

# WATERFORD - COUNTY GEOLOGICAL SITE REPORT

<b>NAME OF SITE</b>	<b>N25 New road cuttings</b>
Other names used for site	
<b>IGH THEME</b>	<b>IGH4 Cambrian - Silurian</b>
<b>TOWNLAND(S)</b>	
<b>NEAREST TOWN</b>	<b>Kilmeadan</b>
<b>SIX INCH MAP NUMBER</b>	<b>Waterford 16, 17</b>
<b>NATIONAL GRID REFERENCE</b>	<b>251720 110100 (western cutting)</b> <b>252560 109520 (middle cutting)</b> <b>254285 109620 (eastern cutting)</b>
<b>1:50,000 O.S. SHEET NUMBER</b>	<b>75</b> <b>1/2 inch Sheet No.</b> <b>22, 23</b>

## **Outline Site Description**

The site comprises three separate road cuttings excavated on the N25, west of Waterford City, and east of Kilmeadan.

## **Geological System/Age and Primary Rock Type**

The cuttings are made into mostly slaty sedimentary rocks of the Campile Formation, of Ordovician age.

## **Main Geological or Geomorphological Interest**

The cuttings are excellent windows into rock types that are normally not well exposed in the visible rock exposures seen across the Waterford landscape. The Campile Formation comprises a belt of rocks extending from north Wexford down to the Copper Coast and is commonly characterised as being principally volcanic rocks. However, the volcanic rocks are more resistant and tend to be the visible exposures, but the major part of the Campile Formation comprises slaty sediments, such as those in these cuttings.

## **Site Importance**

The three cuttings are good representative sections of the sedimentary rocks associated with the Ordovician volcanic bedrock that underlies most of eastern Waterford. They are of County Geological Site importance.

## **Management/promotion issues**

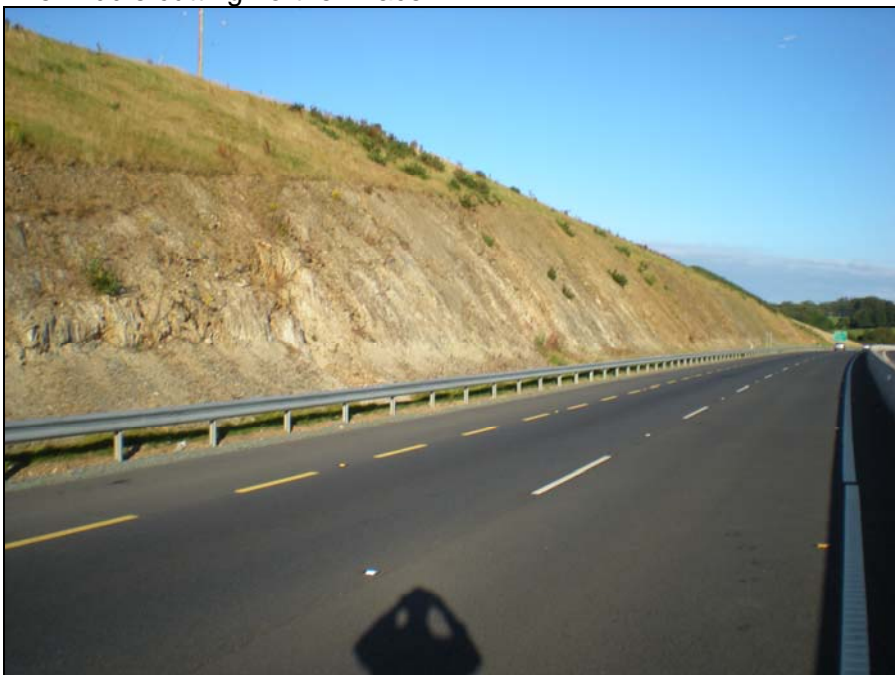
The cuttings are very fresh and unvegetated at present, but will inevitably degrade with weathering and begin to get vegetated. Normal road maintenance will mean that any major problems will get attention. Promotion is difficult because of road safety issues, although the eastern cutting has a large lay-by that allows safe parking, but the rocks are fenced off. The cuttings will become new landmarks and some names and signs may be desirable to reinforce this in public perception.



The easternmost cutting, with a lay-by.



The middle cutting northern face.



The western cutting, northern face, near the roundabout for Kilmeadan.



