

SECTION 131 FORM

Appeal NO: ABP 313378-22



Defer Re O/H

TO:SEO

Having considered the contents of the submission dated/received 21/6/22  
from

Patricia Fuentes recommend that section 131 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000  
be/not be invoked at this stage for the following reason(s): no new material  
issues raised

E.O.: Karen Hickey

Date: 22/6/22

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

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 BP \_\_\_\_\_ - 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

Appeal No: ABP 313378-22

M \_\_\_\_\_

Please treat correspondence received on 21<sup>st</sup> June 22 as follows:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Update database with new agent for Applicant/Appellant _____<br>2. Acknowledge with BP <u>20</u><br>3. Keep copy of Board's Letter <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. RETURN TO SENDER with BP _____<br>2. Keep Envelope: <input type="checkbox"/><br>3. Keep Copy of Board's letter <input type="checkbox"/> |
|--|--|

## Amendments/Comments

SIBI Response from Patricia Fuentes  
for acknowledged

9  
15  
20  
25

## 4. Attach to file

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| (a) R/S <input type="checkbox"/>            | (d) Screening <input type="checkbox"/>    |
| (b) GIS Processing <input type="checkbox"/> | (e) Inspectorate <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (c) Processing <input type="checkbox"/>     |   |

RETURN TO EO ☒

Karen Hickey

	Plans Date Stamped <input type="checkbox"/>
	Date Stamped Filled in <input type="checkbox"/>
EO: <del>21/6</del> Karen Hickey	AA: Daniel S. Comer
Date: 21/6/22	Date: 22/6/22

**AN BORD PLEANÁLA**

LDG- \_\_\_\_\_

ABP- \_\_\_\_\_

**21 JUN 2022**

Fee: € \_\_\_\_\_ Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

16<sup>th</sup> June, 2022.

Our responses to/observations on Mr. Michael Callan's submissions relating to case number ABP-313378-22.

## ENVIRONMENT

The appellants appreciate the efforts of an exclusively native landscaping scheme. The appellants still believe, however, that despite noise assessments carried out, that 200,000 broilers 400 metres away from residential housing WILL inevitably create noise pollution.

## TRAFFIC

Concerns on the previous observation by the appellants remain. Though the road will be widened it won't be widened enough to accommodate HGVs and local traffic at the same time. The no left turn for HGVs exiting the compound and the various lay-byes won't mitigate the problem of local traffic entering the road from the east side and encountering a HGV. Either will have to reverse to the nearest lay-by therefore creating accident prone situations.

## ANIMAL WELFARE

The following is a report from Compassion in World Farming.

*Back in 1950, chicken was eaten as a treat; British people ate less than a kilo in a whole year. Now, we eat on average 25kg in a year - that's more than 2 kg per month.*

### **LIVE FAST, DIE YOUNG**

*Broilers (chickens farmed for meat) have been bred to grow bigger and faster. Chickens can live for six or more years under natural conditions. However those used in intensive farming will commonly be slaughtered before they reach six weeks old.*

*Free-range broilers will usually be slaughtered at 8 weeks old and organic broilers at around 12 weeks old.*

*There are a number of welfare issues for broiler chickens.*

### **WELFARE ISSUES FOR BROILER CHICKENS**

Good animal welfare depends on three components:

- *Physical well-being Mental well-being Natural living.*
- *In intensive chicken farms all three of these are compromised by overcrowding in filthy conditions, barren environments, and rapid growth. Chickens also suffer injury and stress through rough handling during catching, transport and slaughter.*
- *Over 70% of chickens raised for meat globally are raised in intensive industrial farming systems. This includes the majority of chickens in the UK, Europe, the US and China, as well as rapidly increasing numbers in developing countries.*
- *In the European Union, intensively farmed chickens are bred to reach their slaughter weight in less than 6 weeks. This is less than half the time it would take*

traditionally. Their short lives are spent in overcrowded, dimly-lit sheds with no access to the outside.

### **INSIDE THE INTENSIVE CHICKEN SHED**

Generally, broiler sheds are barren except for water and food points, with no natural light. There is litter on the floor to absorb droppings but this is not cleaned out until the chickens have been removed from the shed for slaughter.

The air can become highly polluted with ammonia from the droppings. This can damage the chickens' eyes and respiratory systems and can cause painful burns on their legs (called 'hock burns'), chests and feet.

Chickens confined in these barren sheds are not able to adjust their environment to avoid heat, cold or dirt as they would in natural conditions.

It can get very hot inside the sheds, especially in summer. If the ventilation system fails, thousands of birds can die of heat stress.

### **FAST GROWTH**

Intensively reared chickens have been bred over the last few decades to grow very quickly. But there are huge welfare costs to this increased growth rate. They spend much of their time lying down because their legs are not strong enough to support their heavy body weights and many of them suffer from painful leg disorders.

The rapid growth also puts a strain on their hearts and lungs, they suffer from fatigue and do not have much energy for exercise. Fast-growing broilers spend less time performing natural behaviours such as walking, pecking, scratching the litter and perching, and more time sitting and eating, than slower-growing breeds. In the UK alone, millions of chickens die in their sheds from heart attacks each year.

Chickens bred to grow fast often develop leg deformities because their bones don't grow quickly enough to support the weight of their bodies.

### **OVERCROWDING**

Tens of thousands of birds can be housed in each shed. The 2007 EU Directive on broiler chickens allows the equivalent of around 19 birds per square metre, depending on their weight at slaughter. This means that each bird has less floor space than the size of an A4 sheet of paper.

Chickens in overcrowded sheds have very little space for exercise and are disturbed or trodden on when they are resting. As they grow, they have less and less space to move and find it more difficult to reach food and drink if they are lame. Crowding is also likely to lead to more air pollution, increased heat stress and foul litter.

### **FEED RESTRICTION OF BREEDERS**

The fast growth of broilers is accompanied by an increased appetite. Although the majority of broilers are killed for meat as juveniles, some are kept for longer to be used for breeding. Due to the health problems associated with fast growth, chickens used for breeding are kept on very restricted diets. They suffer from stress, frustration and chronic hunger as a result.

### **CATCHING, TRANSPORT AND SLAUGHTER**

Before transport to slaughter, broilers are usually deprived of food for many hours, leaving them stressed and hungry. Catching, crating and transport are stressful and can result in

*crucising and broken bones. Broilers are either caught by hand by a team of catchers, or are picked up using a catching machine. Around 20 million chickens per year are already dead by the time they arrive at EU slaughterhouses.*

*A catching machine can pick up around nine thousand chickens per hour.*

*At the slaughterhouse, chickens are typically hung by their feet on shackles whilst conscious, which is likely to be painful, particularly as leg problems are common. The birds are usually stunned by being dipped, head first, into an electrified water bath before their throats are cut. This stunning is sometimes ineffective: the struggling birds may raise their heads and miss the water, resulting in fully conscious birds having their throats cut.*

*There are more humane alternatives to intensive chicken farming.*

End of report

### **IS THERE REALLY A PRESSING OR ANY NEED FOR MORE POULTRY HOUSES**

Self sufficiency in Ireland is at 98%

Source: Central Statistics Office. Table 1 Meat Supply Balance 2017-2019

Self sufficiency in Europe is at 100%

Source: DG Agri Dashboard: poultry meat broiler. Page 10

<http://ex.europa.eu>

### **ALTERNATIVE SITES**

The Applicant's response to this objection doesn't address the issue which is why the site proposed by him is more suited to his proposed development than the extensive agriculturally zoned lands owned by him in the vicinity to his own home (and not our homes.)

The Applicant seems to be suggesting that the development of a huge intensive chicken farming business would, if permitted, be a more benign development than one-off housing. Apart from the self-evident fallacy that such a proposition is, there is no pressure for additional "one-off housing" in the vicinity and, indeed, any person seeking permission to build housing on the subject land would in all likelihood be refused

### **SUSTAINABILITY**

Applicant:

*The proposed development is to satisfy local Irish demand for a healthy nutritious food.*

Appellants' response: Irish demand is for chicken breasts; the rest of the birds is exported.

Applicant:

*Poultry meat has the lowest carbon footprint of all farmed animals.*

Appellants' response: That may or may not be the case but even if it is, that is no basis on which to permit the proposed development. Just because it may be the least obnoxious of a number of potential obnoxious developments does not mean that it is good environmental or planning practice to allow such a development.

Appellants submit that IT MOST CERTAINLY DOES HAVE A CARBON FOOTPRINT

Applicant:

*Poultry meat has the lowest water requirement of all farmed animals*

Appellants submit that **DOES** require vast amounts of water and, again, we reiterate that just because intensive chicken farming may consume less (although a huge amount

of water than other activities is not a reason to disregard good environmental and planning practice.

Applicant: *poultry meat has the highest feed conversion efficiency for the conversion of grain into animal protein.*

Appellant: Of course. That's what intensive farming is about. 80% of the grain produced worldwide goes to intensive farming of animals. That's not sustainable farming.

In conclusion and in general, projects like this in Ireland and all over the world should be kept to a minimum if not discontinued while efforts should be made to encourage the public to eat a plant-based diet at least a few days a week. If you eat chicken once a week you'll be able to afford a whole organic free range chicken for your Sunday roast rather than eating cheap, tasteless chicken breast every day coming from a broiler reared in appalling conditions. The planet and future generations will thank us for our efforts.

Signed.....  
PATRICIA FUENTES,

PATRICIA FUENTES  
RATHESCAR  
DUNLEER  
Co. DOUTH A92 E378

Signed.....  
AOIFE HANRATTY

AOIFE HANRATTY  
KIRWAN'S CROSS  
Dunleer  
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