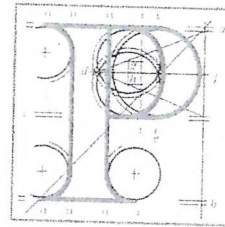


Our Case Number: ABP-318802-24



An
Coimisiún
Pleanála

Senator Laura Harmon
Seanad Éireann
Kildare Street
Dublin 2
D02 XR20

Date: 28 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.

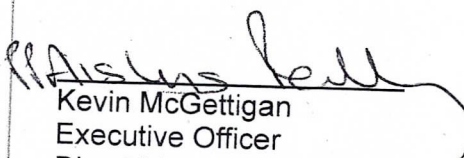
The Commission will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter.

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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Senator Laura Harmon

Spokesperson on Further and Higher Education,
Research, Innovation and Science; Disability.

Seanad Éireann, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 D02 XR20

Seanad Éireann, Teach Laighean, Sráid Chill Dara, Baile Átha Cliath 2



17th November 2025

Planning Application Reference Number: PA04.318802, Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork

Submission from: Senator Laura Harmon

This is in reference to the proposed development of a resource recovering centre (including waste-to-energy facility) by Indaver NV t/a Indaver Ireland

Observation Details

This is the wrong project in the wrong place. For more than twenty years our community in Cork Harbour has stood together to stop this oversized incinerator in Ringaskiddy. The latest plan would see 240,000 tonnes of waste burned each year; this is not acceptable. This is a threat to public health, a threat to our coastline and to the tourism economy of Cork Harbour.

This site being only 800 metres from Ringaskiddy is entirely unsuitable. Incinerators release ultra-fine particles and toxic gases. Cork Harbour Alliance for a Safer Environment (CHASE) have highlighted that this site is unsuitable per WHO guidelines and observed health studies that find incinerator emissions to be damaging to health. I wholly oppose plans for this incinerator in Ringaskiddy, we cannot risk our children's lungs or our harbour's health. Additionally, this plan goes against development aspirations in the Lower Harbour as per the Cork County Development plan for 2022-28. Worryingly, there is no air quality assessment of the area and the air quality monitors for the area are inactive.

In the age of growing risks associated with climate change we cannot build a waste incinerator on a known flood risk site marked as same in Table 4.1.17: Specific Development Objectives for Ringaskiddy, and on OPW floodinfo.ie, (Flood Summary ID-1364, 13082, 12085). The developer Indaver is aware of this risk and intends to raise the site and include flood defences. Planning permission for this site must be rejected on safety and sit suitability grounds.

Furthermore, the proposed site is currently zoned as suitable for the extension of nearby third level campuses. The National Maritime College of Ireland and MaREI research centre for Energy, Climate and Marine fall within this zone and it is vital this is upheld to allow for future investment in this sector. We need to allow for progress on scientific innovations for climate issues, not regression in the form of toxic gas and pollutants in residential areas.

This has been a flawed process. The 2021 High Court case saw planning permission quashed due to objective bias. Now the same plan has resurfaced. Our community deserves a fair and transparent process- not the same fight on repeat. Cork Harbour deserves clean air, thriving tourism and a sustainable future, not a coastal smokestack that drags us backwards.

I am calling for the refusal of 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.

Kind regards,

Laura Harmon

☎ (01) 618 4443

✉ laura.harmon@oireachtas.ie

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