ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

AGENCY

Ballyvolan Newcastle Co Wicklow 16.12.08

EPA HEADQUARTERS PO BOX 3000 JOHNSTOWN CASTLE ESTATE CO WEXFORD

REF: Waste Licence Application WO252-01 BUCHPA Ltd Kilmartin, Coynes Cross, Newcastle, Co Wicklow

Dear Sir/Madam

We wish to make the following observations concerning the above application.

1. Purpose

It would appear from the application that the purpose of the project is to operate a waste recycling facility (fourth schedule activities). It is unclear to us whether the proposed annual throughput is to be put towards landfill or to be sorted in some fashion and exported from the site.

2. Planning Process

BUCHPA have previously received permission from Wicklow Co Co to reclaim the floor of the valley in question by 1.5 meters so as to restore that area for agricultural use. They are currently in the process of a planning appeal to An Bord Pleanála for a large landfill operation at the site.

It is very difficult for local residents concerned with their local environment to appreciate what the intentions of BUCHPA are with regard to the site. BUCHPA has made no attempt to communicate with local residents with regard to those various and varying developments.

3. Scale

The scale of the proposal is enormous relative to the site and the surrounding landscape. A relatively quiet rural area will be turned into an industrial site. The number of trucks entering and exiting the site will surpass any large industrial complex. The area may as well be rezoned for industrial purposes.

4. Pollution

Regardless of how well the operation is managed, the noise levels and pollution from dust will increase dramatically. Even with the current operation, the road outside the site is brown and mucky all the time despite a road cleaner being used and despite the current relatively low volumes of traffic movements on and off the site.

There is a stream to the south of the site which feeds into the Broadlough nature reserve. Even with best practise, it is inevitable that this stream will be liable to pollution.

5. Visual Amenity

The site is adjacent to the N11 and there are wonderful views to Wicklow Head from the N11. This amenity will be seriously devalued. The area generally is part of a quiet rural landscape. This amenity will be lost.

6. Public need for facility

Gerry McGrath

Consent of copyris

There are many disused gravel pits and quarries in the county which would satisfy the need for landfill without the negative impact of this proposed development.

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Yours faithfully 114

Brid McGrath