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An Bord Pleanála,
64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1

11/03/14
€50
3123516

28th February 2014

Re: Submission on planning application by Galway Harbour Company

To whom it may concern:

I wish to affirm my personal support for the proposed redevelopment of Galway Port, which is of immense strategic and economic importance to the city.

The aspect of the project which proposes to alter the facility to accommodate large cruise liners raises the prospect of establishing the city as a destination port for the ocean tourism industry, which would embellish considerably Galway's pre-existing tourism product and attract thousands of additional visitors to the west each year.

The redevelopment of the port is also crucial to increase the facility's current capacity and allow it to compete for new national and international business. The viability of the existing infrastructure would be jeopardised in the absence of substantial expansion and redevelopment of the facility.

The project also has the potential to create a substantial number of jobs for the city and the surrounding region. 252 people are currently employed by Galway Harbour Company. It is anticipated that 200 additional jobs would be created during the construction phase of the project, while up to 800 sustainable jobs would be created following the completion of the redevelopment.

I consider that the redevelopment of Galway Port is absolutely imperative for the future social and economic development of Galway and the surrounding region. I therefore fully support the proposals submitted by Galway Harbour Company.

I enclose herewith the requisite fee in the amount of €50.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Walsh, T.D.

Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Dáil Eireann
Teach Laighean
Sráid Chill Dara
Baile Átha Cliath 2