



OFFICE OF LICENSING & GUIDANCE

INSPECTORS REPORT ON A LICENCE APPLICATION

To:	DIRECTORS	
From:	BERNIE MURRAY	- LICENSING UNIT
Date:	26 NOVEMBER 2004	
RE:	Application for an waste Licence from Advance Environmental Solutions (AES) Ltd., Licence Register 194-1	

Application Details

Type of facility:	Waste Transfer Station
Class(es) of Activity (P = principal activity)	3 rd Schedule: Classes 11, 12 and 13 4 th Schedule: Classes 2 (P), 3, 4, 11, 12 and 13.
Quantity of waste managed per annum:	40,000 tonnes
Classes of Waste:	Household waste, commercial waste, construction & demolition waste, industrial sludges and hazardous household waste.
Location of facility:	Kyletalesha Waste Transfer Facility, Kyletalesha, Co Laois,
Licence application received:	2 nd October 2003
Third Party submissions:	One
EIS Required:	Yes
Article 14 Notices sent:	25/03/2004, 7/05/2004
Article 14 compliance date:	19/05/2004
Article 16 Notices sent:	25/03/2004, 16/08/2004 (Art 16 reminder notice), 22/09/2004
Article 16 Compliance date:	22/10/2004
Site Inspection:	05/11/2003 - Site notice inspection by B. Murray & P. Hermansen, site notice non-compliant. 15/12/2003 - Site notice inspection by B.Murray & P.Hermansen, site notice compliant.

1. Facility

Advanced Environmental Solutions (Ireland) Ltd., (AES), has applied for a waste licence for a waste transfer station at Kyletalesha, Co Laois. The facility was purchased by AES in 2001 and was operating as a glass and aluminium can recycling facility. In 2003 the facility was upgraded to a waste transfer station operating under a waste permit. The applicant has applied for a waste licence from the EPA with a view to increasing the volume of waste accepted, from 5,000 tonnes to 40,000 tonnes by 2008.

The site (about 1.2 acres) is located in a rural area of Co. Laois. The surrounding area is made up of a knackery to the west, a landfill facility (Kyletalesha Landfill WL 26-2) to the north, virgin and cutaway bog to the east, with coniferous forestry to the south. A stream forms the north-western, northern and eastern site boundaries. At the north eastern corner of the facility the stream is joined by another stream that flows adjacent to the eastern boundary of the landfill (WL 26-2). About 900m downstream the stream adjoining the facility flows into the River Triogue, which in turn is a tributary of the River Barrow. The applicant states that there are six residential dwellings within 1km of the facility. The closest residential dwelling is 500m to the northeast of the facility.

Classes 11, 12 and 13 of the Third Schedule and Classes 2, 3, 4, 11, 12, and 13 of the Fourth Schedule were applied for. Class 2 of the Fourth Schedule is the principal activity.

No environmental issues are anticipated with regard to the facility hours of operation and no submissions have been received in this regard, therefore the RD does not restrict operational hours.

2. Operational Description

The applicant proposes to accept 35,000 to 40,000 tpa over a five year period. The RD allows the facility to accept 40,000 tonnes per annum from the date of grant of the licence, consisting of household waste, commercial waste, C&D waste, household hazardous waste (10 tonnes) and industrial sludges detailed in Schedule A. The applicant has not provided details of the quantity of industrial sludges to be accepted at the facility. It is proposed to allow the applicant accept 1,000 tonnes of industrial sludges per annum. Any increase in the quantity of this or any other waste listed in Schedule A is to be agreed by the Agency, prior to acceptance, subject to the total annual tonnage remaining at 40,000 tonnes. The annual tonnages of the waste types can be changed with the agreement of the Agency as long as the total annual tonnage remains the same. Schedule A also restricts the types of hazardous waste allowed for acceptance at the facility to those specified in the application.

On site operations will include segregation of waste, bulking up of waste, shredding of timber, waste storage and transfer into vehicles for recovery/disposal off site.

All waste will be tipped into a dedicated unloading area within the recycling building. Municipal waste from kerbside collection will be bulked and sent to AES Tullamore (Waste Licence No 104-1) for segregation. Skips containing waste metal, paper and cardboard, timber and C&D waste will be separated out on site, and with the exception of timber, will be bulked and sent for recovery off site. Glass will be collected separately and sent for recovery off site.

Household waste and residual waste not deemed suitable for recycling/recovery will be bulked within the facility and sent to Kyletalesha Landfill (Waste Licence No 26-2) or an appropriate facility for disposal.

The applicant proposes to accept sludges from:

- primary and secondary treatment of urban wastewaters;
- food processing factories;
- industrially treated sludges.

The RD requires that the composition of the sludge shall be determined prior to acceptance at the facility as proposed by the applicant (Condition 5.2). The RD requires that the sludge shall be stored in sealed/covered containers prior to transfer off site for recovery (Condition 7.4). Furthermore, Condition 7.4 stipulates that the sludge material shall be stored in containers of sufficient capacity to facilitate on site storage during time periods where landspreading activities are not allowed.

The RD allows for the recovery of acceptable sludges by landspreading off site. Condition 5.5 stipulates that landspreading is permitted to take place only on lands agreed in advance by the Agency in accordance with a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP). Furthermore, agreement of the NMP will facilitate identification of those sludges suitable for land application. Landspreading is required to be carried out in accordance with prescribed buffer zones and codes of practice for the landspreading of organic waste. The RD requires the licensee to monitor the available storage capacity for sludge and to maintain a register of landspread sludges, details of which must be submitted to the Agency annually as part of the AER. The on site holding facilities for industrial sludges are required to be of sufficient capacity to ensure adequate storage during November to January, when landspreading activities are not permitted to take place (Condition 7.4).

All waste for disposal stored overnight at the facility shall be stored within the Waste Transfer Building in enclosed containers (Condition 7.4). Only dry recyclable waste and industrial sludges may be stored outdoors in covered and enclosed containers (Condition 7.4). The containers for industrial sludges shall be installed with odour control systems to ensure minimisation of odour nuisances from storage of this waste type at the facility (Condition 7.4). Condition 7.4 of the RD also requires that waste be removed from the facility within 48 hours of its arrival. The exception to this is the removal of industrial sludges for landspreading during November to January, which must not be undertaken without the prior agreement of the Agency.

3. Use of Resources

The applicant has provided the following details on raw material usage.

Diesel oil 50,000l, lubricant oil 6,751l and coolant/antifreeze 205l. The applicant states that electricity usage at the site is limited to provision of lighting and heating and is considered minimal. Water usage is limited to canteen/sanitary requirements of the personnel on site.

4. Emissions

4.1 Emissions to Air

Odour

Odour nuisances will be controlled at the facility (Condition 7.4). Condition 7.4 requires that waste is stored such that odour nuisances are minimised. See section 2.0 *Operational Description*. In addition, the floor area of the Waste Transfer Building, where putrescible waste will be accepted/handled, is required to be washed and cleared of all waste daily. The floor areas of storage bays are required to be washed and cleaned each time such bays are emptied (Condition 5.3). Condition 3.13 requires that waste recycling building be fitted with Air Handling Units for the purposes of eliminating any potential odour nuisance.

4.2 Emissions to wastewater

Sanitary wastewater is discharged to a Wastewater Treatment System (WWTS) consisting of a septic tank and associated percolation area. The RD requires the percolation area to satisfy the criteria set out in the EPA publication Wastewater Treatment Manual, Treatment Systems for Single Houses (Condition 3.10)

Condition 3.12 of the RD requires the proposed drainage system to be installed prior to the commencement of waste licence activities and maintained on an ongoing basis.

All wastewater generated within the Waste Transfer Building such as floor wash wastewater, wastewater from the timber shredder and liquid from waste tipped on the floor will be discharged to a holding tank and tankered off to an agreed offsite Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) as proposed by the applicant (Conditions 3.7, 3.12 and 5.6). The timber shredder uses small volumes of water as part of an internal dust suppression system. Due to the absorbency nature of the shredded timber, this water is retained within the timber with minimal volumes of water being discharged from the shredder.

4.3 Emissions to Surface Waters

The applicant proposes to discharge the surface water run-off from the roof buildings and hardstanding areas into the stream that flows adjacent to the north-western boundary of the site. As mentioned above the stream ultimately discharges into the Triogue River which is a tributary of the River Barrow. The RD allows for surface water run-off to be discharged via a silt trap and full retention class 1 interceptor fitted with a manual shut-off valve (Condition 3.12).

Monitoring results show that the stream has been contaminated in the past, with some indications that the applicant site was contributing in some part to this. However the applicant has recently installed and commissioned a Waste Water Treatment System, which should bring about significant improvement to their discharge. The RD requires ongoing monitoring of discharge (Condition 8) and maintenance of the treatment system (Condition 3.10).

Surface water monitoring requirements are established under Schedule D. The applicant proposes to monitor the following parameters: pH, Conductivity, BOD, COD, Ammonia, Suspended Solids, Temperature and Total Phosphorous. The RD

allows for this and requires the following additional parameters to be monitored: Total Nitrogen, and Fats, Oils and Grease. Emission Limit values are set under Schedule C.

4.4 Emissions to ground/groundwater:

The applicant states that the site is underlain by Lower Carboniferous rocks consisting of the Ballysteen Formation. The Ballysteen Formation has been provisionally classified by the Geological Survey of Ireland as a poor aquifer which is generally unproductive except for local zones. The site has low permeability subsoil (glacial drift) and a depth to bedrock of >10 meters; the groundwater beneath the site is classified as being of Moderate – Low vulnerability.

Condition 6.4 states that with the exception of the percolation area there shall be no direct emissions to groundwater. The RD requires that all areas of the facility shall be impermeable concrete surfaces (Condition 3.5). All tank and drum fuel storage areas shall be bunded as per Condition 3.11.

4.5 Noise:

The applicant has submitted results from a baseline noise survey. The daytime acoustic assessment was undertaken between the hours of 08:00 and 22:00 at four site locations, N1, N2, N3 and N4 representing the Northern, Western, Southern and Eastern perimeters of the site respectively, and at one noise sensitive location; a private residential dwelling located approximately 500m northeast of the facility. The monitoring was carried out for a period of 30 minutes. The highest noise level recorded was 70.8dB L_{Aeq} at N4. Noise levels of 59.1, 58.5 and 57.0 dB L_{Aeq} were recorded at locations N1, N2 and N3 respectively. The noise was attributed to plant, operational noise from sheds, traffic movements on site, traffic entering and leaving the facility and on the main road fronting the site.

An L_{eq} of 56.6 dB (A) was recorded at N5 the nearest noise sensitive receptor which was attributed to road traffic. No on-site noise sources were audible at this location and no tonal element was discernible from 1/3 octave graphs.

Condition 6.5 requires that there be no tonal noise element audible at noise sensitive locations. Schedule D sets the requirements for noise monitoring. The noise emission limit values to be measured at any noise sensitive location are set in Schedule C.

Timber shredding will be carried out as part of processes on site and Condition 5.1 requires it to be carried out inside the waste transfer building.

4.6 Nuisance:

Condition 7 of the RD controls potential nuisances at the facility. Condition 10.3 requires that written records of all nuisance inspections are kept.

- Litter
According to the applicant a daily litter patrol of the site perimeter and access road is undertaken. Where the escape of litter has occurred it will be collected and returned to the site. Condition 7.3 requires that the litter control provisions proposed by the applicant be applied to control litter at the facility.

- **Dust**
The applicant carried out dust monitoring at five on site locations. However dust deposition samples taken at A2 and A4 were damaged and did not yield any results. The dust deposition level recorded at one of the three remaining points (A3) was elevated (794 mg/m²/day). The applicant attributes this to construction traffic using the site entrance during the sampling period.

The RD requires that dust monitoring is carried out 3 times per year (Schedule D). Dust emission limit values are set out in Schedule C. Condition 7.4 of the RD ensures that dust control measures are carried out. Given remote location of the facility, dust is not expected to be a nuisance issue.

- **Vermin, flies, birds, pests, odour.**
The applicant proposes to implement pest control and nuisance measures by the setting of poison bait throughout the site, the removal of degradable waste off site and the washing of the floor of the waste recycling building with disinfectant. In addition, all bulked up waste will be covered. The applicant considers that bird control is not necessary since all waste is deposited within the Waste Recycling Building or stored in closed containers. Condition 10.6 of the RD requires that records detailing the control and eradication of vermin and fly infestations are kept at the facility. Condition 7.4 requires that all waste unsuitable for recovery must be removed off site for disposal within 48 hours of its receipt. The removal of industrial sludges from the facility during November to January may not take place without the prior agreement of the Agency. Condition 5.3 requires that the floor of the Waste Transfer Building be cleaned daily during the handling of putrescible waste.

Condition 5.8.1 stipulates that the hedgerow on the eastern boundary of the facility be retained, supplemented with suitable species to promote its density and maintained. This hedgerow will assist in mitigating nuisance.

5. Cultural Heritage, Habitats & Protected Species

The applicant details that the site is not covered by any designations for conservation. The main archaeological features in the surrounding area are dominated by enclosures, remnants of church sites and a tower house that is in ruins. The closest archaeological feature to the site is an enclosure approx. 1.2km east of the facility. The applicant states that this facility will have no potential impact on the archaeological features within the facility.

The site is located approximately 1km to the west of the River Triogue which is a tributary of the cSAC, River Barrow and River Nore (site code 002162). The applicant states that the site will not impact negatively on the surface water.

6. Waste Management Plan

The Local Authorities of the counties Laois, Longford, Offaly, Tipperary (NR) and Westmeath prepared the Midlands Waste Management Plan in compliance with the Waste Management Act 1996 and the Waste Management (Planning) Regulations, 1997. The Plan has regard to all non-hazardous wastes generated within the functional areas of the aforementioned local authorities and proposes to 'focus on reducing the midlands current dependence on landfill disposal and moving towards an integrated

approach which will include new waste collection treatment methods'. The overall target of the proposed strategy for the combined household, commercial, industrial and C&D waste stream, is to achieve 46% recycling, 37% energy recovery through thermal treatment and 17% disposal to residual landfill in the year 2013. The Midlands Waste Management Plan was adopted in 2001

7. Environmental Impact Statement

I have examined and assessed the EIS and am satisfied that it complies with the EIA and Waste Licensing Regulations.

8. Compliance with Directives/Regulations

The facility does not fall under the scope of the Landfill Directive or the IPPC Directive. In relation to the Groundwater Directive, the facility will not have any direct emission to groundwater.

9. Fit & Proper Person Assessment

Offences and Convictions

The applicant states that Advanced Environmental Solutions (Ireland) Ltd. have never been convicted on any relevant offence.

Technical Competence & Site Management

The applicant states that the final details of the staff numbers, positions and qualifications will be submitted to the Agency before start up of the facility.

Financial Provision

An assessment carried out by Mr Dan Harney, Finance Officer, of the Abridged Financial Statements of AES concluded that despite the fact that the applicant appears to be trading at a loss it is expected that the applicant would be in a position to pay the costs of normal on site operating activities, day to day clean ups and EPA monitoring charges. Condition 12.2 requires that provision for Environmental Liabilities Insurance is in place within six months.

10. Submissions

There was one submission in relation to this application:

10.1 Submission from Development Applications Unit, Department of the Environment Heritage & Local Government, Dun Sceine, Harcourt Lane, Dublin 2

The Development Applications Unit makes one point in their submission.

(i) Nature Conservation

'The only concern from a nature conservation perspective is that of pollution of the river Triogue and subsequently the River Barrow, candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC) site code No. 002162, as a result of any surface water contamination. We wish to inform you of the nearby designated sites of the River Barrow and the River Nore. It is recommended that the EPA ensure sufficient water monitoring is put in place along with the necessary emergency plans to ensure water quality of the designated site will not be adversely affected by this development'.

Comment: The applicant is required to carry out surface water monitoring under Schedule D and the corresponding Emission Limit Values have been established under Schedule C. Condition 6.3 of the RD prohibits the discharge of waste water or contaminated surface water run-off to the streams bordering the facility. Condition 3.12 of the RD requires the installation and maintenance of separate drainage

networks for surface water run-off and waste water, and requires the installation and maintenance of silt traps and oil interceptors. Condition 9.3 requires the applicant to have containment booms and spill kits on site to contain and absorb spillages.

11. Charges

A charge of €12,651.00 is recommended in relation to the inspection, monitoring and enforcement of this licence.

12. Recommendation

I have considered all the documentation submitted in relation to this application and recommend that the Agency grant a licence subject to the conditions set out in the attached RD and for the reasons as drafted.

Signed

Bernie Murray

Procedural Note

In the event that no objections are received to the Proposed Decision on the application, a licence will be granted in accordance with Section 43(1) of the Waste Management Acts 1996-2003.