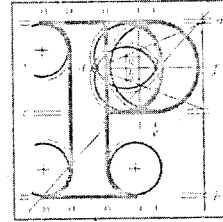


Our Case Number: ABP-318802-24

Planning Authority Reference Number:



**An
Coimisiún
Pleanála**

Richie Harrington
Bayview
Strand Road
Monkstown
Co. Cork
T12 AE6N

Date: 20 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

Teil	Tel	(01) 858 8100
Glaó Áitiúil	LoCall	1890 275 175
Facs	Fax	(01) 872 2684
Láithreán Gréasáin	Website	www.pleanala.ie
Riomhphost	Email	communications@pleanala.ie

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

TO: An Coimisiun Pleanála

64 Malborough Street

Dublin 1, D01 V902

OBSERVATION ON SID APPLICATION – Case reference: PA04.318802, Ringaskiddy Co Cork

Proposed development of a resource recovery centre (including waste-to-energy-facility)

OBSERVER NAME RICHIE HARRINGTON **Date** 14 NOV 2025

OBSERVER ADDRESS BAYVIEW, STRAND ROAD, MONKSTOWN, CO-CORK T12AE6N

OBSERVATION DETAILS

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing from my home on the waterfront in Monkstown, where I am raising my children, to express my strong objection to the renewed proposal for the Indaver Waste-to-Energy facility in Ringaskiddy. This community has faced this issue for more than two decades, and the message from residents across Cork Harbour has always been consistent: this incinerator is not wanted, not suitable, and not in line with the long-term plans for our harbour.

1. Persistent Public Opposition & Planning History

The scale of public objection over 20+ years is unprecedented and should carry significant weight in a democratic planning system. Repeated refusals and critiques from all three previous An Bord Pleanála inspectors (Jones 2004, Yukel Finn 2009, Daly 2017) concluded that the site is inherently unsuitable.

The most recent High Court challenge also highlighted serious procedural issues linked to the 2018 permission. Those underlying concerns remain unresolved. Approving this application now would undermine public confidence in the fairness and consistency of the planning process.

2. The Site Remains Fundamentally Unsuitable

Even with updated material submitted in 2025, the issues identified by multiple inspectors remain:

- The site is too small, further constrained by the M28 boundary and ongoing coastal erosion.
- The EIS has repeatedly been found deficient, relying on assertions rather than evidence.
- No genuine site-selection process has been undertaken. Indaver relies only on land ownership, not planning merit.
- The location is within a known flood-risk zone (OPW floodinfo.ie), and raising the site to mitigate this would worsen visual impacts.
- The proposal directly contravenes zoning objective RY-I-09 of the Cork County Development Plan 2022 - 2028, which reserves this land for educational and marine-related development linked to NMCI and MaREI.

These points alone provide clear planning grounds for refusal.

3. Contradiction of Cork Harbour's Sustainable Future

Ringaskiddy is developing into a hub of clean research, renewable energy, and maritime innovation. Placing an incinerator beside wind turbines, MaREI, and NMCI contradicts both local strategic objectives and national sustainability goals. It is simply the wrong project in the wrong place.

4. Impact on Local Communities, Health & Harbour Activities

As someone raising children in this community, I am deeply concerned about long-term public health impacts. Emissions, air-quality risks, and cumulative industrial exposure pose genuine threats to vulnerable groups, particularly children, older people, and anyone with respiratory conditions.

As an active member of our local sailing community, I am also concerned about the consequences for recreation and tourism, Sailing clubs, youth programmes, and harbour events depend on a clean and attractive maritime environment. An incinerator at the centre of the harbour would damage both perception and participation.

5. Reputational and Economic Damage

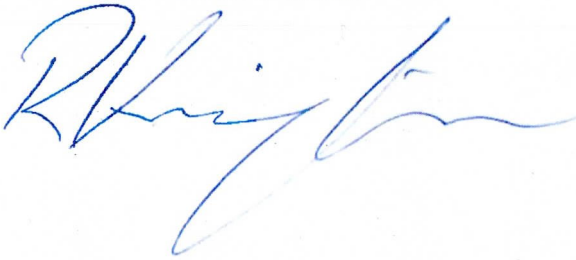
Cork Harbour has enormous economic and cultural potential. Its recent shortlisting for the America's Cup highlighted its international reputation. An industrial incinerator in such a prominent location would undermine similar future opportunities, deter investment, reduce tourism, and limit the harbour's long-term development.

Conclusion

For planning, environmental, community, and economic reasons and consistent with every inspector's assessment to date, this site remains entirely unsuitable for an incinerator. The proposal conflicts with the Cork County Development Plan, lies within an area at risk of flooding and erosion, relies on inadequate environmental assessment, and faces overwhelming public opposition.

I respectfully urge An Bord Pleanála to refuse this application once again, and to protect the health, sustainability, and future of Cork Harbour, for the children growing up here today and for the generations to come.

Cork Harbour deserves better.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Whight', is written in a cursive style.