



An
Bord
Pleanála

Memorandum ABP-315708-23 Request for Further Information

To: Brendan Wyse, ADP
From: Hugh D. Morrison
Re: Proposed quarry at Magherasolis and Craigs, Raphoe, Co. Donegal
Date: 6th December 2023

Following a review of the application documentation including the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR), the Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening Report and the Natura Impact Statement, and the observations received by the Board, I am of the opinion that further information is required from the applicant in order to assist further with my assessment of this application. I have set out the following as a proposed 'Request for Further Information'.

1. The alleged dumping of domestic waste within the former quarry has not been addressed in the planning application or the EIAR. Please investigate this dumping in order to identify its contents and estimate its extent and volume. Measures for its remediation shall be proposed, including how the quality of water discharging from the site would be safeguarded during remediation.
2. Sections 8.4.10 and 8.6.2.2 of the EIAR address groundwater in conjunction with the preferential flow within the former quarry. Please clarify the basis for the calculation/estimation of the volume of groundwater within this flow at present and under the proposed quarry, especially.

3. Please state the volumes of water that would discharge from the water management proposals into the land drain under normal and storm surge scenarios. Provide details of this drain, i.e., its exact position, specification, and condition, and demonstrate its adequacy to receive the envisaged discharge.
4. Please clarify how, under the site restoration plan, water would drain from the lowered quarry floor to the "original" drainage system, i.e., the one that would pre-date the water management proposals.
5. Please clarify the improvements proposed for the means of access to the site, i.e., the local road and its onward extension into the site, by means of a detailed site survey plan and elucidating cross-sections. This plan and these cross-sections shall indicate how the means of access would be drained and the relationship between it and the land drain, which would receive the discharge from the site. Any removal of existing vegetation to improve forward visibility shall be specified, too.
6. Please clarify the following proposed operational phase aspects of the proposal:
 - a) The sump shown in Phase 1 of the proposed quarry would be suspended in conjunction with the lowering of the quarry floor. Elucidate how this sump would be suspended during such lowering and demonstrate its compatibility with the maintenance of access to the proposed quarry.
 - b) Under the "Noise and Dust" chapter of the EIAR, the processing plant is described as being static within Zone 1, which would encompass Phase 1 of the proposed quarry. Elucidate how this plant would remain operational during the lowering of the quarry floor.

Please allow twelve weeks for response to this request. If, the Board is obliged to allow only four weeks, then the request should be made in the new year.

Hugh D Morrison

Hugh D. Morrison
Inspectorate

*Agreed,
B Wipe
ADP 6 Dec 23*