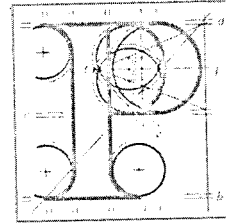


**Our Case Number: ABP-318802-24**

**Planning Authority Reference Number:**



**An  
Coimisiún  
Pleanála**

Séamus McGrath TD  
Main Street  
Carrigaline  
Co. Cork  
P43KV18

**Date: 25 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](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*

Kevin McGettigan  
Executive Officer  
Direct Line: 01-8737263

PA04

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

Séamus

McGrath TD

TD for Cork South-Central



An Coimisiún Pleanála,

64 Marlborough Street,

Dublin 1,

D01V902

17/11/2025

**Re: Submission on SID Application – Case Reference: 318802, Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork**

**Proposed Development of a Resource Recovery Centre (including waste to energy facility) by Indaver Ireland**

A Chara,

I would like to lodge this submission in relation to the above application. I am firmly opposed to this application and I will set out a number of reasons to support my viewpoint

This particular proposal is on a **site that is totally unsuitable** for such a development. It is a site very constrained in size, it is subject to ongoing coastal erosion and it is subject to flooding from the public road. The site is located at the end of a cul-de-sac which presents significant concerns from a health and safety point of view in the event of an incident taking place with the proposed incinerator. There was a significant fire a short number of years ago in an industrial building in Ringaskiddy and it exposed how vulnerable the local community is to such an incident given the very limited road network serving the area. Even with the development of the motorway this issue will remain. If the motorway, for some reason, is no longer useable due to an incident, the same difficulties arise in terms of access for emergency vehicles and for residents to evacuate as part of an emergency.

Since this application was first lodged, there has been significant and **material changes in the lower Harbour area**. A great deal of investment and attention has been given to the area to promote it for tourism purposes as well as for amenity and recreational purposes. In fact, only very recently Board Fáilte launched a new plan for Cork Harbour - [Cork City, Harbour and East Cork Destination and Experience Development Plan \(DEDP\)](#). When you consider the huge investment that has taken place to promote and develop facilities such as Camden Fort

**Contact Details:**

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Séamus McGrath TD @seamusmcgrathtd Seamus McGrath

/cont'd



**Fianna Fáil**  
AN PÁIRTÍ POBLACHTÁNACH

Meagher, Spike Island, Haulbowline Island as well as the Cobh area, there exists a cluster of tourist and recreational amenities in the Harbour area. As we know, tourism is so important to the Irish economy and the Harbour area has the potential to develop even further as a major tourist hub. Constructing an incinerator in the heart of this would be utterly ludicrous. Having one of the first images that passengers on a cruise liner would see as they approach the Harbour is a high emission stack, blowing out fumes and harmful emissions into the air would be devastating. It would counteract and undermine the millions of euro of investment and significant effort by many State Agencies and local voluntary groups over many years.

**Cork County Council has invested significantly in Ringaskiddy village area.** There has been an extensive public realm and active travel scheme constructed. This has greatly enhanced the core of the village, creating a pleasant and attractive place for people to spend time. This has supported local businesses and the local community to thrive. Again, placing an incinerator only a couple of hundred meters away from this would be detrimental and again would totally undermine the great work that has been carried out.

There exist **genuine health concerns** about the air pollution that would occur as a result of the emissions from an incinerator that would be operational 24/7. Vulnerable people, young children and older citizens are a particular concern. This is an outdated method of dealing with waste and we should be putting all our efforts into reducing, reusing and recycling which is more in line with current policies.

**Fundamentally, the zoning of the subject site has changed** since the application was lodged in two County Development Plans. I firmly believe that An Coimisiún Pleanála has an obligation to place a very significant weight on the fact that the zoning has changed on the subject site. This initial change occurred in 2017 County Development Plan and it was reaffirmed in the 2022 County Development Plan. In my view, the fact that the Council Executive did not propose to amend the zoning on this site any further in the 2022 County Development Plan shows their endorsement of the change from an Industrial use to an educational and Research use. The presence of successful third level Colleges and Research facilities adjacent to the site makes the updated zoning far more appropriate for the site. I appreciate the application was technically lodged under the previous zoning, but given that such time has lapsed, I genuinely believe that the only logical and appropriate position would be for the Board to refuse the application due to it being in contravention of the zoning.

/cont'd.

In the interest of fairness, I believe the Board must consider **the exhaustive toll this battle has had on the local community** since the very beginning in 2001 when Indaver lodged its first planning application. As you well know, this is the third planning application for an incinerator on this site. On all three occasions the Inspectors for the Board recommended refusal. In my view, the Courts should have completely quashed this application. However, they did not and even though the application was lodged as far back as 2016, the same application continues to be active. The local community in Ringaskiddy, but also much further afield, have been battling this threat to the very to the fabric of their communities for well over two decades now. Children who were involved in the initial campaign have grown up to be adults. Elderly people who were involved in the initial campaign have passed away.

The community has sustained a huge impact because of this threat hanging over them. It is time that it is brought to an end once and for all. I believe there are strong and credible arguments to support the rejection of this application. As I have outlined above, I would ask the Board to refuse it on a number of grounds, but in particular on the basis of how incompatible an incinerator would be to positive and ambitious vision that now exists for Cork Harbour and also that it would be a material contravention of the current zoning on the site. I would also suggest that an Oral Hearing is merited to give the local community the opportunity to further outline the strong reasons why this application should be refused.

Thank you for your consideration of these points.

Yours sincerely,



Séamus McGrath TD