



AN GHNÍOMHAIREACHT | INVESTMENT AND  
INFHEISTÍOCHTA AGUS FORBARTHA | DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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Attn: Secretary of An Bord Pleanála  
64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1.

6<sup>th</sup> March 2014

AN BORD PLEANÁLA  
Received: 7/3/14  
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AN BORD PLEANÁLA  
TIME \_\_\_\_\_ BY post  
07 MAR 2014  
LTR-DATED \_\_\_\_\_ FROM e  
PL \_\_\_\_\_

Re. PL61.PA0033 Galway Harbour Extension Application

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to lend our support to the Strategic Infrastructure Development planning application made by Galway Harbour Company under PL61.PA0033.

From an IDA Ireland and Enterprise Ireland perspective with functions relating to Enterprise Development and the attraction and development of FDI into and within the West Region we support the proposed development and recognise its strategic importance to the overall economic development of the City of Galway and the wider West Region. We consider the proposal to be in line with the policies and objectives of the National Spatial Strategy, the RPG's and the current Galway City Development Plan.

Currently, the working area of Galway Harbour is restricted in size and by tidal movements. Whilst Galway Harbour Company continues to operate the port on a commercial basis, the existing constraints are seriously inhibiting its growth and the potential development of the City. We welcome the proposed extension of the Harbour which will allow Galway Port to sustain a competitive and viable port operation. Furthermore, the Galway Harbour Extension will facilitate the removal of all existing oil handling, storage and commercial port operations to a new location, away from the Inner Harbour, thus improving the visual amenity of the City and allowing for a modern mixed use re-development of the existing harbour frontage. The potential to redevelop the inner harbour area with high spec grade I office type developments required by indigenous and FDI companies located on the waterfront along with a mix of commercial, residential and tourism uses will make this a very attractive area and improve the vibrancy of Galway City.

Overall it is considered that the proposed Galway Harbour Extension will bring many significant benefits to Galway City and the wider West Region. In this regard, we wish to lend our support for the proposed redevelopment and extension application PL61.PA0033.

Yours sincerely

  
Catherina Blewitt  
West Region Manager  
IDA Ireland

pp. Marie Bizard  
Barry Egan  
Director West Region  
Enterprise Ireland