

[REDACTED]

From: Martin McSherry [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 February 2017 15:00
To: aquaculturereview
Subject: Aquaculture Consultation

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to place on record my thoughts and comments regarding this highly important review.

It is vital that we protect and share the natural resources of our shorelines for our benefit and the benefit of future generations.

My family and I have been regular visitors to Donegal for nearly 50 years, it is a place of renewal and inspiration for four generations of my family.

My wife and I already planning for our retirement and permanently residing at our home in [REDACTED]

With respect to the current topic, I would highlight four key areas.

1. Public consultation

This does seem to have badly handled, information has been difficult to obtain and in many cases, retrospective. Improved Site Notices could be better, the same as in respect to any other building work or development. It should be incumbent to Identify stakeholders, hold open meetings and make it necessary to demonstrate community awareness of the project. It should be a requirement to prove community engagement.

2. Environmental Impact Assessment

It should be necessary to ensure a study is done to recognise the impact on the natural environment, indigenous species, and tourism. This study should be independent and Impartial of any stakeholders.

3. Appeals and Renewals of licences

The process of appeals should be simple and licences should be reviewed regularly (annually) with respect to the whole area and all the developments in the area. Citizens should not have to pay to prevent poor development and each individual license application should burden the cost on the licensee – They want the profit, they must incur the costs of that. It should not fall on the individual or community concerned.

4. Fit and Proper Individuals and Organisations

The licensee should be held to highest scrutiny and have to place a surety not to damage amenities with waste and poor practice and there needs to be accountability. It is not good enough that they can start a venture, they must demonstrate a business plan and prove funds/insurance in place for any consequences they create.

Finally, I trust you will consider all the implications and tread carefully before approving any ventures.

Our country and the world in general is littered with the mistakes of short term profit agendas with long term unconsidered costs becoming known after the fact, due in the main to unnecessary pressure and expediency from the profit seeking applicants. In Ireland, we all continue to pay a heavy price for our country's assets that have been stripped and badly handled for the benefit of a small number of individuals and/ or corporate entities.

Yours faithfully

Martin McSherry



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com