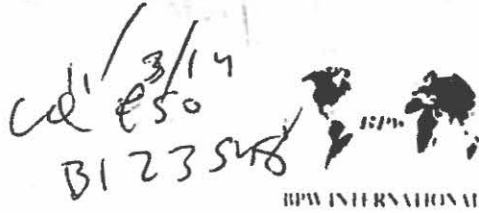


BPW



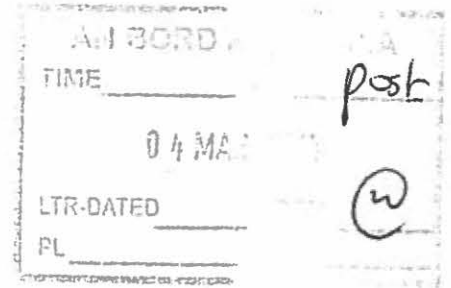
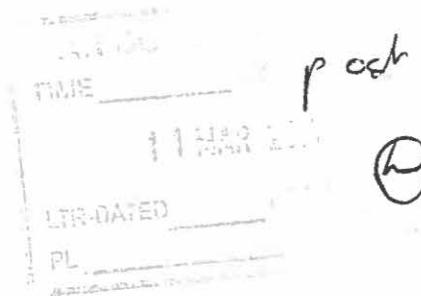
9/3/14
CQ €50
B123416

20th February 2014

An Bord Pleanála,

Planning Ref: 61.PA.0033

Dear Sirs



Please accept this letter in full support of the planning application submitted by the Galway Harbour Company to extend the harbour.

I am writing on behalf of the Members of the Galway Business & Professional Women's Association.

Our Club and Members are affiliated to the International Federation of BPW which develops the professional, leadership and business potential of women on all levels through advocacy, mentoring, networking, skill building and economic empowerment programmes around the world.

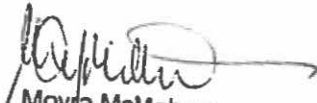
Founded in the 1920s, BPW has grown to become a highly influential organisation internationally with Clubs in over 100 Countries and more than 50,000 members worldwide. BPW enjoys Consultative Status at the United Nations and the Council of Europe as well as working closely with the European Women's Lobby and UNIFEM, among others.

Here in BPW Galway our Members each play an important role in the vibrant life of this wonderful City. We are represented in the business community, within the professions, in Local Government and not-for-profit organisations and recognise the importance of continually improving our facilities to attract both business and tourist visitors to Galway. The Club has recently been accepted to host the 2019 BPW European Congress when we will welcome c500 Delegates from all over Europe to Galway.

BPW Galway understands that the proposed development will attract cruise ships to Galway, ships that will be able to dock and where passengers can stroll ashore and we feel strongly that the relocating of the commercial ships to the new deep water facility will open up the inner harbour to attract maritime festivals such as the Volvo Ocean Race and maybe the Tall Ships Race. We are blessed to be living by the sea and we should develop this wonderful natural resource to the benefit of the City and its Citizens through business, cruise tourism, leisure, science and new technologies to help us understand the wonders of the deep.

We believe, the extension of the harbour at Galway will be the springboard to generate increased employment, improve the quality of life for its citizens and position Galway to lead the way in ocean research as all the hardware exists in this city by way of the Marine Institute, Martin Ryan Institute, NUIG, GMIT and the national research ship Celtic Explorer to fathom the science of the sea. The extension of the harbour will allow Europe's largest research ships to be serviced from Galway in our quest to understand the effects of climate change and our comprehension of the North Atlantic Drift which keeps European waters ice free.

Yours faithfully



Moyra McMahon
President
BPW Galway

12 The Maples
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Salthill
Galway