

**From:** Donal Breen [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 March 2017 13:02  
**To:** National Planning Framework  
**Subject:** FW: European Entrepreneurial Region

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Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing to you in support of the application of the Northern & Western region to be awarded European Entrepreneurial Region (EER) in 2018.

Wellman International Limited is the largest Polyester Staple Manufacturer in Western Europe. We have been operating in Mullagh, Co.Cavan since 1973. On March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 we will celebrate 44 years since the commencement of production. We employ 267 employees directly at our business headquarters in Ireland and about a further 50 employees, indirectly. Furthermore, our business has helped to create additional employment in the area due to our strategic partnerships with a multiplicity of high quality local suppliers of goods and services.

More than 95% of our products are shipped around the world. We have benefited greatly from the construction of the M3 motorway which allows us easy and efficient access to Dublin Port. Our business is firmly rooted in the principles of sustainable manufacturing. Our raw materials, consisting principally of post-consumer waste, are sourced from our sister plants in France and the Netherlands. Our feedstock usage results in saving energy equivalent to 893,000 barrels of oil per year – our carbon dioxide footprint is about one quarter that of a conventional polyester staple manufacturer.

We have an aggressive and exciting expansion plan to support our five year growth initiatives. This includes significant further planned investment in our capacity and capabilities. Future investment in the creation of entrepreneurial SMEs will allow Wellman International to benefit from the local availability of new products and services. We also expect to take advantage of future infrastructure developments in the region. Consequently, we strongly support the Northern & Western Regional Assembly submission.

We will be happy to provide any additional information

Yours sincerely

Donal

Donal Breen  
[REDACTED]

*Our vision: To be a world-class chemical company making great products for society*

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