

21/11/2016

Michael Boland
Executive Scientist
Water and Environmental Services
Wicklow Country Council
County Buildings
Wicklow Town
Co. Wicklow

RE: Section 55 Monitoring Data, Ballinclare Quarry – Dust Monitoring Update

Dear Mr. Boland,

I am writing to you to provide an update on the Section 55 dust monitoring undertaken at Ballinclare Quarry, Co. Wicklow, and to inform you of our intention to cease monitoring while there are no remedial activities within the quarry and weather conditions are such that dust generation is not likely.

1. Dust sampling status

Concentrations of PM₁₀ at the on-site monitoring locations have been on average less than 25% of the 40µg/m³ annual mean limit since monitoring began in June 2016. The CAFE Directive 2008/50/EC limit value for PM₁₀ is 40 µg/ m³ per calendar year or 50 µg/m³ in any 24-hour period (not to be exceeded more than 35 times in a calendar year) (see <http://www.epa.ie/air/quality/standards/>). A summary of the dust monitoring averages to date is provided in the table below.

1-month Average	9.7 µg/m³
No. Days >50	0
90.4th %ile	16
No. Days Sampling	83

Table 1: Dust Monitoring Averages, 17 June – 19 October 2016

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Dust emissions are dramatically reduced where rainfall has occurred due to the cohesion created between dust particles and water and the removal of suspended dust from the air. It is typical to assume no dust is generated under "wet day" conditions where rainfall greater than 0.2 mm has fallen. Information collected from Casement Airport Meteorological Station (1981-2010) identified that typically 183 days per annum are "wet", with October to March annually recording the most "wet days". Thus, during these months it is likely that the potential for dust generation will be mitigated due to meteorological conditions.

2. Future Monitoring Proposal

Due to the reasons outlined above it is proposed to temporarily cease PM₁₀ monitoring until the resumption of any dust generating activities in the quarry. The final samples will be collected on 22nd November 2016 with results anticipated during the first week in December.

Yours sincerely,



Teri Hayes

Director AWN Consulting

cc. *Michael Geaney, A/Director of Services, Water and Environmental Services, Wicklow Co. Council*
David McKeown, Director, Kilsaran International