CLARECASTLE
SITE DECOMMISSIONING

Project Update No. 8 / Summer 2025

Welcome

to the eighth edition of *'Project Update'*.

As we head into the summer of 2025 I am happy to report that we are making very good progress with the remediation phase of the Roche Site Decommissioning Project. The focus now is on the landfill, the largest area of the site requiring remediation.

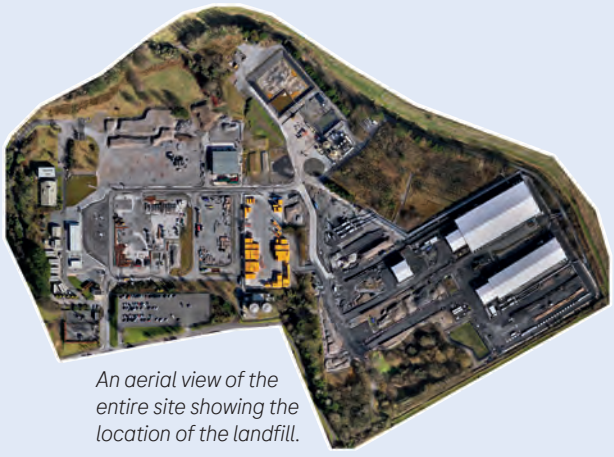
As outlined in a previous communication (October 2024), the excavation of waste from the landfill is being undertaken within large airtight enclosures to guarantee containment of dust, odour and vapour emissions. Two large enclosures, one of which is 100m long x 26m wide x 13m high and the other 100m long x 44m wide and 13m high, are being used for the landfill excavation works.

Installing sheet piles to support these enclosures was essential to ensure that the structures are adequately secured and capable of withstanding the harshest weather conditions. The benefit of adopting this approach was proven during Storm Éowyn earlier this year when the enclosures remained intact despite very high wind speeds. Once again, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, as a resident of Clarecasetle, for your patience and understanding whilst the sheet piles were being installed. It was a temporary but necessary noise disturbance, which was completed ahead of schedule, enabling the excavation of waste from the landfill to commence in early January.

As is explained on page 2, remediation of the first cell (cell 3) in the landfill has been completed and the on-site environmental management team has certified that this section of the landfill is fully remediated. Work is now underway on remediating the next cell (cell 5).

A video showing how the 'Site Decommissioning Project' has progressed since the work commenced in 2020 can be viewed on the video gallery section of our website (www.rocheclarecastle.ie). The galleries section of the website is updated regularly to show the work underway. Meanwhile, should you have any specific questions, please do not hesitate to get in contact via the contact details provided on page 4.

Joe Murphy
Project Owner



An aerial view of the entire site showing the location of the landfill.

Site Decommissioning Project timeline

A systematic approach to remediating the landfill

The landfill covers an area of approximately 24,000 sq. metres. This was a licensed area where inert waste (empty packaging, construction waste etc.) was placed while the landfill was in operation.

The area was engineered for storage of this type of waste and was operated in compliance with all required standards until 2006 at which stage the area was closed and capped in line with requirements laid out by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

There are a total of 9 individual cells in the landfill and the remediation will involve the removal of all the waste that was placed in these cells. As shown in the picture (left), each cell is assigned a number and progress is monitored based on the completion of activity in each cell.

The larger enclosure is being used to excavate waste from cells 3, 1, 8, 4, 2 and 9 in that order. Once each cell has been fully remediated, and certified by the on-site environmental team as being fully remediated, the enclosure is moved to the next cell via a shifting system. This eliminates the necessity to dismantle the larger enclosure when moving from cell to cell.

Cell 3 is now fully remediated, and the enclosure is in the process of being moved to cell 1, where excavation will shortly commence.

The smaller enclosure is being used for cells 5, 6 and 7. This enclosure is dismantled and reconstructed cell by cell.

Excavation is underway in cell 5 and once this cell has been deemed by the environmental management team to be fully remediated, the smaller enclosure will be dismantled and repositioned on cell 6.

The scale of the larger enclosure can be gleaned from the above photo, which was taken during a recent visit to site by the Ambassadors of Switzerland and Austria to Ireland (see also page 4). This photo was taken post remediation, when cell 3 was being backfilled with clean soil.

Waste removed from site contributing to circular economy

As happened during the excavation of the first area of environmental concern, completed in Q1 2024, all waste excavated from the landfill is placed in sealed, airtight containers and transported off-site to Shannon Foynes Port for shipment to a specialist thermal treatment facility in Holland. Each ship that sails to Holland contains 112 containers, with a 10-day turnaround ensuring that, once the waste has been received in Holland, the empty containers are returned to Clarecastle, sealed, and ready for refilling. Sixteen ships have sailed to Holland since the commencement of the remediation phase.

The container laydown area where the containers are placed prior to being transported off-site.

Two containers being transported on the R458 – one Holland bound and the other returning from Holland to site.

Containers being loaded onto a ship at Shannon Foynes Port.

Sand

Gravel

Depending on the class of material post thermal treatment - sand or gravel – the waste emanating from the Roche Clarecastle site may be reused in road tarmac, cement production, or landfill capping in Holland or Germany. Every truckload of waste removed from the site is being recycled and resued, thus contributing to the circular economy.

Continuous environmental monitoring

Environmental Monitoring Results Q1, 2025

Verde, the on-site environmental management team, regularly monitors on and off-site environmental conditions, based on the Industrial Emissions Licence, issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and planning conditions, issued by Clare County Council.

Governing Body	Environmental Aspect Monitored	Result - Quarter 1, 2025
Clare County Council	Dust Levels	100% Compliant
Clare County Council	Nitrogen Oxide (NOx) Levels	100% Compliant
Clare County Council	Noise Levels	100% Compliant
EPA	Storm Water Discharges	100% Compliant
EPA	Waste Water Treatment	100% Compliant

Stakeholder engagement in action

We were delighted to welcome a wide range of visitors to-site in recent months. All have left with a greater appreciation for the work being undertaken to enable the site to have a sustainable future, by returning it to a brownfield status, capable of attracting new investment.

The Ambassadors of Switzerland and Austria to Ireland

1. Joe Murphy. Project Owner, Roche Clarecastle Site Decommissioning Project welcomes Her Excellency, Jenny Piaget, The Ambassador of Switzerland to Ireland (3rd from right); Her Excellency. Melitta Schubert, The Ambassador of Austria to Ireland (3rd from left), who were accompanied on the visit by (on left): Kevin Walsh, Government Affairs and Policy Lead, Roche Products Ireland Ltd., and Anne-Kristine Kjelsen, Swiss Honorary Consul. The Ambassadors also met Clarecastle community representatives Ann Starr, Clarehill and Christy Leyden, Tidy Towns (second and first from right).

2. The Ambassadors meeting the Roche and Indaver (main contractor) teams on-site.

3. Minister of State Timmy Dooley TD on a recent visit to the site.

4. Cathal Crowe TD with Joe Murphy and Sean O'Loughlin, Manager, Site Decommissioning.

5. Helen Downes, Chief Executive, Shannon Chamber, on a tour of the site.

6. Representatives from Clare County Council, Ennis 2040 and IDA Ireland on a recent site tour.

***NOTE:** Visits to the site by community groups can be facilitated with advance notice. Bookings can be made via the contact details below.*

Engaging with the Community

Roche project team join Tidy Towns effort

Christy Leyden, Chairman, Clarecastle Tidy Towns, thanks Roche executives for foregoing their lunch break to do a litter pick in the village. We wish Clarecastle Tidy Towns success in the 2025 competition.

TY student joins the Roche team!

Clarecastle student Caoimhe Hanrahan spent a week on-site with Verde's environmental management team as part of her Transition Year (TY) work experience. Caoimhe is a credit to her school (Gaelcholáiste an Chláir), and to the community.

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