the L2545 increase the risk of HGV conflicts and delays for emergency services, raising serious safety concerns.

- **Odor and noise:** Waste incinerators can generate unpleasant odours, especially when waste is being stored or during plant shutdowns

Economic Value

The economic benefits cited by the proponents are unsubstantiated. While the facility is expected to create up to 320 temporary jobs during construction and 63 full-time jobs when operational, these numbers are insignificant in the context of the potential environmental, health, and amenity costs.

Alternatives

The EIA does not consider policy-driven alternatives aligned with EU Circular Economy targets, such as scenarios where higher recycling rates reduce residual waste.

Each type of material in municipal solid waste has a most sustainable way of being discarded and processed which is nearly always recycling. This includes traditional mechanical recycling as well as organics recycling such as composting or anaerobic digestion.

Conclusion

Based on the above we believe the only responsible course is to refuse this application.

Furthermore, to provide certainty for the community and uphold the integrity of the Law and planning system, the potential for further similar applications at this site should be definitively ruled out.

Yours sincerely,

Mick Keating

7 Whitepoint Drive

Cobh

16/11/2025