

// June 2021

**Air Licence Application AP20-01, Granted by Kerry Co. Co.to Roadstone to operate an Asphalt Plant at Clasheen, Killarney, Co Kerry.**

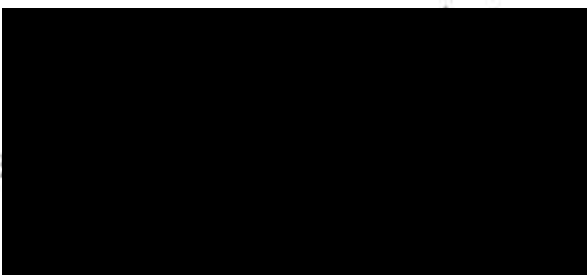
We are a group of residents living in Minish, Killarney, Co. Kerry who wish to appeal the granting of an Air Emission licence to Roadstone to operate an Asphalt plant at Clasheen, Killarney, Co. Kerry for the following reasons :-

1. There are 50 residences in close proximity to this site. The plant is actually on the boundary between Clasheen and Minish. We have grave concerns that the large quantities of sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and other pollutants emitted from this plant will have serious adverse effects on the health of the residents due to the proximity of the plant to so many houses. Indeed, many houses already experience dust on their roofs and cars as a result of current activities at this quarry site. This plant will add further to that problem. We feel Kerry County Council has not given sufficient weight to the number of houses in close proximity to the plant. We do not accept that emissions from the plant will be contained within the boundaries of the site.
2. In September 2020 Killarney and surrounding areas were included in the list of smoke free areas (no burning of smokey coal). The Clasheen quarry is within the boundaries of the Killarney smoke free zone, the townlands of Minish and Clasheen are also included in this zone. Granting an air emission licence for this plant is a direct contradiction to the introduction of this regulation. 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 houses, land, vegetation, the river Flesk and the famous lakes of Killarney. Tourism and fishing will be impacted.
3. There is a national school within 2 kilometres of the proposed plant (Lissivigeen N.S). 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.
4. The local road just north of the Roadstone plant is used extensively for walking by both locals and people who come out from the town. 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.

5. The plant is built in an area that has been excavated for sand, the chimney stack is 15m high, it is questionable if this clears the surrounding embankment, the local residents are concerned that the emissions won't even rise above the road level to the north, this will mean that the emissions and the odour will hover in the locality indefinitely. As the plant has been constructed since January 2021 we request that an inspector from the EPA visit and examine the plant and surrounding area before they make a decision on this matter.
6. Roadstone were asked to provide specific information in relation to the effect the plant would have on Sheheree Bog (SAC). Roadstone have predicted that nitrogen deposition rates will be very low. This is an ecologically sensitive area with high rainfall and any acid rain is known to have serious implications for the environment.
7. We query the need for this plant, there are similar plants in north Kerry and Millstreet. Roadstone have sought also planning and been granted permission for another similar plant in Ballyegan, Castleisland.
8. 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 from the plant which in turn affects the rivers and lakes. There is a spring and a water pond in the site and it should be noted that all this water ends up in the river Flesk and the lakes of Killarney causing further pollution.
9. Raw materials for the proposed asphalt plant will have to be transported into the site as there is no materials left in this quarry. 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 air emission license is refused.

Correspondence in relation to the matter can be addressed to Dave Murphy, Minish, Killarney, Co Kerry (on behalf of the residents of Minish)



*Cheque for €60 enclosed.*



