

**From** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 12 December 2018 05:49

**To:** Marine Spatial Planning <msp@housing.gov.ie>

**Subject:** Marine Spatial Plan and Sustainability.

Minister English Ladies and Gentlemen.

Born on the edge of Glengarriff harbor, from my early childhood I remember the farmers dredging the silt from Bantry Bay, drying it on the "Sand Quay", lugging up the steep hillside and spreading on the land. From the family farm at Mounteen, Dathie Deasy and John Donoghue supplied most of the food for the family and guests at Caseys Hotel. Fresh caught Bantry Bay Place and Sole and Spring Lamb from the hill sides made Glengarriff a memorable holiday destination. Sustainability was every where until unfortunately the infrastructure failed to keep pace with increased popularity of the area.

The sewage was piped into the river at Cromwell's Bridge, flowed to Poulgorm until the next flood washed it out to sea. Local elders and Tourist Board requested the Council to pipe outside Garnish Island however the Council decided to pump back through the Village to a holding tank, where the children's playground sits today, and it overflows through a large pipe and bubbles into the foreshore 10 paces from the high water mark. A full accounting of this health and environmental hazard is available in a document submitted to MEPs and DAFT. called "Bubbles in the Bay". The water samples in the agglomeration reports that say a sewage treatment plant is not necessary were taken from the river above the Eccles bridge and south west of Bocharagh Point. The nearest aquaculture location is 100 m from inflow of sewage and in the path of current from the Glengarriff river.

Some housing additions are not connected to this sewage system and that sewage goes untreated to a smaller river flowing in to Traglathan just beside a aquaculture site. The sewage backs up in some Hotels and leaks into drains and flows on to the foreshore on occasions. This would not be tolerated in any city in Ireland and would be designated by the Department of Housing for immediate rectification. How long will this double standard exist in Rural Ireland, a two tier medical and a two tier political system with rural areas at the wrong tier.

The Bantry sewer treatment plant is insufficient and the old system is still operating. The old system, when unloading it can be seen gushing into the harbor 20-50 M west of the pier a few meters from the wall. The local Slob was deemed too toxic to dredge in the early Celtic Tiger period, however it is now dredged and excavated and a large scale yachting marina has been constructed putting extra pressure on an already overloaded system. Tourist and locals fish of the pier and unknowingly consume the toxic fish. A local business man when questioned on this quipped "if the fish can swim, you can eat them"

Castletownbere harbor is dotted with aquaculture sites and [REDACTED] is on the eastern limits of the harbor. Examining the the Engineer's reports from the last extension of Denish Island facility reveals shocking evidence of un-sustainability and reckless endangerment to the public and the environment. 4million euros were spent shipping the

first layer of toxic sludge out of the country, west Cork recycling centers refused the second layer which reportedly was dumped at Bull Rock. tBt is the toxin that caused this problem, tBt is constantly emitted from the fowling on the ships and fishing boats docked in the harbor. There is a ship maintenance yard on the harbor side of Bear Island. Adding to this health and environmental catastrophic situation, the gates of a sewage holding tank on Denish are opened at full tide. At the moment Denish Island is under going another extension.



Dumping at sea requires public consultation before obtaining a license for such. The original water was taken from a disused quarry which has spent explosive and may be some unused explosives.

Continuing on the sustainability issues that arise with Marine Spatial Planning and foreshore development. The [redacted] permit and supervision was an affront to the spirit of sustainable development. It left the largest artificial lake in its wake, tops were removed from mountains, natural lakes were destroyed, mountains of silt sloped towards the foreshore and drifts in the wind, it was excavated 50% deeper than license permitted and appears to be communicating with the water table. The stone from the quarry was shipped to the continent for capital expansion . Money was put aside from the developers to restore the site when no longer used for quarrying stone, which is ten ears ago, plus, and nobody has attempted restoration.

The boat in the attachment is now always full on returning to the quarry, showing a disregard for the laws of the people and the environment. However the Department of Housing granted [redacted] another salmon farm license for Shot Head in 2017. The Environmental Impact Study presented by [redacted] experts was not notable for for what it presented but for what it ignored and omitted. The site permitted by the Minister English is at the mouth of the estuary of the Dromagaulan river. The Dromagaulan is a visibly beautiful and vibrant river visible to all, flowing from the Sugar Loaf Mountain to a large estuary in Trafrask and melding to Bantry Bay right at Shot Head. The accepted industry standard is, no salmon farm should be less the 20 Km from a river. The Dromagaulan is not an ordinary river, it has a viable population of pearl musells, and inhabited with otters both endangered and protected species. Dromagaulan has wild salmon and sea trout spawning grounds, wild salmon are a necessary link in the life cycle of the pearl musell. erecting a salmon farm that would interfere with the survival of the pearl musell could be an offence against the law and draw at least a fine. 13 appellants have outlined their grounds

for objection to the court at ALAB in Portloise, the submitted information are most relevant to any marine or foreshore plans and should be reviewed for this planning. Salmon farming flies in the face of sustainable development in every aspect in its production, 3-5lbs of wild fish used for each one pound of farmed salmon, 80% of fish oil produced to day is consumed by fish farming. The salmon when eaten precipitates a cascade of harmful inflammation in the human body unequaled by any other food source, Prof. Ski Chilton Wake Forrest University in his book "Inflamation Nation" states it categorically. Farmed salmon is only equivalent to wild salmon in shape, the healthful nutrients in a wild salmon are inverted in the farmed salmon and a synthetic coloring is added appeal to and to suit different customers, like lipstick. Dr Dale Bredesen at the Buck Center, UCLA, a pioneer in reversing Alzheimer's Disease and Cognitive Deficit, untreatable until recently, stipulates "no farmed salmon consumption" in his protocol. A similar program at Tufs University list "no Atlantic farmed salmon" on their protocol for the same condition. How much more un-sustainable can be. in light of Dr Mercola's article on his website mercola.com salmon farming should be decommissioned. All this, NIMBY. for sure.

As a way forward damage and degeneration caused by prior industry that is not sustainable has to be re-mediated and regenerated and not left to future generations to suffer. This process has begun in other parts of the planet with surprising positive returns in new skill training and quality employment and expansion in Higher Education. Ireland's marine and foreshore are ideally suitable, not by a paradigm shift but by a new paradigm.

Just to briefly mention some of those new paradigms, a few years ago it was calculated Irish fishing trawlers were dumping fish at sea, of 3-6 billion Euros of value in fish oil products. add the fish fed to farmed fish and double that value. Transitioning to plant based farming as started in New Zealand would supply protein and chemicals more suitable to human biochemistry, just to mention but a few.

Hope you have time to consider these issues, and we are looking forward to further conversation.

Respectfully.

Brendan O'keeffe.