



An Bord Pleanála

64 Marlborough Street
Dublin 1

3rd May 2013

Our Ref: 120417

Your Ref: SH 07.SH0082

**Re: Application for Substitute Consent for Quarry at Shannapheasteen, Co. Galway
Galway County Council Notice Reference QSP83**

Dear Sirs,

Further to your letter dated 18th January 2013 agreeing to an extension of time, and on behalf of our clients, Connemara Granite Teoranta and Stephen Larkin, please find enclosed an application for substitute consent for a quarry operation at Shannapheasteen, Co. Galway.

Galway County Council issued a Notice under Section 261A(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to make an application for substitute consent for the existing quarry operation on 3rd August 2012 ([Reference Number QSP83]). The Notice confirmed that, whilst the quarrying commenced prior to 1964 and the operation was compliant with the requirements under Section 261 of the Planning and Development Act, as amended, an application must be made for substitute consent and that this should be accompanied by a remedial Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Natura Impact Statement (NIS). In this case, the site is located close to the Connemara Bog Complex cSAC (Site Code: 002034) and the provision of the remedial NIS will allow An Bord Pleanála to consider the impacts of the proposed development on the designated Natura site. The remedial NIS is included at Appendix 4 of the remedial EIS.

The historical quarry that is the subject of this application is a granite dimension stone quarry. Although bulk aggregates have been extracted from the site in the past for the production of dimension stone used for civil engineering purposes, the recent operation has involved the production of specialist dimension stone that is used as building stone for stone wall construction, the cladding and facades of buildings, and for use in the manufacture of garden features, headstones, fireplaces, etc. The quarry supplies local, domestic and international markets. The quarry is a small-scale, self-contained operation.

This application relates to the full extent of the quarrying operations to date, including all associated works and ancillary buildings/structures. During the preparation of this application, a small number of improvements were identified by the various professionals that visited the quarry site while undertaking their specialist assessments and surveys. These relate to the site entrance, surface water drainage and safety fencing and these measures can be implemented to further improve operations on the site. These are detailed in the remedial EIS and the application drawings.

- Statutory Substitute Consent Application Form
- Copy of Site Notice
- Newspaper Notice (full original page)
- Location Map (6 copies)
- Application Drawings (6 sets)
- Remedial EIS (6 copies)
- Remedial NIS (6 copies – included as Appendix 4 in EIS)
- Remedial EIS & NIS – CR-ROM Soft Copy
- Statutory Application Fee

The application drawings have been provided in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2011, as amended. In this regard, the enclosed scaled drawings clearly and comprehensively show the full extent of the quarry operation that is the subject of this application.

We trust the enclosed is in order and that this application has dealt with all the relevant statutory planning and environmental matters in a comprehensive manner. We look forward to hearing from you in due course. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact this office should you require any further details.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Whittaker', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Whittaker B.Sc. (Hons) TP, MIPI
Senior Planner
McCarthy Keville O'Sullivan Ltd