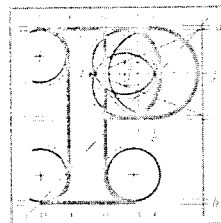


**Our Case Number:** ABP-318802-24

**Planning Authority Reference Number:**



An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála

Neil Powell Commodore Choir  
Almeda  
Lake Road  
Cobh  
Co. Cork  
P24WF85

**Date:** 10 December 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.

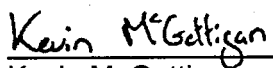
The Commission will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

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](http://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

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	<a href="http://www.pleanala.ie">www.pleanala.ie</a>
Ríomhphost	Email	<a href="mailto:communications@pleanala.ie">communications@pleanala.ie</a>

64 Sráid Maoilbhríde	64 Marlborough Street
Baile Átha Cliath 1	Dublin 1
D01 V902	D01 V902

TO: An Coimisiun Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1, D01 V902

AN COIMISIÚN PLEANÁLA  
LDG- 084308-25  
ACP-  
14 NOV 2025  
Fee: € 50 Type: Cheque  
Time: By: Post

**OBSERVATION ON SID APPLICATION - 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

**OBSERVER NAME** NEIL POWEL COMMODORES CHOIR DATE 13 Nov 25  
**OBSERVER ADDRESS** 'ALMEDA' LAKE ROAD  
CORK CO. CORK P24 WFS5

**OBSERVATION DETAILS**

Notwithstanding the information submitted in August 2025, the site is fundamentally too small for the project proposed and continues to reduce in size, with coastal erosion on one side and boundary reduced by M28 on the other. *It is considered that the actual usable area of the site is inadequate in relation to the scale of development proposed. (Derek Daly, 2017).*

By all 3 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.

There is no de novo site selection in the material submitted in 2025, but instead a justification based on site ownership by Indaver, with inadequate consideration given to major public and private investment initiatives which have transformed the character of the immediate area in the intervening period since 2000. *(Daly 2017)*

The site is located on a known flood risk area, marked as 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)*

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.

Please refuse this planning application on the basis that the site is inherently unsuitable, concluded by all 3 Bord Pleanála Inspectors (Jones 2004, Yukel Finn 2009, Daly 2017) and the proposal contravenes the zoning of the Cork County Development Plan 2022 - 28 for this site.

I wish to request an Oral Hearing to continue full public participation in this application.

I enclose fee of €50       I have already submitted in 2016 so have paid prior fee       Additional pages attached (no of) Two(2)

From the dioxin scandals at Haulbowline's Irish Steel plant, which contaminated sediments and soils for decades, to the heavy metal discharges from Verolme 's operations that lingered in the food chain, these men have seen colleagues succumb to respiratory diseases, skin conditions, and cancers linked to persistent pollutants. Their stories are not abstract; they are etched in medical records, community grief, and the hoarse timbre of songs sung at too many funerals.

The proposed Ringaskiddy facility, with its 75m emissions stack poised to release dioxins, furans, heavy metals, and fine particulates into the prevailing south-westerly winds, would perpetuate this toxic inheritance, endangering the health of our community for generations to come. The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) downplays risks by modelling exposures for a hypothetical 'maximum at-risk individual,' yet it ignores the cumulative burden on a population already scarred by historical pollution. Bioaccumulative toxins from incineration could infiltrate local fisheries, home gardens, and the very air we breathe during rehearsals on Gobby Beach or walks along the harbour's paths—raising incidences of endocrine disruption, childhood asthma, and hormone-related cancers, as evidenced by studies on similar EU facilities. For the next fifty years, as our choir's youngest members raise families here, this means a shadow over birthdays, weddings, and future performances: elevated healthcare costs, lost productivity, and a quiet erosion of vitality. Our Naval retirees, who monitored oil spills and chemical runoff in the 1970s and 1980s, warn that such emissions do not dissipate—they accumulate, manifesting in chronic illnesses that steal years from lives well-lived. This is not hyperbole; it is the testimony of those who have inhaled the harbour's unfiltered past and fear its repetition. Approving this WtE plant would flout the precautionary principle under the Climate Action Plan 2024 and EU Air Quality Directive, prioritising waste throughput over the right to a healthy environment enshrined in Bunreacht na hÉireann.

In light of our choir's deep ties to Cork Harbour's industrial soul—transformed through song into a narrative of endurance and hope—we cannot stand idly by as this cycle of harm repeats. The Commodore Male Voice Choir urges An Comisiún Pleanála to reject the application unequivocally, redirecting resources toward true circular solutions like advanced recycling and community composting that safeguard our air, water, and people. We stand ready to lend our voices at any oral hearing, perhaps even with a selection of sea shanties that echo the resilience we seek to protect.

**Yours sincerely,**



Neil Powell

**Honorary Secretary**

**Commodore Male Voice Choir**

**Contact:** [neilpwl4@gmail.com](mailto:neilpwl4@gmail.com)



Honorary Secretary

Commodore Male Voice Choir

'Almeda'

Lake Road

Cobh

Co Cork

P24WF85

**13th November 2025**

**An Comisiún Pleanála 64 Marlborough Street Dublin 1 D01 V902**

**Observation to Proposed Ringaskiddy Resource Recovery Centre (Waste-to-Energy Facility) – Planning Application Ref: ABP-318802-25**

On behalf of the Commodore Male Voice Choir, founded fifty years ago in 1975 to celebrate the rich choral traditions of Cork Harbour through performances that foster community spirit, cultural heritage, and intergenerational harmony, I submit this formal objection to the proposed waste-to-energy (WtE) incinerator at Ringaskiddy. Our choir, comprising over 30 dedicated singers from Cobh and surrounding areas, has long served as a beacon of resilience and joy amid the harbour's industrial history. We have performed at naval commemorations, community festivals, and remembrance events, preserving the voices of those who built this region. The spectre of yet another emissions-heavy facility threatens not only our shared environment but the very future of our community's health—a legacy we refuse to compromise. We call on An Comisiún to deny permission for this ill-conceived project.

Our objection is rooted in the profound, intergenerational health risks this incinerator would impose on the people of Ringaskiddy, Cobh, and greater Cork Harbour, drawing directly from the lived experiences of our members who have borne witness to the human cost of unchecked industrial pollution. Established by former members of the storied Irish Steel Choir and the Verolme Cork Dockyard Choir—ensembles born from the shipyards and steelworks that once defined our harbour's economy—our group embodies a continuity of voices shaped by labour and legacy. Many of those founding singers, now elders in our ranks, recount tales of camaraderie forged in the shadow of belching chimneys, where the air carried more than salt from the Lee. Today, our choir proudly includes a number of retired members of the Naval Service, veterans who patrolled these waters and directly experienced the insidious impacts of uncontrolled industry on long-term health.