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**From:** mary dunlop [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 February 2017 21:37  
**To:** aquaculturereview  
**Subject:** Acquaculture Consultation

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Submission to review panel.

I wish to register my dismay at finding out that a license has been granted for 99 acres of oyster farming in what we locally call the Gaoth, a tidal zone between Carrickfinn and Rannafast. Sadly your department did not visit the site to see for yourselves how densely populated the surrounding coastline is and how necessary it would be to consult with the local population as this affects their traditional rights to harvest seaweed, their love of their foreshore with its folklore and water sporting activities. Friends of our family have canoed and windsurfed up down and across that shallow estuary. It is what you see from your aeroplane when descending into Carrickfinn airport , voted 7th in the world last year as the most picturesque airport landing. Can you visualise 99 acres of black oyster cages at low tide across that scenic strand? This area depends so much on the tourist trade that this scale of acquaculture would be a blight on such a scenic landscape. There has been a small scale oyster farm in the Gaoth for many years and the locals have tolerated it but we are all horrified at the scale of your recent licence. Another issue is the water purity of the area. I know that an environmental study needs to be done to be in keeping with EU regulations. Are you aware of a large waste disposal operation taking place at the side of the Gaoth near Annagary called Sharkey's Waste? Leaching of harmful chemicals into the water is surely possibly with a possible HEALTH RISK TO THE OYSTERS themselves. Further investigation will lead you to discover that the sewage treatment facility for Annagary itself falls below the standard required by EU law. It needs to be upgraded but yet it is not on the list for Donegal town waste water improvement schemes. The least you can do is have an environmental impact survey. Thank you for this opportunity to register my concerns. Public consultation is necessary when this license is going to impact so many people as well as the environment.

Sent from my iPad