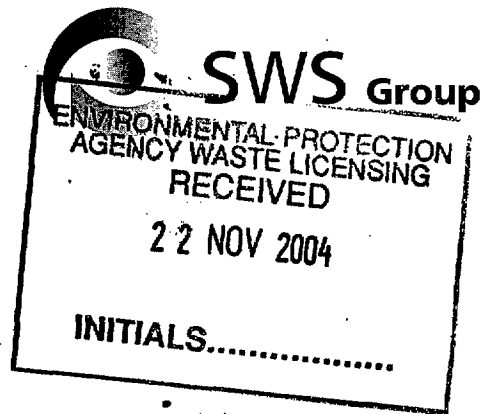


MEMBER OF



To: Planning Reference No: File 04/7531

Planning Department
Cork County Council
Model Business Park
Model Farm Rd
Cork

Date: 19 November 2004

CC: Mr John Ronayne, Senior Planner
Mr Jim Hughes, Executive Planner
Mr John Deasy, Assistant County Manager, South Cork
Mr Liam Ryan, Town Clerk, Youghal Town Council
~~Ms Karen Vaughey, Environmental Protection Agency~~

RE: Additional Submissions Received by Cork County Council Planning Department

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in response to the issues raised in the additional 14 submissions received by Cork County Council Planning Department in relation to the proposed AVR – Environmental Solutions Ltd. project, namely a Materials Recovery/Waste Transfer and Sludge Drying Facility in the townland of Foxhole near Youghal, Co. Cork. 5 were observations and 9 were objections.

The issues raised included all of those previously covered by the response submitted by SWS Environmental Services, namely odour, chimney height, traffic, noise, dust, tourism, landscaping and zoning. We refer you to this report in relation to these objections and observations. A number of activities at other facilities were also described including Youghal Landfill. This proposed development has no relation to these facilities and comment cannot be made.

3 additional issues were raised including height and architectural value of the buildings and water quality. Each issue is examined under its own heading. A number of submissions named the facility in various ways including a reference to a "toxic incinerator". The proposed development is a Waste Recovery/Transfer and Sludge Drying Facility and will not be licensed to manage hazardous waste i.e. reference to toxic. The primary activity at the site is dry recyclable waste sorting, separating and baling of cardboard, paper, plastic, aluminium cans, steel, glass etc for recycling. The secondary activity is sludge drying using a totally indirect method of drying.

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Height

The tallest building proposed is the Waste Recovery/Transfer Building. The proposed height of this building is 15m. The height of the Waste Transfer Station under the existing planning permission (refer S/00/7093) is approximately 13.3m, which is a difference of 1.7m. The adjacent NCT is approximately 7.5m high and the buildings opposite the proposed development are on a similar scale to the proposed facility.

Architectural Value

The proposed development has been designed to a very high standard. It is proposed to use a 2.4m high palisade fence and block wall at all site boundaries, a band of planting a minimum of 2m wide, natural stone at the entrances, an administration building clad in forticrete stone with the Youghal Town Coat of Arms above the main visitor entrance as a feature. The proposed colour scheme of goosewing grey with a blue band for all other building cladding was chosen because grey blends better with the skyline and blue to continue the nautical theme. However the final decision in relation to the colour scheme is at the discretion of Cork County Council.

Water Quality

This topic was covered in detail in the Water section of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). These included storm, foul and process effluent. The following is proposed:

Surface water runoff from paved and roofed areas will be collected via the site drainage system. The total area of hardstanding at the site will be approximately 12,500m². The entire site shall be bunded using kerbing to prevent the uncontrolled escape of storm water. Four Class One type oil and grit interceptors or similar will be installed with a 120m³ Storm Water Retention Tank with a monitoring well so that contaminates and or spilled hydrocarbons.

A sluice valve will control discharge of the storm waters to the outfall via the Youghal Town Council sewer network. The monitoring well will ensure that discharges are within acceptable emission limit values, again these limits will be set by the EPA in agreement with Youghal Town Council. In the event on an incident with potential for contamination of surface waters (e.g. spillage), the sluice valve will close preventing any discharge from the site.

These foul waters shall be collected in the site foul water system and transported to the waste water treatment plant for treatment.

The only process water on-site shall be the final effluent from the waste water treatment plant. This effluent shall be monitored so that it is within the emission limit values set by the EPA. Monitoring shall be carried out at a frequency, to be specified by the EPA. The impact of the plant output on the river flow rate is negligible and therefore does not require mitigation. Currently there is no waste water

treatment plant in Youghal, however one is proposed within the next 5 to 7 years, when this is built our process waters will also be treated at this facility.

In the event of an incident, for example a fire, the potential contaminated waters will be collected through the storm water drainage system with the entire site acting as a large bunded area using the raised kerbing as an extra backup measure. Fire water will be stored in the Firewater Retention Tank which has a capacity of 475m³ as a back-up measure to the watermains. Any spent fire water will then be treated at the waste water treatment plant.

There are a number of bunded areas at the proposed development and include the following:

- Fuel storage area,
- Quarantine area,
- Standby generator pad.

All these bunds will be tested for integrity and a discharge valve will be installed to pump out any contaminated water and hydrocarbons to be treated at an EPA approved facility.

Yours sincerely,

Aoife Foley BE MSc CEng MIEI
Project Manager

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