

Submission to

Clare Co. Council on the Draft Clare County Development Plan 2023-2029

in connection with the proposed amendment of CDP Objective 8.14 at page 88 of Proposed amended Vol 1.

From

January 3rd 23 Christine Sharp [REDACTED]

Please include into the Clare County Development Plan 2023-2029 specific policies that can deal directly and effectively with mineral prospecting, extraction, mining and processing. Please add a policy that would regulate the use of certain chemicals as a processing agent.

Clare County Council's policy on mineral prospecting and mineral mining has become of the utmost importance to residents of Clare.

The mining extractive industry is a huge risk to surface water bodies, lakes and rivers, to the water quality. We know this because historic polluted mine sites are a predominant factor in water quality deterioration.

As is known from local people dealing with the gold mine in Omagh, the community does not profit from foreign nationals mining in Ireland.

As is known from local people dealing with a proposed gold mine in Tyrone, the community faces being criminalised when protecting the water.

I ask our council to regulate policies around prospecting and mining in favour of protecting the environment and the future of our children and against profit orientated foreign national companies taking unreasonable risks, using chemicals that could cause permanent harm.

The submission requests inclusion of the additional wording below for the reasons of; in order to support CDP 8.14 and to better protect Environment, Habitats and water quality from potential negative impacts of mining and extractive industries;

The use of the following chemicals as a processing agent shall not be permitted as part of any proposed processing operation located above or adjacent to surface or ground waters, or which could potentially impact such waters regardless of their location- mercury, cyanide or cyanide compounds, breakdown products of cyanide, or sulfuric acid, These present an unreasonable risk of environmental harm due to the toxicity of such chemicals and their demonstrated potential to damage to the environment

Please make county Clare the second county to regulate the use of cyanide, cyanide compounds, breakdown products of cyanide, mercury and sulfuric acid. And lead the way to a nationwide ban, to show that Ireland is open for the business of clean water, healthy soil, safe air and a sustainable future for the next generations.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Sharp