



# WRIGHTS *of* MARINO

EST 1904



*"If it swims - We have it!!"*

Dear Chairperson,

Date: 07/02/17

At the outset, I would like to wish you well and thank you for taking time to read my submission to your review committee which I will keep brief and to the point.

By way of introduction, my name is James Wright of Wrights of Marino located in Howth in Co Dublin.

We currently employ 50 people and our company has an annual turnover of **10 million Euro**.

However, we are faced with a very real problem in terms of our product offering. A significant percentage of our customers who wish to buy fresh and smoked Irish salmon cannot do so. This is because I cannot source enough of the product from our Irish suppliers due to the restrictions of the current licence process. Our point of differentiation as a business is based on our ability to offer a product produced in Ireland, with Irish provenance. We are currently unable to do this and are forced to rely on imports.

It's disappointing that an island nation such as ours would have to import salmon from other countries and continents. This is a major loss to the Irish economy and the ability of my business and that of the Aquaculture sector to provide local jobs for local people. There is obviously a major obstacle to farming and growing our own Irish salmon. Are we unable to issue licences, if so, why?

It seems to me that we are missing an open goal in terms of the opportunity to produce a niche product in our own country for which the market is prepared to pay a premium. Why is this the case, why is it so difficult to obtain a licence in Ireland? Is it a resources issue; is it a mind-set, why are we paying lip-service to supporting a sector which we would appear to be working against?

I would therefore implore your committee to examine and resolve whatever logjam has developed in the Irish aquaculture regulatory system. It appears that we are a long way from delivering on the ambitious Blue Economy targets set by Government.

Sincerely,

Head Office: 1 Claremount Ind. Estate, West Pier, Howth, Co. Dublin

Sales Office: Tel: +353 (1) 839 0044 Fax: +353 (1) 839 5670 Email: info@wrightsofmarino.com

Accounts Office: Tel: +353 (1) 839 0044 Fax: +353 (1) 839 0006 Email: accounts@wrightsofmarino.com

Directors: E. Wright, John Wright (Managing). Registered In Dublin. Registration No. 40806. Incorporated in Ireland. 21 Marino Marl Dublin 3

Scanned by CamScanner  
www.wrightsofmarino.com