

Mark O'Sullivan

From: environ
Sent: Wednesday 2 December 2020 16:08
To: Mark O'Sullivan
Subject: FW: Application by Roadstone Wood Ltd.

Hi Mark

Please see submission re Roadstone - I have attached same to the files - can you respond to this email

Thanks
Fiona

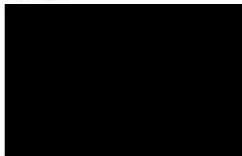
-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Gleeson <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday 2 December 2020 14:51
To: environ <environ@kerrycoco.ie>
Subject: Re: Application by Roadstone Wood Ltd.

[CAUTION FROM KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL I.T. DEPARTMENT: EXTERNAL SENDER] This email originated from outside of the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

FAO : Environment Department,
Kerry Co Co.

Re: Application by Roadstone Wood Ltd.
For Air Pollution Licence
Under the Air Pollution [Licensing of Industrial Plant] Regulations.



A Dhaoine Uaisle,

We, Michael and Kathleen Gleeson, wish to express our deep concern at the application for an Air Pollution Licence by Roadstone Wood Ltd. under the Air Pollution [Licensing of Industrial Plant] Regulations.

We are aware that our Minish neighbours have submitted a formal objection to this application and having carefully read their submission we share their many very genuine concerns.

We live beside the N.22 and are some 80 Mts from the boundary of the Roadstone Quarry. We have on many occasions endured the unwelcome presence of fine sand blowing in the wind from both the Quarry and from the UNCOVERED trucks transporting the material to and from the site. But at least sand is not too harmful unlike invisible Particulates and Toxic emissions. It is scarcely necessary to state that Particulate Matter [PM] when inhaled, has an adverse effect on the respiratory system and is associated with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, bronchial asthma, strokes, heart disease and some cancers. The risks are of course greater for person of our age category and for any person with an underlying medical condition[s].

During our many years living here, we have striven to become self- sufficient from a kitchen garden perspective. Our potatoes, onions, legumes, cabbages, carrots and parsnips, tomatoes, cucumbers etc. are home grown and are mainly organically grown using compost from the cut grass from our lawn. We do not fancy the thought of having our grass/compost or our vegetable produce contaminated by dangerous and invisible toxins. It has wisely often been said that the poisons and toxins that we can see can be managed and controlled but the

invisible ones have a lasting and sometimes fatal impact. After 40 plus years of good practice we do not relish the prospect of consuming invisibly poisoned food.

The long- established Quarry is circumscribed by farmland on which animals graze. There is at least one dairy herd proximate to the proposed plant. The particulates and toxins when they come to ground will undoubtedly, through the process of Osmosis, enter the grass roots and thence transfer to the edible part of the plant where the animals will consume it. Contaminated milk will inevitably result, as will contaminated meat when animals are slaughtered. You Are What You Eat is not a saying reserved solely for humans, they are simply the final port of call.

Killarney town and its environs has long been recognized as an area not best suited to people with respiratory problems such as asthma. Killarney Lakes are merely 30 Mts over sea level. The proposed location of the Roadstone Wood Limited new development is less than 100 Mts over sea level. Due to the entire catchment being encircled by mountains and hills the climatic phenomenon known as Inversion is quite common and this will ensure that the deleterious material being emitted at the plant will come to ground very quickly. It was largely for this reason that the entire area was recently included in the Smokey Coal ban.

The medical professionals are constantly advocating that we should all exercise more for our overall well- being. The circuit from Lissivigeen [Gillian O' Sullivan] Roundabout [N22] through Clash, Clasheen, Minish onto the L. 11072 and back to Lissivigeen Roundabout is hugely popular with walkers and joggers. It is an absolute blessing for so many during this time of Pandemic. It would be tragic to pollute its wonderfully therapeutic fresh air. A section of the L.11072 is immediately adjacent to the proposed location of the Plant.

We are both in our seventies [Michael 75 and Kathleen 70] and many of those living close to the proposed location are also retired persons or the next generation starting out in family life with their own young children. We cherish living in and being able to recreate in a location that is free from particulates or toxins. It is not unreasonable that we would ask to be allowed continue to do so.

The local community has over the many years of the Quarry's existence tried to be very fair and understanding. As mentioned earlier fine sand blowing in the wind from the Quarry or from uncovered trucks has been a sometimes nuisance as has the early morning reveille of reversing vehicles with their strident tooting. But we accepted those, despite frequent requests to Kerry County Council to ensure that all trucks would be covered. But surely there comes a time when a Community has to be acknowledged and safeguarded. No Statutory Body has the right to deliberately jeopardise the physical and mental health and wellbeing of a Community that treasures country living.

There is a noted Spring Well, known as Minish Well, on the old Minish Road and this is sometimes used by families who want to drink water at its purest and best and by us during periods of water shortage. Its subterranean source/course is most likely, in fact we would surmise definitely, within the Quarry.

The once pristine River Flesk has most certainly endured enough pollution over the past 40 years and strong efforts are being made with the cooperation of Kerry County Council Environment Section [Lough Léin Catchment Committee] to restore its previous pristine purity. Toxic chemicals will most certainly not advance that noble pursuit. A river that once was rich in salmon and nurtured the Fresh Water Pearl Mussel and the Stone Fly cannot hope to be regenerated if it is to be forced to host toxins and Particulates from a nearby Plant.

We conclude our submission with this brief excerpt from the very recent [Irish Examiner: 30th November, 2020] EPA report:

"Tackling the sources of Nitrogen Dioxide and Particulate Matter is the key challenge in our cities and countryside."

Ár mBuíochas libh as an dréacht thuas a léamh. Thank you for reading the above submission.

Michael and Kathleen Gleeson

2nd December, 2020.



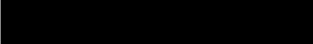
Kerry County Council, Environmental Protection Department.

2nd December, 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

'With reference to **Roadstone Ltd application for an Air Emissions Licence at Clasheen**".
We wish to register our objection to the above proposed application by Roadstone Ltd.

(a) We have read and strongly support the objections raised by our Neighbours Dave Murphy and Michael Gleeson and wish to add our objections to theirs:-

(b) Joan and myself live  meters from the Roadstone Aggregate Screener. We were previously unaware of this application and were shocked that such a proposal was been considered near our home. Roadstone products, and the value and need for those products are obvious. Noise and dust we also understand are necessary for such an operation. We understand that early morning starts and the plant operation at 0530 is also necessary from time to time as is early morning Turbo Pours from time to time. We still don't know what the hours of operation are at Roadstone; it seems to change as the contracts do. Most business premises have their opening and closing times displayed; this application is to operate plant from 4.00 am to 7.00 pm six days a week! With the accompanying noise and extra traffic and particulate discharges this will generate.

(c) Roadstone has applied for a licence to operate a mobile black top plant with approx. 50 foot single exhaust stack. The application is for a "Mobile Black Top Plant", if permission is granted it could be relocated to any location on the Roadstone site. This would mean the products of combustion as listed in the application sulphur dioxide and nitrogen particulates could be discharged even closer to where we live. In short, not only are we required to live with the noise and dust but if this application as it stands is granted we will have to put up with the smell of bitumen and airborne discharges six days a week. Even our air will be affected.

(d) In granting this application a precedent will be set for future developments on the Roadstone Site. The site is within 10 minutes drive of Killarney and within meters of residential homes. This will negatively effect people living in those homes, which is in the Killarney 'Low Smoke Zone'. Noise and dust is an inconvenience. The proposed air discharges into the Killarney Low Smoke Zone is a contradiction. Discharge from the smoke stack will either cause acid rain or hang around in the sky and be highly visible.

(e) A search on the internet for, "Is it dangerous to live near an asphalt plant", came up with "*Even if an asphalt plant meets all state and federal air pollution standards, people living nearby are still exposed to cancer causing substances that can cause long term damage*".

(f) My wife is an asthmatic and has experienced serious attacks in the past. Our four grandchildren live nearby. We feel the need to most strongly object to Roadstones application. If an emissions licence is granted we know it will have a negative impact on our physical and mental health and the health of our Grandchildren now and for their futures.

Yours Sincerely,

Christopher Wright

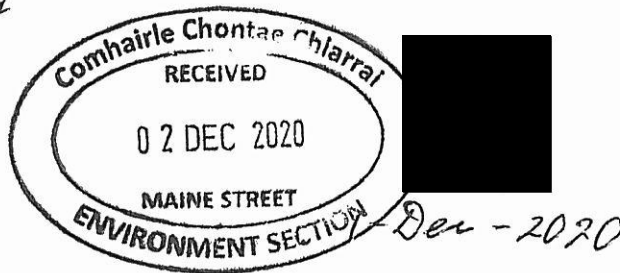
&

Joan Wright





Environment Dept
Kerry Co. Co.
Maine St
Lisakee



Request by Roadstone for an Air Emission Licence to operate an Asphalt Plant at Clasheen, Killarney, Co Kerry.

We are a group of residents living in Minish, Killarney who wish to object to the granting of an licence to Roadstone to operate an Asphalt plant at Clasheen, Killarney for the following reasons:-

1. We understand that planning permission together with the air emissions licence was granted for this plant in 2010. Locals living adjacent to the Roadstone quarry were unaware of this as there were no signs erected at the time. This planning permission was extended in 2015 but the plant did not go ahead and we had no knowledge of it. We only became aware of this with recent activity at the site. We understand that Roadstone are now required to submit a new request for the air emission licence due to the fact it didn't go ahead as originally planned. We think that as the plant did not go ahead in 2010 and 2015 a new planning permission should now also be required and not just for the air emission licence. Regulations particularly in relation to the environment have completely changed from 2010. Many new houses have been built in the area since 2010.
2. In September 2020 Killarney was included in the list of smoke free areas (no burning of smokey coal). Both Minish and Clasheen are included in the smoke free area. Granting a licence for this plant is a direct contradiction to the introduction of this regulation. Large quantities of sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and other pollutants will be emitted from this plant. This will not only have an adverse effect on the local area but also the greater Killarney area, a prime tourist area. It will result in acid rain which will affect the land, vegetation, the river Flesk and the famous lakes of Killarney. Tourism will be impacted as will fishing in the lakes.
3. There was no consultation with the locals on this matter. Indeed Roadstone have not been good neighbours over the years. We have had many issues with them down through the years over water from their site and their silt ponds. The Council are aware of these and only for their intervention Roadstone would have done what they liked.

4. There is a national school within 2 kilometres of the proposed plant (Lissivigeen). There are 280 pupils attending this school and we have no doubt the emissions from this plant will affect children with asthma or other health complications
 5. The road around the Roadstone plant is used extensively by both local walkers and people who come out from town, there is little or no traffic and dozens of people walk this road as well as people walking their dogs. If the plant goes ahead this amenity will be lost as both the air emissions, the odour and the noise will be intolerable for walkers.
 6. The opening hours under the licence request is stated to be from 4am to 7pm Monday to Saturday inclusive. These hours go to show how little regard Roadstone have for the locals and are unacceptable. The chimney stack is 15m high, this is totally inadequate as it will just rise above the road used by so many walkers.
 7. A planning permission request for a similar plant was sought by Roadstone in 2019 at a site it owns at Ballyegan, Castleisland. An Bord Pleanála refused permission. We are all much more aware of our environment and how important it is to protect it and reduce our emission of pollutants. The situation in 2020 is much more serious than in 2010 and government policy is to significantly reduce our emissions. This plant is adding significantly to the emissions that we are all trying to reduce.
 8. We query the need for the plant as we understand Roadstone operate a similar plant at Millstreet.
 9. Roadstone used the weather conditions at Cork airport in their model to calculate the effect of their proposed plant in Killarney. Cork airport is 80 kilometres from Killarney and weather conditions cannot be compared. Killarney has much more rainfall therefore there will be much more acid rain which in turn affects the rivers and lakes.
 10. We are very concerned in particular regarding the effect this plant will have on the health and quality of life of residents living close to Roadstone quarry. There are in excess of 70 houses within 2 kilometres of the site. It is widely known that asphalt fumes are toxic. These plants release millions of pounds of chemicals into the air during production each year. The emissions, the noise and the odour from such a plant will be unbearable. Some residents have stated that the odour of fresh tarmacadam makes them physically sick.
 11. Raw materials for the proposed asphalt plant will have to be transported into the site as there is no materials left in this pit. This further adds to traffic on a busy N22 road as well as pollution from the transport lorries.
-

For all the above reasons we the undersigned request that the emission license is refused.

Correspondence in relation to the matter can be addressed to Dave Murphy, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Dave Murphy

[REDACTED]
Patrick Moynihan

[REDACTED]
Brian Horgan

[REDACTED]
Frank Hickey

[REDACTED]
Tom Hurley

[REDACTED]
James Bastable

[REDACTED]
Padraig Kissane

[REDACTED]
Noreen Browne

[REDACTED]
Patricia Horgan

[REDACTED]
Nora Flynn

[REDACTED]
John O Driscoll

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]




02.12.2020.

Environment Section,
Kerry Co. Council,
Maine Street,
Tralee,
Co. Kerry.

**Re:- Roadstone Ltd.. – Application for an Emission Licence under the Air Pollution Act
Clasheen, Killarney, Co. Kerry.**

Dear Sirs,

Our family home is located  the N22 from the existing Roadstone quarry boundary at Clasheen. We have two school going children.

We wish to object to the above application for the following reasons:-

- In September 2020 the EPA announced that the greater Killarney area (including Clasheen) is included in the list of smoke free zones. It would surely be a complete contradiction to operate an asphalt plant within a smoke free zone.
- We are concerned in relation to the emissions and particulates a plant like this would emit, having dire consequences for our air quality, water, grasslands, vegetation and wildlife. Ireland is currently not meeting its greenhouse gas emissions targets, and a development such as this would only exacerbate matters. We would hope that Kerry Co. Council will lead by example in this regard and take emissions targets seriously.

“The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates show that more than 400,000 premature deaths are attributable to poor air quality in Europe annually. In Ireland, the number of premature deaths attributable to air pollution is estimated at 1,180 people and is mainly due to cardiovascular disease. The WHO has described air pollution as the ‘single biggest environmental health risk’ – quote from the EPA.IE website.

- We are already tolerating high dust and noise levels from the existing operation at the quarry – we can hear it in our house even with the windows closed. We have been good neighbours and do not complain, but perhaps this is being taken advantage of, and we have a real fear that operating this plant within the existing quarry operation would elevate the noise levels even further. Then add in the extra noise/air pollution from the extra HGV's that will be accessing and exiting the site on a daily basis , and it will be unbearable for local residents.

Cont'd/....

..../2

- Odours from this plant are a real concern.
- We feel that the proposed operation times of 4 am to 7 pm (and a possibility of extending beyond these times when necessary) are totally unacceptable and completely unrealistic in a highly populated yet rural area with dwelling houses very close by, and will have a negative effect on health and quality of life. We are surely entitled to some peace and quiet in the evening time and early morning.
- The N22 is an extremely busy road. When traffic is heavy, as it often is, lorries exiting from the quarry and turning right towards Killarney have a habit of going onto the hard shoulder directly in front of our house and using this to build up speed before joining the traffic. This is extremely dangerous when we are trying to exit our driveway and we've had a few frights. This traffic will further increase if this licence is granted.

We would also like to make an observation in relation to the planning process in this regard, which we feel needs to be more transparent. At the very least it should be mandatory to place a planning notice on-site, and it is amazing that this is not a requirement. A newspaper notice is not really sufficient in this day and age, as many people do not read newspapers, or may read an e-version, where it is more difficult to spot a small advert.

Initially we also found it quite difficult to get details of the proposal from Kerry Co. Council, and sent a number of emails and made a number of telephone enquiries to the planning office, they were very pleasant, but they were not able to direct us to the relevant department, even though we explained clearly what we were looking for. This lack of knowledge perhaps needs to be addressed.

Eventually we found out locally that we should make contact with the Environment Department, where they were quite helpful and we were able to get further details.

Please consider our concerns when making your decision.

Thanking you,

Yours sincerely,



Sean Casey

Maria Casey.

02/12/2020

Dear Sir/Madam ,

It has been brought to my attention that Roadstone LTD ,at Clasheen Killarney Co.Kerry , have applied for an air emission licence for a bitumen production plant .

To begin with we were unaware that Roadstone LTD had planning permission for the plant for the last ten years This has come as a shock to us as one of their closest neighbours .

We have been living alongside the quarry all our lives and have been very tolerant of the noise , dust and heavy volume of trucks that come and go from the plant from morning till night .

The licence being sought is unacceptable to us as it is requesting operating hours from 4am- 7pm with the option to increase said hours . We feel it is not unreasonable of us to expect quiet during normal sleeping hours as the majority of people work and go to school during the day .

Furthermore I am concerned about the health implications of such a plant . It is being implied that there is no significant dangers associated with the emissions to people's health . However my wife and daughter both suffer from asthma and any increase in pollutants would compromise their health . This is totally unacceptable to us .

I am also concerned about acid rain which would result from the operation of the bitumen plant and what effect it would have on the nature habitat I have spent the last 15 years maintaining as part of EU basic payment scheme\ greening payment on my farm .

Since September Clasheen and neighbouring Minish have come under the umbrella of the Killarney smoke free zone in an attempt to decrease pollution and preserve the air quality for its residents , tourists and nature alike .To permit the licence would appear contrary to efforts being made in this regard .

Finally there has been no mention in the planning application of the smell which will inevitably emanate from the plant . This will effect everyone in the neighbourhood at some stage , depending on which way the wind blows . It would make it impossible to enjoy our own gardens with the smell of tarmacadem in the air .

Thank you for reading my objections to this licence being granted .

Yours Sincerely ,





Kerry County Council,
Rathass,
Tralee,
Co. Kerry.

08th December 2020

Re: Air Pollution Licence/ Application by Roadstone Wood Ltd

Dear Sir, Madam,

I am a resident of Clasheen, Killarney and [redacted] to Roadstone Quarry.
Whilst we have never had any issues with the Quarry in the past, we do have concerns now in relation to the uncertainty surrounding the air pollution risk.

We are all members of a closely knit rural community and we value our rural lifestyle and the relatively clean and healthy air that we breathe.

Therefore, we wish to support the objections submitted.

Your sincerely,

[redacted signature block]

Jerry & Chris Clifford

DAN OSULLIVAN



Environment Department
Kerry County Council,
Maine Street,
Tralee, Co Kerry 066-716-2000

To whom It Concerns,

I have been in touch recently with your department in regards to the application for license by RoadStone to operate an Asphalt plant at Clasheen, Killarney. I have been kindly furnished with a copy of this Air License application by Mark O'Sullivan in your department and have read through it in full.

I am aware that there are a group of residents in the Minish area who have already also in touch on this matter. I would prefer however in the interest of fairness to file my own observation on this license application as I have not been living here as long as the other residents and don't want to get involved in prior history they may have on other issues. My independent observations on this matter are as follows

- My son [REDACTED] Killarney suffers from Asthma and carries 2 different inhalers around with him. I would be concerned for the air quality so close to this new Asphalt smoke Stack would contribute to aggravating his condition going forward.
- I also am puzzled by the choice of location as Clasheen\Minish itself lies within the boundary of Killarney town itself and has to adhere to rules drafted in relation to burning of smoky coal. In addition [REDACTED] two teenager both attended is just under a mile from [REDACTED] and I would have thought would be a bit close for comfort also to a smoke stack.
- I would have preferred a chance for all the neighbours to gather with RoadStone in a proactive manner ahead of any application being filed to discuss the proposal and address such concerns in neighborly manner. I think the approach will lead to several people feeling a bit blindsided by the approach taken.

Sincerely

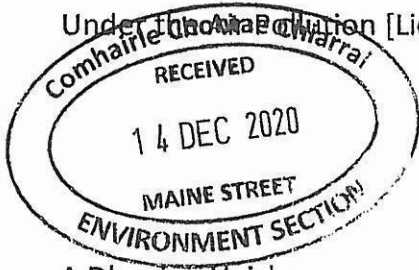
Dan O'Sullivan

[REDACTED]

Re: Application by Roadstone Wood Ltd.

For Air Pollution Licence

Under The Air Pollution [Licensing of Industrial Plant] Regulations.



A Dhaoine Uaisle,

[REDACTED] the N.22 Killarney- Glenflesk Road and [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] of the boundary of the Minish/Clasheen
Roadstone Quarry. I am very familiar with the early morning noise that
sometimes comes from the Quarry and with the fine sand and dust that blows
onto the window and roof of my home. We have reluctantly accepted these
inconveniences over the years.

The application for an Air Pollution Licence is however a far more
serious and threatening matter as its being granted would pose a serious and
immediate threat to my health and the health of my neighbours.

I have read the submission and objection by the residents of
Minish and the have also carefully read the views forwarded by Michael and
Kathleen Gleeson, [REDACTED]

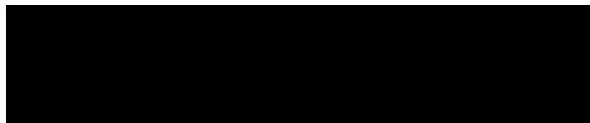
I wish to place very clearly on record that I wholeheartedly support
and fully agree with all the points contained in both submissions.

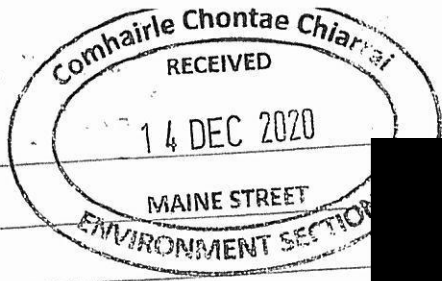
We are all members of a closely knit rural community and we value
our rural lifestyle and the relatively clean and healthy air that we breathe.

Recent, very recent, revelations by the EPA of the threat to health
posed by the release of Toxins and Particulates [PM] into the air is a very clear
warning of the danger to our well- being that would be presented by the
proposed plant.

It is my fervent hope that the application will be refused as I and
my neighbours wish to continue to live reasonably healthy lives free from the
poisons that would be emitted by the proposed Plant.

Thank you.





11/12/2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are aware that the residents of Minish Killarney along with Michael and Kathleen Gibson have already objected to the granting of a licence to cement roadstone for the development of an asphalt/tarmacadam unit at their site in [redacted] Killarney. We are writing in

support of their objections. At present we are fortunate to live in a nice quiet area with clean air and very little noise pollution. If a licence is granted in this case we are fearful that the pollution caused by emissions from the new unit will cause serious air pollution along with noise pollution.

This would have serious negative implications for our family and all the other families in the area. We all use the road beside the proposed unit for walking it is a quiet peaceful area otherwise we have to use

the extremely busy and dangerous
main Road!

Yours Sincerely



15th Dec, 2020.

Re: Request by Roadstone Ltd. for Air Emissions licence

Dear Sirs,

As residents of Clarkeon in very close proximity to this proposed plant we wish to object to the granting of a licence for an asphalt plant. based on toxic fumes from chemicals, emissions, noise, proposed operating hours, no notification with us their neighbours.

The pollutants which will be emitted sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, discharge of hot mix particulates and other products of combustion.

These to us seem to go against our green economy where we are encouraged to protect our people, environment and nature for future generations.

For these reasons we would request your rejection for this licence.

Signed :-

Kerry County Council
Environment Department

14th December 2020



Regarding Roadstones Application for an Air Emissions Licence at Clasheen, Killarney.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

We strongly object to the granting of the above mentioned licence. [redacted] from the main Pit Processing Plant and the noise and the dust from the pit are at times very noticeable. People visiting our home comment on the noise from it and my windows are always getting covered in dust from the pit.

As parents of [redacted] and [redacted] we are very concerned for their health if this licence and the Asphalt Plant go ahead. We have looked through the submission made by SLR Consulting and notice that the emissions fallout on three ecologically significant sites identified will after after 15 km discharge from the plant location be imperceptible.

My wife [redacted] myself and my children do not have the luxury of living 15 km away from the Roadstone Plant. As stated previously we live approx 100 meters from the Roadstone Boundary Fence. What will be the effect on our children living so close to the proposed plant be? Figure 3 in the Air Impact document produced by SLR Consulting shows that the emissions will only deplete by about half when the emissions reach us. Living so close to the Chimney Smoke Plume must be harmful to our children. We want them to be able to enjoy playing outside without breathing in pollution from an Asphalt Plant which is less than [redacted] from [redacted].

Also, looking at Figure 11 "Nearest houses to Asphalt Plant", I can't see our house recorded, though a house has been here for at least eighty years. How many more homes have been left out from figure 10?

We live ten minutes ((3 KM) from the major tourist town of Killarney. 4.3 "Background Air Quality". Killarney and its surrounding area are classified as being in Zone D. Populations greater than 15000 are in Zone C. The Irish Independent of Feb 12th 2018 states that Killarney Town generates 410 million euros annually and receives 1.1 million visitors to the town each year. The town supports 3122 local jobs. This we think puts Killarney in a unique category, certainly not (small town rural) As such the numbers of people visiting the town, the incomes generated and livelihoods maintained should be sufficient reason why there should not be an Asphalt Plant 3 km away from it. And certainly not near our and other peoples homes.

We don't want to have to tell our children that they can't play outside because of the bad air. We worry because of the poison in the air that they will be exposed to and don't know what the long term effects on our and their health will be. It can't be good for them and we really hope and pray that you will turn down Roadstones application.

Yours sincerely,

Jeremiah and Clare Buckley

[redacted]

[redacted]