

Dear Sir/Madam,

I was notified by Seamus Maye from the ISBA today that this is the final day for submissions to you regarding your study of anticompetitive activity in the cement market in the UK and interstate trade restrictions. I am a new importer of cement to Ireland having commenced importing cement with my company Eircem Limited just last month and I was previously a director of Goode Concrete who also imported cement to Ireland in the 1980's and 2009. I have a lot of experience of the anti competitive practices carried out by the cement manufacturers in Ireland and the UK especially, but the most recent act of such practices and anti competitive activity by [European Cement Producer 1] and [European Cement Producer 2] against me, my business and my family is so blatant that it defies reality and logic. [X] This is all the more sinister as Goode Concrete [X] for the very same anticompetitive practices that [European Cement Producer 1] have been involved in for many years. [X] We have been subjected to serious anticompetitive practices by [European Cement Producer 1] and others in the past when we attempted to import cement from Turkey in 2009 [X] but now we are faced with this serious threat again [X] Furthermore I had a meeting and many conversations with a [employee of GB Cement Producer X] and I spent a whole day with him visiting the [GB Cement Producer X] cement works in [X] on the 23 March 2012. I had asked [X] if [GB Cement Producer X] would supply me with cement to import to Ireland but I was astonished with his frank reply that [GB Cement Producer X] have a long standing agreement with [European Cement Producer 1] not to supply any cement to Ireland and he said that [GB Cement Producer X] would not supply me in those circumstances. Also I had a meeting with a [employee of part of same group as GB Cement Producer Y] In June 2012 and he told me that [European Cement Producer 1] and [GB Cement Producer Y] have an agreement which has been in existence for many years that [GB Cement Producer Y] will not import any cement to Ireland and in return [European Cement Producer 1] [X] the rent on the [GB Cement Producer Y] port terminals which all lie redundant in Ireland and they also give special rebates to [GB Cement Producer Y] to prevent [GB Cement Producer Y] importing any cement to Ireland which [GB Cement Producer Y] have never done. [X] The major cement manufacturers have taken over the majority of the cement terminals in the UK and Ireland with the exception of 2/3 which are left with independents like me but as you will see from [X] [GB Cement Producer X's] refusal to supply me, yet they are selling [X] to [European Cement Producer 1] in [X], you will come to the conclusion that there is no free competition in the cement market in Europe. This must be addressed immediately [X]. I hope you appreciate our extremely difficult position here.

Kind regards,

Peter Goode
Managing Director
Eircem Limited