



P&O Maritime (Ireland) Limited
 Parkmore Business Park West
 Galway
 Ireland

Telephone +353 91 773980
 Facsimile +353 91 773982
 www.pomaritime.com

Registered Office: Parkmore Business Park West Galway
 Registered in Ireland No. 414360

An Bord Pleanála
 64, Marlborough Street
 Dublin 1

AN BORD PLEANÁLA
 TIME _____ BY post
 05 MAR 2014
 LTR-DATED _____ FROM (initials)
 PL _____

Planning Ref: 61.PA.0033

CC: Capt Brian Sheridan,
 Galway Harbour Company

Dear Sir/Madame,

I wish to submit my support on behalf of P&O Maritime for the above planning application made by the Galway Harbour Company to create a multi-modal seaport for Galway.

P&O Maritime manages and operates the 2 research vessels, Celtic Explorer and Celtic Voyager, owned by the state agency, the Marine Institute, which is based in Galway. Galway has been our home port for many years and during which time Galway Harbour Company has supported our operation as best it can. However, we are severely restricted in our ability to operate effectively out of this port.

The tidal conditions for the current port dictate that the lock gates open 2 hours before high tide and close on high tide. Our vessels are effectively locked in or locked out of port for up to 10 hours at a time. This poses the same difficulty for all vessels looking to enter or leave the port. Also larger vessels such as cruise liners and many European research vessels active off the west coast of Ireland cannot enter the port as it is too small.

The proposed seaport would remove this tidal restriction for all vessels and will attract more research vessels from other European countries that frequently operate in the eastern Atlantic region which is of huge interest from a marine research perspective. Many vessels avoid Galway as it is currently too small and too restricted by tide.

The proposal to create a deep water berth unrestricted by tide would be of enormous value to our operation and the capacity to berth larger vessels would attract larger vessels that currently cannot berth in Galway.

We see several positive benefits of this development not only for our operation but for Galway through enhanced access by sea generating extra tourism and commercial potential as well as increasing the influence of the cluster of marine research organisations in NUIG, GMIT and the Marine Institute. There is also an environmental benefit where vessels avoid burning unnecessary fuel while waiting to enter the port and tanker operations are moved away from residential buildings.

We do not see any negative impacts to this proposal and whole heartedly support its acceptance.

I enclose the €50 fee for making submission or observation. Please send on receipt by reply.

Yours sincerely,


 Bill Dwyer
 Contract Manager

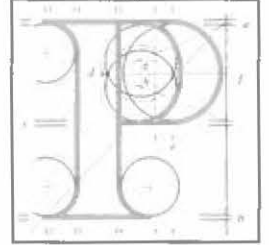
04 March 2014

AN BORD PLEANÁLA
 5/3/14
 €50
 B123425

Directors

CF Greene
 A Rowan
 Rado Antolovic (Aus)
 Mohammad Al Hashimy (UAE)

Your Ref:



Bill Dwyer, Contract Manager
P & O Maritime (Ireland) Limited
Parkmore Business Park West
Galway

7th March 2014

**Re: Galway Harbour Extension
Renmore and Townparks Townlands, Galway**

Dear Sir,

An Bord 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. A receipt for the fee lodged is enclosed.

The Board will revert to you in due course with regard to the matter. If you have any queries in the meantime please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Kieran Doherty
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737248

Encls.

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