

File With \_\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 131 FORM**

Substitute Consent Application NO: \_\_\_\_\_

Defer Re O/H

Having considered the contents of the submission received 14/5/24 from

Trevor + Jade

Reilly I recommend that section 131 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000

be/not be invoked at this stage for the following reason(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E.O.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For further consideration by SEO/SAO**

Section 131 not to be invoked at this stage.

Section 131 to be invoked – allow 2/4 weeks for reply.

S.E.O.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

S.A.O.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

M \_\_\_\_\_

**Please prepare SC \_\_\_\_\_ - Section 131 notice enclosing a copy of the attached submission**

to: \_\_\_\_\_ Task No: \_\_\_\_\_

Allow 2/3/4weeks – BP \_\_\_\_\_

EO: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

AA: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

File With \_\_\_\_\_

**CORRESPONDENCE FORM**

Substitute Consent Application No: ABP- 319397-24

M \_\_\_\_\_

Please treat correspondence received on 14/5/24 as follows:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Update database with new agent for Applicant/Appellant _____ |   |
| 2. Acknowledge with SC <u>40</u>                                | 1. RETURN TO SENDER with SC _____                       |
| 3. Keep copy of Board's Letter <input type="checkbox"/>         | 2. Keep Envelope: <input type="checkbox"/>              |
|   | 3. Keep Copy of Board's letter <input type="checkbox"/> |

**Amendments/Comments**

observation rec'd from Trevor + Jade  
Reilly by Post  
Case Narrative  
Task 384266-24 to J+J Reilly SC40  
HD 14/5/24 Name to be inserted on  
file cover

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>4. Attach to file</b><br>(a) R/S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (d) Screening <input type="checkbox"/><br>(b) GIS Processing <input type="checkbox"/> (e) Inspectorate <input type="checkbox"/><br>(c) Processing <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>RETURN TO EO</b> <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--|

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
|                         | Plans Date Stamped <input type="checkbox"/>     |
|                         | Date Stamped Filled in <input type="checkbox"/> |
| EO: <u>Karen Hickey</u> | AA: <u>Daniel Moore</u>                         |
| Date: <u>14/5/24</u>    | Date: <u>14/5/24</u>                            |

# Validation Checklist

Lodgement Number : **LDG-072012-24**  
Case Number: **ABP-319397-24**  
Customer: **Trevor and Jade Reilly**  
Lodgement Date: **14/05/2024 14:33:00**  
Validation Officer: **Karen Hickey**  
PA Name: **Meath County Council**  
PA Reg Ref:  
Case Type: **Application**  
Lodgement Type: **Observation / Submission**



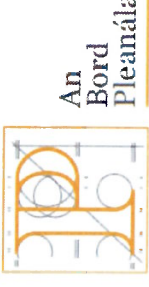
An  
Bord  
Pleanála

| Validation Checklist                          | Value               |
|---|---------------------|
| Confirm Classification                        | Confirmed - Correct |
| Confirm ABP Case Link                         | Confirmed-Correct   |
| Fee/Payment                                   | Valid – Correct     |
| Name and Address available                    | Yes                 |
| Agent Name and Address available (if engaged) | Not Applicable      |
| Subject Matter available                      | Yes                 |
| Grounds                                       | Yes                 |
| Sufficient Fee Received                       | Yes                 |
| Received On time                              | Yes                 |
| Eligible to make lodgement                    | Yes                 |
| Completeness Check of Documentation           | Yes                 |

Run at: 14/05/2024 14:42

Run by: Karen Hickey

# Lodgement Cover Sheet - LDG-072012-24



## Details

|                                  |                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Lodgement Date                   | 14/05/2024             |
| Customer                         | Trevor and Jade Reilly |
| Lodgement Channel                | Post                   |
| Lodgement by Agent               | No                     |
| Agent Name                       |                        |
| Correspondence Primarily Sent to |                        |
| Registered Post Reference        |                        |

|                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| Lodgement ID                    | LDG-072012-24 |
| Map ID                          |               |
| Created By                      | Karen Hickey  |
| Physical Items included         | No            |
| Generate Acknowledgement Letter |               |
| Customer Ref. No.               |               |
| PA Reg Ref                      |               |

## Categorisation

|                |                          |
|----------------|--------------------------|
| Lodgement Type | Observation / Submission |
| Section        | Processing               |

|                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| PA Name                        | Meath County Council |
| Case Type (3rd Level Category) | Application          |

## Fee and Payments

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| Specified Body         | No     |
| Oral Hearing           | No     |
| Fee Calculation Method | System |
| Currency               | Euro   |
| Fee Value              | 0.00   |
| Refund Amount          | 0.00   |

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Observation/Objection Allowed? |  |
| Payment                        |  |
| Related Payment Details Record |  |

## Observation

Run at: 14/05/2024 14:41

Run by: Karen Hickey

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| PA Case Number      |  |
| PA Decision Date    |  |
| County              |  |
| Development Type    |  |
| Development Address | Tromman Quarry, Tromman,<br>Rathmolyon, Co. Meath. |
| Appellant           |  |
| Supporting Argument |  |

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Development Description     | Substitute consent for quarry and ancillary precast concrete manufacturing yard. |
| Applicant                   |  |
| Additional Supporting Items | Yes  |

The Secretary,  
An Bord Pleanála,  
64 Malborough Street  
Dublin 1

|                         |                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>AN BORD PLEANÁLA</b> |                   |
| LDG-                    | _____             |
| ABP-                    | _____             |
| <b>14 MAY 2024</b>      |                   |
| Fee: €                  | _____ Type: _____ |
| Time: <u>9.00am</u>     | By: <u>Post</u>   |

12<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**SUBMISSION RE: APPLICATION REF: SU17.319397**

Reference: ABP: SU17.319397  
URL: <https://www.pleanala.ie/en-ie/case/319397>  
Application Lodged: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024  
Appeal Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
Dev. Address: Tromman Quarry, Tromman, Rathmolyon Co. Meath  
Applicant: Keegan Quarries Limited  
Description: **Substitute Consent** for quarry and ancillary precast concrete manufacturing yard.

Dear Sir/s and Madam/s,

As local residents to Rathmolyon Co. Meath we are writing to place an objection to the substitute consent application SU.17.319397 which has been submitted by Keegan Quarries Limited.

As stated in the application the following have been built and are operating without authorisation or consent.

- Unauthorised construction of an electrical substation,
- A concrete batching plant with technical land and associated lagoon system,
- Additional settlement facilities,
- A Limestone Powder plant, comprising of feed hopper, crushing and screening plant, dispatch point, drying plant, storage sheds and gas tank fuel storage,
- The unauthorised construction of a precast concrete manufacturing industrial unit,

All the above is in addition to the unauthorised continuation of extraction and associated mineral processing activities (as stated below) which should have ceased on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

- A block yard,
- Office,
- Canteen,
- Weighbridge
- Wheelwash
- A precast manufacturing facility,
- Associated batching plant and fuel storage,
- An administrative office,
- Septic Tank,
- Workshop,

- Pump house
- Steam Cleaner

The above list is extensive and the fact that the original quarrying activity has been continuing unauthorised since 2018 (5 ½ years) is concerning, let alone the fact that since 2018 Keegan Quarries have **blatantly** disregarded the formal planning processes and developed the quarry further for their own financial benefit without any thought or respect to the local residents (human and wildlife).

Due to this we respectfully ask An Bord Pleanála to issue an cessation notice whilst this application is assessed. Whilst Keegan Quarries Limited have submitted a range of reports and surveys to support this application these were prepared in 2023 by companies hired by Keegan Quarries Limited to prepare them. For the scale and environmental impact of such a large quarry we believe these reports should be conducted again by an independent organisation appointed by An Bord Pleanála.

As An Bord Pleanála assess this application we would request they consider the following:

- Keegan Quarries Limited have a long history of exceeding the boundaries of applications:
  - Ref. TA/900976 [PL 17.235960]
    - Condition 2 - they were granted consent to extend the quarry as long as there was a 60 metre wide buffer zone along the frontage with the regional road On the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2018 Keegan Quarries Limited were issued a warning letter unauthorised development may or was being carried out on the lands of Tromman, Rathmolyon in breach of this condition.
    - Condition 3 – there shall be no excavation below a level of 50 metres OD... The quarry appears to be well below 50 OD.
- Keegan Quarries Limited has not just flouted the planning process for this quarry, but across 3 counties – Meath, Westmeath and Kildare. Enforcement Notices/Warning Letters should be checked by An Bord Pleanála when making a decision on this case.
- Mr Keegan’s Own Admissions:
  - Keegan Quarries submission to Meath County Council in respect to Readymix Ireland’s application dated 1998 & dated 29<sup>th</sup> January 1999 – Mr Keegan was concerned about the level of blasting that would ensue if planning permission were to be granted to an additional quarry. He further stated in that letter that he believed there was; ‘an adequate number of quarries to meet demand’. Finally he was ‘very worried about the unnecessary upset that would be caused to the local people by a second quarry.’
  - Keegan Quarries Ltd submissions to An Bord Pleanála in respect to Readymix Ireland’s application of 1998 & dated 11<sup>th</sup> May 1999 – in this letter Mr Keegan was worried about the noise levels that would result from a second quarry and states ‘that the people of the locality would have a lot to complain about’. He goes on to say ‘Dust is very hard to control, especially in a Limestone quarry.’ That he ‘sees a lot of problems with two quarries working side by side’ and that 2 quarries combined would ‘have a huge impact on the residences of the area’.

So, even through Mr Keegan's own admissions he did not feel 2 quarries operating side by side was a good idea however, has proceeded to expand his quarry extensively without authorisation.

As a local resident living besides a large quarry/concrete products manufacturing operation has its own challenges/nuisance:

- Blasting – blasting is particularly disruptive. We feel the blasting within the house which shakes when a blast occurs. This has often scared both our children and dogs as they do not know what is happening. It also gives us concern to the impact it is having to the integrity of the structure of our building and the impact of continued blasts over time.
- Dewatering – lowering the water table is very concerning as we have a private well and water supply. We have no access to mains water to our property. We have already seen in previous years when the weather is warm many wells in the area drying up and we ourselves were without water for several months in 2022. Dewatering also removes finer particles from the soil leading to a lowering of the land topography in the area. This in turn is known to be responsible for structural damage. Furthermore, the quarry is being de-watered on a 24/7 basis. A large generator and pump is running on a 24/7 basis causing annoyance and loss of amenity to local residents.
- Passing traffic movements – this is one of the principle nuisance issues, which we encounter. Un-laden trucks can be particularly noisy, while with fully laden trucks, engine labouring under high revs is a cause of great annoyance as they pass up and down the road. The increase in traffic of heavy vehicles is also a concern for children who are trying to get to bus routes and schools.
- Dust – fugitive dust continues to be a major issue and drenches the countryside with a frequent film of dust on our vehicles and also the vegetation. Muddy roads are a regular issue each winter and keeping vehicles clean is impossible. The dust impact the growing of our food, with things like blackberries being impacted by the high dust level.
- Air quality – as a Mother with a son who has breathing issues, air quality is a big issue for me. The continued silica dust in the environment from the quarries is a concern.
- Visual – there is now a very visual unauthorised mountain of overburn, which can be seen for miles. It is also hazardous to machine operators and/or any person who may wander up on top thereof. Landslides from this have been observed by local residents in the past.
- Biodiversity and loss of agricultural lands – given the significant area of lands which are now under quarry in Trammon, it follows that the loss to pasture and agriculture has been significant. The consequent loss to biodiversity has also been significant. The quarries in the area are constantly expanding removing large numbers of trees and woodland habitat; the very same habitat that they once promised to hold onto when the quarries were first applied for on a Greenfield site.
- Other concerns include – out of hours operations, noise, hydrology, heavy vibrations, night-time lighting, and stockpiling.

As An Bord Pleanála review this Substitute Consent application we would request they strongly consider the following when making their decision:

- Planning consent expired in August 2018, however unauthorised/illegal operations and expansion has taken place from then until now,

- The lack of consideration for the planning process from Mr Keegan, not only at the Tromman site in Rathmolyon but also other sites under his ownership across Meath, Westmeath and Kildare.
- Mr Keegan's own admissions to the impact of a second quarry to the locality of Rathmolyon in 1999.
- The impact to local residents – in particular their homes in regards to structural integrity and water supply. These are the main assets families hold and if water supply or structural damage is caused due to blasting you are taking away a family's ability to liquidise an asset if required or have a roof over their heads.
- The planning process is in place to protect both the community and the environment. There has been blatant disregard for this process from Keegan Quarries Limited over a substantial number of years which should not be ignored.

Kind Regards,



Trevor and Jade Reilly  
Tobertyan  
Rathmolyon, Co. Meath  
A83 RP77