



Wirt Ghawdex

(founded 1981)

Hondoq ir-Rummien Project, Qala

Wirt Ghawdex cannot agree with the proposed project and has submitted its objections to MEPA.

While it agrees that the disturbed land of the quarry needs rehabilitating, our society has grave reservations about this project.

Typically, marinas tend to pollute the surrounding waters and *Wirt Ghawdex*'s biggest concern is that a marina would ruin this unique shoreline and unspoilt area. The society also questions the need for another marina right next door to the one at Mgarr which has just been privatized and is planned to grow.

Gozo already has too many empty dwellings and building another massive complex of apartments and villas carries no benefit to the overall standard of life on the island. In fact the effects of air pollution during construction will be of great detriment to the residents and the environment. While the construction phase would create some temporary employment opportunities, this project has a high risk of non-sustainability.

Notwithstanding the developer's EIA, the society believes that this project will have a significant, negative impact on the island's environment. *Wirt Ghawdex* does not believe that this is the type of development that is appropriate, sustainable or in line with Eco-Gozo. MEPA has an obligation to judge this project as to whether it addresses the balance between Gozo's need for prosperity and the need to protect the island's unique environment.

Wirt Ghawdex Committee

info@wirtghawdex.org

June 9, 2010