

Mr Tom Treacy Assistant Engineer Shannon Foynes Port Company, Mill House Foynes County Limerick South/South West Region Environmental Protection Agency Regional Inspectorate, Inniscarra County Cork, Ireland

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02/07/2013

Our Ref: gc01pc

Dear Mr Treacy

I write in reference to your request under Condition 1.8 of Permit S0009-02 (submitted in your response on 27th June 2013 to site inspection report si01pc) to:

"...plough for about 10 days each month around Spring Tides, this will allow leeway either side of weekends to reduce costs. All ploughing will be confined to the berths and turning basin in Foynes and will be undertaken on the ebb tide. We can draft up a plan for the year with anticipated ploughing periods indicated. The requirement to give two weeks' notice is impractical".

Having reviewed your request for a change to Condition 2.4, "The permit holder shall notify the Agency at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the loading and dumping activities, unless otherwise agreed by the Agency", the EPA grants this change under Condition 1.8, "No change to the loading and dumping activities authorised by this permit shall be commence without the prior written agreement of the Agency" subject to the following:

- Shannon Foynes Port Company (SFPC) shall submit to the EPA for our approval a plan with the anticipated ploughing periods indicated for the remainder of the year 2013 by the 9th July 2013 and shall do so for every 6 month period thereafter.
- SFPC shall notify the EPA by email (to das@epa.ie) to confirm the commencement of each plough dredging activity and at the end of each plough dredging activity in Foynes Harbour.
- The quantity of material to be plough dredged shall not exceed the amounts set for Foynes harbour in Schedule A: Limitations of Permit S0009-02.
- This exemption from Condition 2.4 only applies to plough dredging in the area specified in *Schedule A.3 Location of Plough Dredging Areas, Plough Dredging Area C: Foynes Harbour* of Permit S0009-02.
- All other conditions with respect to Plough Dredging under Permit S0009-02 still apply.



Please note that the EPA may review its position to exempt plough dredging in Foynes Harbour from the two weeks notification requirement if the works are found to be having an adverse effect on the environment, noise sensitive locations and/or if the works are in non-compliance with any other condition of the permit.

Yours sincerely

Office of Environmental Enforcement