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Sent: 06 December 2015 16:07
To: [redacted]
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Subject: Online Submission : Waterford Boundary Review (Frank Lahiffe)

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Area in which you reside. Specific addresses are not needed. Mullinavat

Question 1 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder the retention or creation of employment and the general economic performance of the area? A boundary change which moves areas from one province to another will only serve to dilute economic viability which in this case will be the viability of Kilkenny. There would be a significant erosion of its rates base for the diversified commercial operations presently in its remit , the infrastructure for which was provided by Kilkenny County Council.

Question 2 How might the alteration of the boundary help or hinder the identity or cohesion of local communities in the area? It would devastate the traditional areas which belong to Kilkenny. Kilkenny people live in Leinster and a change would see them moving province. Their identity and history is Kilkenny and there are long held traditional and tribal differences between the two counties.

Question 3 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder delivery of services by local government to ensure that the needs of the local community are met now and in the future? The local community is presently well served and changing vast areas of Kilkenny to Waterford will serve no purpose for those people currently well served. It is the responsibility of each county to address the needs of their county, but not to do so by hijacking areas in Kilkenny.

Question 4 How might alteration of the administrative boundary help or hinder the need to maximise efficiency and value for money in local government? The existence of excellent port facilities at Belview has resulted from thoughtful and planned investment by Kilkenny County Council and paid for by that Council. Waterford City and County Council failed to invest in port facilities in their area. The rates base in Belview Port is of strategic and economic importance to Kilkenny and should not be diverted to Waterford on the spurious basis of this plan.

Question 5 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder the Planning and Development needs, as administered by the local authority, of the community? In any consideration of planning and development needs in a county, the cohesion and tribal instincts of the population must be to the fore. People living in Kilkenny have largely chosen to live in that county, and the same applies to Waterford.

Question 6 How might alteration of the boundary help or hinder the delivery of effective and accountable democratic representation? Democratic representation will be seriously impacted by what amounts to a seizure of another county's lands by a competing local authority under the guise of powers available to the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government. The veracity of those powers is a question that also needs to be considered.

Question 7 What strengths or weaknesses do you see in current local authority administrative boundary arrangements in the area? The strength of the present situation results from the foresight of Kilkenny County Council to develop its area in accordance

with economic and cohesion needs. Changing that now would be tantamount to highway robbery by Waterford City and County Council.

Is there anything else you wish to add ? There is no credible rationale on the basis of economic or efficiency requirements for this proposal to become a reality. Its origination is a sham which should have no part in our democracy. The only reason for this proposal is to provide an immediate buffer for the fortunes of Waterford City and County Council at the unvarnished expense of a far-seeing and effective local authority in Kilkenny. There is potentially some logic in addressing the Ferrybank area where part is in Kilkenny and part in Waterford, and the example of the unopened Ferrybank Shopping Centre is the classic epitome of planning stupidity, but to effectively seize 7,000 acres is off the wall, unnecessary by any criteria and a blatant attempt to denigrate and distort the lives of Kilkenny people solely to make up for mismanagement and to foster land-grabbing by Waterford City and County Council.

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