

## INSPECTORS REPORT

### WASTE LICENCE REGISTER NUMBER 148-1

- Dean Waste Co. Ltd, new waste transfer station.
- **Recommendation:** A Waste Licence, subject to conditions, be granted.

<b>Name of Applicant</b>	Dean Waste Co. Ltd., Carrowmoneash, Oranmore, Co. Galway
<b>Environmental Impact Statement Required</b>	Yes
<b>Date Application Received</b>	1/2/2001
<b>Number of Submissions Received</b>	Nine

#### **(1) Introduction:**

Dean Waste Co. Ltd. have applied to operate a new waste transfer station on the eastern edge of Galway City. A decision to grant planning permission for this development was issued by Galway County Council, however this was objected to. Planning permission was subsequently issued by An Bord Pleanála (19/9/00), following an oral hearing. Dean Waste Co. Ltd. previously made an application to the Agency for a similar waste transfer station on this site. Subsequent to the submission of an Inspectors report and Proposed Decision recommending the granting of a waste licence, the Board considered that the EIS which accompanied the development was inadequate in that it did not adequately describe the existing environment. The primary issue was that of existing hydrocarbon contamination of the site due to former activities (car breakers yard *etc.*). A Proposed Decision issued for refusal of the licence and Dean Waste Co. Ltd. objected. Subsequently, Dean Waste Co. Ltd. withdrew the Waste Licence application.

I consider that this application and accompanying EIS has adequately dealt with the issue of hydrocarbon contamination at the site (see Section 5 for details).

The new facility is to be located in Oranmore, Co. Galway, within 500m of the N6 (Galway-Dublin) and N18 (Galway-Sligo). It is approximately 7km east of Galway city. A location plan, showing the outline of the facility to which the application relates, is provided in Appendix 1. The predominant land use in the vicinity of the 0.8ha site is a mix of commercial/industrial units and pastoral agricultural land. The N18 runs in a north south direction approximately 110m to the west. There are 13 residences and one hotel within approximately 600m of the site. The nearest residence is 230m south of the site boundary, and it is a B&B.

The principal activity to be carried out on this site will be bulking and transfer of waste for disposal (Classes 11 & 13 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Schedule). Other classes licensed include recovery of metal, inorganics (glass and construction & demolition waste) and organics (plastic, wood and paper) (Classes 2, 3, 4 & 13 of the 4<sup>th</sup> Schedule).

The following are the waste types to be accepted at the facility:

- Household
- Commercial
- Construction and Demolition
- Industrial Non-hazardous

The applicant has indicated the wish to pursue recycling and recovery of certain waste types accepted at the facility. The applicant will be required by Condition 11 to

examine waste recovery options for wastes being accepted at the facility (in line with government policy).

The recommended Proposed Decision allows waste acceptance from 5am – 9:30pm Monday to Saturday inclusive.

The applicant has applied to accept waste between 5am and 8am due to early bin collection times in Galway city. The recommended Proposed Decision allows waste acceptance between 5am and 8am, however it precludes the applicant from processing waste or removing waste off-site between 5am and 8am. This is as proposed by the applicant.

The applicant applied for demand only opening on Sundays and Bank Holidays. This recommended Proposed Decision allows waste acceptance on Sundays and Bank Holidays only with the prior agreement of the Agency.

**SITE VISITS:**

DATE	PURPOSE	PERSONNEL
28/2/01	Site notice check	Cormac Mac Gearailt
21/6/01	Routine	Cormac Mac Gearailt
14/2/02	Routine	Cormac Mac Gearailt & Michael Henry

**(2) Facility development:**

The building proposed is 30m x 30m x 11m, and is designed for the floor tipping and handling of waste. Waste will be received in smaller vehicles (e.g. skips and rear collection vehicles from domestic door to door collection). This waste will be processed (sorted and/or shredded) and loaded into articulated lorries for final transport to landfill or other recovery facilities where appropriate. The 0.8ha site will be concreted and is to be surrounded by a 2.4m boundary wall. A weighbridge and site office will also be provided. The applicant has applied to accept 130,000tpa of waste. This is stated as being the maximum intake, and is expected to occur over a 5 year ramp up period (*see Section 3 below*). The applicant will be required to provide 50% standby capacity on critical items of plant in order to ameliorate the effects of any unusually large waste loads arriving at the facility (Condition 3 – ‘Waste handling, ventilation and processing plant’). There will also be a requirement for back up and spares to be provided for these critical items. Items critical for the efficient and adequate processing of waste on site might include loading vehicles, sorting lines *etc.* Condition 3 – Waste handling plant, also states that the applicant shall not accept waste quantities in excess of the working (i.e duty) capacity of the waste handling and processing equipment on site.

**(3) Waste Types and Quantities**

**Projections of quantities & types of wastes to be accepted at the facility:**

WASTE TYPE <sup>Note 1</sup>	MAXIMUM Tonnage per annum		
	Phase I 0-2 Years <sup>Note 2</sup>	Phase II 3-5 Years <sup>Note 2</sup>	Phase III 6 Years <sup>Note 2</sup>
Household waste	21,000	35,000	45,000
Commercial	9,000	15,000	20,000
Construction & Demolition	21,000	35,000	45,000
Industrial Non-Hazardous	9,000	15,000	20,000

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60,000</b>	<b>100,000</b>	<b>130,000</b>
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**Note 1:** The quantities of the individual waste types may be adjusted, only with the agreement of the Agency, subject to the total waste quantity remaining the same.

**Note 2:** Number of years from commencement of waste activities.

The ramp up period as outlined in the above table has been set in the recommended Proposed Decision under Schedule A. This is as applied for by the applicant.

#### **(4) Emissions to Air**

Potential emissions to air from the facility include odour, noise and dust.

The recommended Proposed Decision specifies one discrete emission to atmosphere for the dust extraction system, as proposed by the applicant. This system will extract internal air from the waste transfer building, and filter it using a polyester filter medium. The dust emission limit for this point is set to 50mg/m<sup>3</sup> and monitoring requirements are specified in Schedule D. Monitoring requirements and an emission limit for dust deposition (350mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day) are also set, in order to control any fugitive dust emission from activities on site. The applicant will be required to install an air extraction and abatement system (dust filtration), including extraction points on the perimeter of the main entry/exit doors to the waste transfer building prior to commencement of activities on site. Appropriate standby capacity and spares/back ups will be required for the air handling, ventilation and abatement system.

The applicant will be precluded from storing waste for disposal on site for longer than 72 hours. All waste stored overnight at the facility (other than dry waste such as cardboard or metal/glass), must be stored in appropriately covered containers within the Waste Transfer Building, and must be removed from the facility within 72 hours. In addition to the above odour abatement measures Condition 7 requires the applicant to provide a report to the Agency, within 12 months of date of commencement of waste activities, assessing the requirement for further odour abatement measures at this facility. This should refer to any odour complaints, air monitoring results and the requirement for adjustment of waste handling practices. Further odour abatement measures may be required following this report.

Since the applicant will be operating during night-time hours (5am-8am), noise monitoring during these times will be required, along with monitoring of day-time activities. Noise emission limits are specified in Schedule F. The lower limit of 45L<sub>eq</sub> dBA will apply to night time activities. Condition 7 will ensure that there shall be no clearly audible tonal component or impulsive component in the noise emissions from the activity at the noise sensitive locations.

#### **(5) Emissions to Groundwater**

There is existing hydrocarbon contamination at this site due to historical activities which were carried out here (car breakers yard *etc.*). The EIS submitted as part of this application addresses the issue of this soil contamination. There have been a number of site investigations carried out on the Dean Waste Co. Ltd. site. An initial site investigation and a limited clean up of the site was carried out in Nov 1999. Additional investigations concluded that these efforts were not satisfactory and further clean up would be needed. A number of meetings have taken place between the Applicant, the Agency and the County Council on an ongoing basis regarding this issue. The planning

permission which applies to the development of the Waste Transfer Building and associated infrastructure requires that the on-going remediation works be completed to the satisfaction of the planning authority before development may commence.

The applicant was required through an Article 14 notice, to submit a Risk Assessment to the Agency. Detailed investigations were carried out in order to complete the Risk Assessment submitted. This Risk Assessment made recommendations as to the methods and criteria for cleanup and remediation of the site. Condition 5 of the recommended Proposed Decision requires the applicant to implement the findings of the Risk Assessment prior to the commencement of construction of the waste transfer facility. In addition, Condition 5 requires the applicant to report to the Agency on details of the implementation of the Risk Assessment (e.g. where contaminated soil waste was disposed of *etc.*) and also requires the applicant to carry out ongoing monitoring of the shallow groundwater and local surface watercourses to ensure that the cleanup was successful.

Once the findings of the Risk Assessment have been implemented, and construction of the facility had been carried out, the site will be paved. The entire site area will be concreted to form an impervious hardstand and any fuel tanks on site will be bunded.

#### **(6) Emissions to Surface Waters**

There will be one direct emission to surface water from the site. All surface water drainage from the site (outside the waste transfer building) will be directed to a sediment trap and an oil/water interceptor. Since the emission is to surface water, a Class I full treatment interceptor is required. Monitoring of this emission will be required on a weekly basis for visual inspection and quarterly for chemical components (BOD, pH etc.). Monitoring will also be carried out on the receiving watercourse upstream and downstream of the emission on a quarterly basis.

Extensive hydrocarbon & PCB surface water monitoring will be required for the first year of the licence in order to assess the success of the groundwater remediation programme (see Condition 5).

#### **(7) Other Significant Environmental Impacts of the Development**

None

#### **(8) Waste Management, Air Quality and Water Quality Management Plans**

Consideration was given to the Galway Waste Management Plan. This plan refers to the need for a waste transfer station on the eastern side of the city, and that this station would be provided by the private sector by the end of 2000. It is envisaged that this station will transfer waste to available landfills within County Galway.

#### **(9) Submissions/Complaints**

**An overview of the submissions received in relation to the waste licence application is provided. This includes a summary of all issues raised in the submissions.**

9 submissions were received in relation to this application.

**1.& 2. Submission from Mr A. M. Lavery of the Oranmore Community Development Association Ltd. [Dates Received 12/3/01 & 20/7/01].**

*Two submissions were received from the Oranmore Community Development Association Ltd. Mr Lavery describes the background to the waste licence application by Dean Waste Co. Ltd. Specifically these submissions refer to the following:*

- a) That the applicant is premature in making an application until all the contamination on the site is cleaned up*
- b) The submitter feels that the remediation on this site should be subject to a Waste Licence itself. The submitter also questions the impartiality of Galway County Council in dealing with this facility due to the current national and regional waste crisis.*
- c) The submitter suggests that waste activities to be carried out will result in contamination of the local watercourses and underlying groundwater.*
- d) The submitter states that due to the potential for contamination of local groundwater resources that any clean up requirements placed on the applicant be rigorous.*
- e) The submitter states that the flies, rats and birds which will be attracted to the facility will be uncontrollable and that this could result in the spread of disease. It is also stated that due to the proximity of the flight path to Galway airport (stated as 0.9miles) that there would be a possibility of bird strikes.*
- f) The submitter states that due to the high levels of rainfall and strong prevailing SW winds that the site and alignment of the Waste Transfer Building make it unsuitable for this facility due to litter blow.*
- g) The submitter states that waste quantities will be stored at the site that will be too great to be contained within the Waste Transfer Building and they will therefore be stored outside with resulting odours and vermin attraction. In addition the submitter states that allowing casual public access to the facility will result in fly tipping at the gates of the facility.*

**RESPONSE**

- a) Condition 5.2 of the recommended Proposed Decision requires the applicant to implement the findings of the Risk Assessment prior to the commencement of construction of the waste transfer facility. This will involve removing contaminated soils to criteria agreed with the Agency. In addition the applicant must submit a report on the implementation of the Risk Assessment including all sampling and monitoring information carried out to confirm that remaining soils conform to the remediation criteria defined.
- b) The broad findings of the Risk Assessment are that the applicant will remove contaminated material, subject to certain remediation criteria. This material is to be sent for appropriate treatment, most likely incineration. Investigation and subsequent removal of contaminated and uncontaminated material does not require a waste licence from the Agency. The question of the impartiality of the Local Authority is not a matter for the Agency.
- c) As stated in a) above, the applicant will be required to implement the Risk Assessment prior to construction of the facility. In addition to this, provision of a concrete cap will prevent the ingress of surface water into the overburden, thereby decreasing further the potential for contaminated groundwater to arise. Monitoring of the local watercourses and shallow groundwater adjacent to the facility will be

required on an on-going basis under the terms of this recommended Proposed Decision.

- d) It is considered that the remediation terms agreed under the Risk Assessment are sufficient to protect local groundwater and surface water resources.
- e) Condition 7 of the recommended Proposed Decision requires the applicant to apply vermin and fly control measures including
  - Rodent bait boxes
  - Fly control units
  - Appropriate bird control, if necessary.
  - A minimum of eight visits per year by a pest control contractor.

Waste will not be allowed to be stored outside the Waste Transfer Building. It is considered that these measures will be adequate to control any potential for vermin and bird strikes arising from the waste activities at this facility.

- f) The applicant will be required to prevent litter from causing a nuisance and must carry out regular litter inspections on the facility and its environs. Vehicles entering and leaving the facility must be adequately covered for the purposes of litter control. The doors of the Waste Transfer face in an easterly direction, which is away from the prevailing SW winds in the area.
- g) The applicant will not be permitted to store waste outside the building. Measures required such as dust flaps, and air extraction and filtering will serve to abate dust and odour emissions from the activity. All waste stored overnight at the facility, shall be appropriately stored in within the Waste Transfer Building, and shall be removed from the facility within 72 hours of its arrival at the facility. The applicant will be required to remove any loose litter or other waste deposited in the vicinity of the facility by 10.00am of the next working day after such waste is discovered. In addition, in order to deter fly-tipping, Condition 7 requires the applicant to install a CCTV system.

**3. & 4. Two submissions from The Western Regional Fisheries Board, Galway [Dates Received 23/3/01 & 24/5/02].**

*These submissions state the following;*

- a) *That the facility should not be licensed until all the contamination on the site is cleaned up*
- b) *That a licence should not be granted until BATNEEC for the sector has been published*
- c) *That all watercourses adjacent to the facility should be piped to prevent direct contamination of the watercourses in the case of an accidental spillage*
- d) *That waste storage should not be allowed outside the facility unless covered.*
- e) *That the Western Regional Fisheries Board should be notified of all accidental spillages.*
- f) *That fuels and chemicals should be adequately stored*
- g) *That local watercourses would be more protected from contaminated storm waters if they were discharged to a percolation area*

**RESPONSE**

- a) See response to 1 & 2 (a) above.

- b) While BATNEEC (or BAT) notes have not been published, it is considered that the specific requirements of the recommended Proposed Decision represent BAT for this particular facility.
- c) The recommended Proposed Decision requires the applicant to maintain a 2.4m wall around the perimeter of the facility. The water course immediately adjacent to the facility (the CIE drain to the south) will be protected from accidental discharge by this wall. Condition 8 also requires that the applicant incorporate a shut-off valve into the design of the surface waste discharge pipe which will allow this discharge to be stopped.
- d) The applicant will not be allowed to store waste outside the Waste Transfer Building.
- e) Condition 11 of the recommended Proposed Decision requires that in the event of any incident which relates to discharges to surface water, the Western Regional Fisheries Board is notified.
- f) All tank and drum storage area must be adequately bunded under the terms of this Proposed Decision.
- g) All storm waters arising at this facility must be discharged through a Class I interceptor and silt trap prior to discharge. This discharge must be monitored on a regular basis, and the discharge may be stopped using a stop-valve in the case of accidental spillages.

**5. & 6. Two submissions from Dúchas [Date Received 31/5/02 & 20/6/02].**

*These submissions state that Dúchas have no objection to the waste licence application.*

**7. One submission from Galway County Council [Date Received 3/5/01].**

*This submission states that Galway Co Co have had meetings with the applicants regarding the proposed remediation programme.*

**8. One submission from Tony Cawley, Hydro Environmental Ltd. [Date Received 8/5/01].**

- a) *In this submission Mr Cawley states that insufficient site investigation work has been carried out at this site to formulate an effective response to the existing contamination. Mr Cawley includes a letter he sent to the Local Authority in relation to works carried out at the site up to the date of submission.*

**RESPONSE**

- a) Since this submission was made, the Agency required the Applicant to carry out a Risk Assessment in relation to the contamination present at the facility. This involved installation of bedrock and overburden wells, further soil, surface water and groundwater sampling. It is considered that the level of site investigation detailed in the Risk Assessment is sufficient to fully characterise the nature and extent of the contamination and recommend remediation criteria. As outlined in 1(a) above, Condition 5.2 of the recommended Proposed Decision requires the applicant to implement the findings of the Risk Assessment prior to the commencement of construction of the waste transfer facility. The letter enclosed by Mr Cawley is a matter for the local authority.

**9. One submission from The Western Health Board. [Date Received 29/3/01].**

- a) *The Health Board notes that since it is proposed to recover metals at this facility that a wheel wash should be provided in order to prevent vehicles tracking heavy metal deposits on their tyres. The board request that only non-hazardous wastes be handled on site.*
- b) *The submitter notes that the proposed opening hours offer the potential for noise nuisance at unsociable hours due to vehicle movements and site activities. The Health Board also requests that no heavy construction machinery/equipment be operated before 8am on weekdays and 9am on Saturdays, nor after 6pm on weekdays and 1pm on Saturdays and at no time on Sundays or Bank Holidays.*
- c) *It is requested that the site be adequately manned and supervised at all times and provisions be taken to prevent unauthorised access to the site*
- d) *The Health Board requests that an EMS be implemented and maintained at the facility.*
- e) *It is requested that abatement methods be employed to prevent the generation of dust during the construction of the facility and that emissions from the facility do not result in nuisance*
- f) *The submitter requests that organic material be either tipped only inside the waste transfer building or taken straight to landfill and not allowed to pass through the facility to prevent the development of odours.*
- g) *The submitter requests that measures be taken to prevent the pollution of groundwater.*
- h) *The Health Board requests that no waste be burnt within the facility and that adequate noise abatement measures be taken in order to ensure that noise emissions which may affect local residents are minimised.*
- i) *Health Board requests that adequate pest control measures be implemented and that adequate Health and Safety and fire precautions be taken on site.*

**RESPONSE**

- a) The facility is only permitted to accept non-hazardous wastes. Given the nature of the vehicles it is not considered that a wheel wash will be necessary. Condition 7 requires that the road network in the vicinity of the facility shall be kept free from any debris caused by vehicles entering or leaving the facility. Any such debris or deposited materials must be removed without delay.
- b) There are a number of controls in this recommended Proposed Decision relating to noise emissions. The applicant will only be allowed to process waste from 8am-9:30pm weekdays and on Sundays and Bank Holidays with the prior agreement of the Agency. In addition all processing must occur inside the waste transfer building. The wall and roof panels of the building shall be constructed from insulated cladding for the purposes of noise insulation. It is considered that compliance with the terms of the recommended Proposed Decision will ensure that environmental pollution is not caused by the licensed waste activities.
- c) The applicant is required to employ a suitably qualified and experienced facility manager who shall be present on the facility at all times during its operation. For the purposes of site security a 2.4m wall must be installed and maintained around the site.
- d) Condition 2 requires the applicant to install and maintain an EMS.
- e) Condition 7 requires that during construction and operation of the facility, site roads and any other areas used by vehicles shall be sprayed with water as and when required to minimise airborne dust nuisance. This shall include stockpiles of



rubble, hardcore areas and other areas as appropriate. Condition 7 requires that the applicant shall ensure that vermin, birds, flies, mud, dust, litter and odours do not give rise to nuisance at the facility or in the immediate area of the facility.

- f) Odour abatement measures required by the terms of the recommended Proposed Decision include certain waste handling practices, air extraction and dust filtration. These measures will provide a significant level of odour abatement. The applicant is required to ensure that odours do not give rise to nuisance at the facility or in the immediate area of the facility. In addition, Condition 7 requires the applicant to provide a report to the Agency within 12 months assessing the requirement for further odour abatement measures at this facility.
- g) The applicant is required to provide, and maintain an impermeable concrete hardstand over the entire surface area to include: the facility entrance area, parking area, all areas where vehicle movement takes place and the waste handling and storage area. All tanks must be adequately bunded.
- h) Condition 9 requires that no waste shall be burnt within the boundaries of the facility. Condition 6 requires that there shall be no clearly audible tonal component or impulsive component in the noise emissions from the activity at noise sensitive locations. In addition the recommended Proposed Decision requires that activities on-site shall not give rise to noise levels off-site, at noise sensitive locations, which exceed the sound pressure limits outlined in Schedule C of the Proposed Decision. The recommended Proposed Decision requires regular monitoring of noise emissions from the facility at the facility boundary and at certain noise sensitive locations. In addition the waste transfer building shall be constructed from insulated cladding for the purposes of noise insulation.
- i) In regard to vermin control etc. see response to 1 (e) above. Health and Safety issues on this site are a matter for the Health and Safety Authority.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dated:**

**Name:** Cormac Mac Gearailt

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **LOCATION PLANS**

1. Figure 3.6.1 of the EIS. & Figure 3.7.3 of the EIS.