<u>Submission to Waterford Boundary Committee on the proposal to extend the boundary of Waterford into County Kilkenny.</u>

My name is Peter Walsh and I am a Snap Net Fisherman for more than 50 years, fishing on the River Suir and living in South Kilkenny. I wish to express my absolute objection to any proposal that would extend the boundary of Waterford into Kilkenny. In my view, the boundary between Munster (Waterford) and Leinster (Kilkenny) is the River Suir. By recognising the River Suir as **THE** boundary between Kilkenny and Waterford is to recognise the unique heritage and traditions of each county. I am very proud to say that I am from Kilkenny and strongly oppose any proposal that would comprise or interfere with the existing boundary, my identity and or my heritage. I am not alone in this view — anyone that I have discussed this matter with in the local community is of the same view.

In response to the argument that a change to the boundary is needed in order to develop the area along the River Suir in Kilkenny, I argue that this area would benefit from greater co-operation between Waterford County Council and Kilkenny County Council and that sustainable development can be achieved without changing the existing boundary. In fact, I anticipate that any change to the existing boundary would prove divisive and therefore, detrimental for the people and communities of South Kilkenny.

I trust that you will listen and hear the voice of the people of Kilkenny which is to reject any proposal to change the existing boundary between Waterford and Kilkenny and to continue to give full recognition to the natural existing boundary which is the River Suir.

Peter Walsh,

Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny.

4th of January 2016.

