

INSPECTORS REPORT

WASTE LICENCE REGISTER NUMBER 8-1

Cork Co. Council (Clonakilty Waste Transfer Station)

Recommendation: That a Licence subject to condition be granted

(1) Introduction:

Cork Co. Council have applied to operate a new waste transfer station and civic amenity centre on a greenfield site located at Foildarraig, Cloheen, approximately 1.5km south-west of Clonakilty town centre within an area zoned for industrial and commercial development. The site is bordered to the North by agricultural lands, to the east by Clonakilty showgrounds and to the south and west by recently established commercial and light industrial developments. A Hotel is located approximately 300m east of the site and a new private nursing home is also located approximately 120m west of the facility. The closest residential house is situated to the North/Northwest within approximately 15-20m of the proposed development. There are approximately 15 private residences within 500m of the site. Planning permission was granted for this development on the 27 November 2001. This decision was subsequently appealed to An Bord Pleanála and a decision is awaited.

The applicant is seeking a licence to accept non-hazardous wastes at this facility. The applicant has also proposed that provisions will be made external to the waste transfer building for the recovery of recyclables and storage of white goods and municipal hazardous wastes (approximately 3 tonnes per annum) such as batteries, fluorescent tubes, solvent paints etc. The general public, light commercial waste companies and County Council's refuse trucks will also be allowed to dispose of waste and recyclables at the facility. The maximum quantity of waste to be accepted at the facility is limited to **14,000** tonnes per annum.

A plan showing the location of the facility to which the application relates is provided in Appendix 1.

Under the Third Schedule the applicant has applied for Classes 12 (Principal Activity) and 13 and under the Fourth Schedule Classes 2,3,4 and 13.

SITE VISITS:

DATE	PURPOSE	PERSONNEL	OBSERVATIONS
27/09/02	Check Site Notice and facility surrounds	S.McMahon	Non Compliant
5/11/02	Check Site Notice	S.McMahon	Compliant
21/03/02	Site & Environs Check	B. Foley	Inspect facility & environs

(2) Facility Development

The main infrastructure proposed by the applicant includes the waste transfer building and associated office, CCTV, weighbridge, wheelcleaner, waste quarantine/inspection area (internally in the materials recovery building), parking/skip/receptacle storage areas and a 1,500 litre fuel tank within a bunded area. The recommended Proposed Decision (PD) makes provision for this infrastructure. The following items of waste processing plant are proposed: Intake hopper with associated conveyor, a second high level hopper, a compactor, loading shovel vehicle, slave vehicle, articulated vehicles and heavy duty ejector trailers. The recommended PD requires the applicant to have adequate duty and standby capacity for all items of plant deemed critical for the processing of waste.

Main Transfer Building:

The applicant has proposed that large vehicles using the site including refuse collection vehicles will reverse into the intake area and the waste will be tipped into the floor hopper. Domestic waste delivered to the site by private individuals (e.g. private cars) will be delivered to the tipping floor or hopper via hatches in the side of the building. The deposited waste will travel up a heavy-duty conveyor to a second, high level hopper located on top of the waste compactor. The waste will be compacted and transferred into a steel ejector trailer which will be attached directly to the compactor. Trailers containing compacted waste will be collected by a haulage contractor and will be transferred off site for disposal to a licensed facility. The applicant has made no provisions to recover any of this material and it is conditioned in the PD that the applicant submit proposals for such recovery (Conditions 5.2.1,11.3.1). External bins will be provided for recyclable materials such as glass, metals, wood, textiles, aluminium cans etc. The applicant aims to increase the range of recyclable waste types (e.g. plastic bottles) in the future. All waste that is transferred from the facility to other facilities must be agreed by the Agency.

Civic Amenity Sites:

Civic amenity facilities will be divided into two areas, tolled and toll-free. The toll free civic amenity site (or bring centre) will be located close to the site entrance. It will comprise of a vehicle lay-by and a number of receptacles placed on a kerbed concrete slab that drains to the foul sewer system. It will enable users to deposit a range of recyclable materials before passing over the weighbridge. The tolled area will be located on the eastern side of the waste site. It will have a similar design to the toll free area and users will be able to deposit items including waste oils, white goods, batteries and fluorescent tubes. The applicant has proposed that white goods will be stored at a separate location until they are de-gassed and removed off-site. A split level "saw-tooth" concrete wall will allow for the collection of bulky materials in hook lift containers or skips such as metals, timber or garden wastes.

A set of 2.4m high steel palisade gates will be erected across the main site entrance. The western and southern boundaries of the site will be protected by 2.4m high palisade fencing. The northern and eastern boundaries of the site will be protected by a precast concrete block wall approximately 2.4m high, with two strands of barbed wire on cranked steel brackets.

The entire site will be impermeable hardstand, with the exception of some landscaped areas.

The hours of waste acceptance for the facility are as applied for by the applicant i.e. from 8:00am to 5:00pm Monday to Saturday. The hours of operation of the facility are also as applied for i.e. from 8:00am to 6:00pm Monday to Saturday. The site will be closed on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Future Development:

The applicant has stated that an area on the southern boundary side of the site has been set aside for possible future development of waste recovery and recycling facilities including construction and demolition waste, baling of packaging waste and shredding of garden waste. The applicant has not applied to accept construction and demolition waste (apart from minor quantities in domestic waste) in their application (under Table E.1.1) and so any acceptance of this at a later stage may require a review of the licence.

(3) Waste Types and Quantities

The applicant is licensed to accept a maximum of 14,000 tonnes of waste annually consisting primarily of household waste (~9,000 tonnes) and non-hazardous commercial waste (~5,000 tonnes).

(4) Emissions to Air

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

Dust/Odour: Condition 7.4 of the recommended Proposed Decision (PD) requires the applicant to install dust/odour control systems. The applicant will be precluded from storing waste for disposal at the facility for longer than 48 hours (**Condition 7.4.1**). Any wastes for disposal stored overnight shall be in covered containers inside the transfer building. In addition it is required that the applicant clear the floor of all waste at the end of the working day. Condition 5.3.3 of the recommended PD requires that no waste shall be left overnight in either the hopper unit or compactor within the waste transfer building.

Noise: Noise emission limits have been set in the recommended PD. In addition, there shall be no clearly audible tonal component or impulsive component in the noise emissions from the activity at noise sensitive locations. The applicant has proposed using a double-skinned insulated cladding on the main transfer building and lagging the underside of waste hoppers with acoustic insulation (**Condition 7.5**). Schedule D requires the applicant to complete noise monitoring on an annual basis.

(5) Emissions to Groundwater

There will be no emissions to groundwater from the licensed activities. All of the site shall be paved and all waste storage areas shall be impermeable hardstand. The fuel storage tank is required to be bunded in accordance with **Condition 3.12**.

(6) Emissions to Surfacewater and Foulwater Sewers

Uncontaminated surface water from the site will pass into a 146m³ capacity surface water retention tank. This enables flow release to be controlled prior to discharge to the mains industrial estate surface water sewer via a Class 1 by-pass oil separator. The flow rate from the retention tank to the surface water sewer is subject to the prior agreement of the Agency. The main surface water sewer discharges to a nearby tributary of the Feagle River. This has been conditioned under **Condition 5.8.1** of the recommended PD.

All foul water effluent generated at the facility (including surfacewater run-off from areas of the site used for the storage and handling of waste) will discharge to the industrial estate foul sewer via a full retention oil interceptor before passing to the main foul sewer following **Clonakilty Town Council agreement** (Condition 5.7.1). All foul water/surface water infrastructures to be installed at the site is specified as engineering works (Schedule B) to be agreed with the Agency.

(7) Other Significant Environmental Impacts of the Development

None.

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

The Cork Waste Management Plan which was adopted in May 1999 makes reference to the provision of 'a network of solid waste transfer stations in Co. Cork which will allow for the efficient and economic transport of waste'. The proposed development is in line with such provisions.

(9) Submissions

No submissions were submitted on this application.

Signed _____

Dated:

Mr. Brendan Foley
Inspector, Environmental Management & Planning

**APPENDIX 1
LOCATION MAP & LAYOUT PLAN**