

INSPECTORS REPORT

WASTE LICENCE REGISTER NUMBER 72-1

(1) Summary:

The application is for a transfer station accepting 23,500 tonnes per annum situated approximately 5.5km to the east of Killarney in County Kerry. The facility incorporates the transfer station, a civic waste facility for the recycling and recovery of waste, an area for composting of biodegradable waste (3,000 tonnes per annum), an area for the recovery of construction and demolition waste (1,000 tonnes per annum) and the former Coolcaslagh landfill site. A conditioning plan for the now closed Coolcaslagh landfill site including restoration proposals for the landfill site is required by Condition 8.2 of the draft PD.

Name of Applicant	Kerry County Council
Facility Name (s)	Coolcaslagh Transfer Station
Facility Address	Coolcaslagh, Killarney, Co.Kerry
Description of Principal Activity	WasteTransfer Station and Composting Facility
Quantity of waste (tpa)	23,500
Environmental Impact Statement Required	No.
Number of Submissions Received	One
Inspector's Recommendation	The draft proposed decision, as submitted to the Board be approved.

Notices	Issue Date(s)	Reminder(s)	Response Date(s)
Article 8	27/11/99		21/12/99, 12/01/99
Article 14 (2) (b) (i)	Not Applicable		
Article 14 (2) (b) (ii)	30/04/99, 03/06/99, 06/10/99		30/06/99, 12/08/99, 28/10/99,
Article 14 (2) (a)	25/11/99		
Article 16	16/03/00		03/05/00, 25/05/00

FACILITY VISITS:

DATE	PURPOSE	PERSONNEL	OBSERVATIONS
30/10/98	Site notice assessment	B Donlon	Site notice non compliant
09/02/99	Site notice assessment and site visit	T O'Mahony	Visit Site and verify new site notice compliant with regulations
24/01/00	Site visit	T O Mahony M McHugh, R Campbell, S McMahon	Visit site and adjoining landfill
16.02/00	Site visit	T.O'Mahony	Meeting with applicant re: proposed modifications to surface drainage and foul drainage

(2) Activity Summary

The transfer station has been constructed on land adjacent to the now closed Coolcaslagh landfill site. Non hazardous municipal and domestic waste will be accepted at the Waste Intake Building. The waste accepted at the waste intake building will be compacted and transported off site for disposal at a licensed facility.

The recovery of recyclable and reusable materials including, cardboard, paper, plastic, beverage cans, glass bottles, textiles, timber, white goods and other metals will be provided for at the civic waste facility within the transfer station (Condition 5.4). In addition special containers will be provided for the storage of waste oils, batteries, and solvent based paints and varnishes.

An area of the site has been reserved for composting. It is proposed to develop windrow composting capable of processing 3,000 tonnes per annum of suitable biodegradable material (Condition 5.5). This activity will be subject to the prior agreement of the Agency.

The closed landfill site adjoining the transfer station will be required to be restored as part of the licence and a monitoring programme and conditioning plan is required by Condition 8.2.1.

Activities recommended for licensing:

It is recommended that the activities listed below, for which the applicant has applied for a waste licence, be licensed subject to the requirement of Condition 1.1 of the Proposed Decision.

Third Schedule: Classes 12 and 13.

Fourth Schedule: Classes 1,2,3,4 and 13.

Activities refused:

Class 8 of the Fourth Schedule was included in the application but is not proposed to be authorised. The description of this activity as provided by the applicant is not relevant to the activity applied for. The activity applied for under Class 8 of the

Fourth Schedule (“ recovery of used oil including engine oil and vegetable oil”) is, however, permitted under Class 2 of the Fourth Schedule.

(3) Facility Location

Appendix 1 contains a site location map and a plan showing the layout of the facility.

The site is located in a rural area approximately 5.5km east of Killarney in County Kerry. The site is screened by coniferous forest to the north. An extensive active sand and gravel quarry adjoins the site to the south and west and the worked out quarry dominates the landscape to the south. A wildlife park (Coolwood Park) is within approximately 500m of the site. The nearest residential dwelling is approximately 500m from the transfer station. However, there is a temporary halting site directly across the road from the site entrance. The narrow local road, the L2507 provides access to and from the site. This road connects with the main Killarney – Cork road (N22) approximately 2km east of Killarney at Lisyvigeen Cross.

(4) Waste Types and Quantities

Condition 5 controls the quantities and types of waste to be accepted at the facility. It is estimated that 23,500 tonnes per annum of non-hazardous municipal and domestic waste are to be accepted at the facility. This includes 3,000 tonnes per annum of waste processed at the composting area and 1,000 tonnes per annum for the recovery of construction and demolition waste. A total of 500 tonnes per annum is projected to be accepted at the civic waste facility which will include small quantities of hazardous waste.

(5) Facility Design

- **Infrastructure;**

The infrastructure in place at the site includes the following:

Site offices and car park

Civic waste facility and associated recycling/recovery receptacles

Weighbridge

Security fencing

Enclosed refuse intake building

Waste container conveyer system and storage area

Foul sewer and waste water treatment plant

Surface water drainage network

Condition 4.15.1 requires proposals for vehicle cleaning facilities including container cleaning at the transfer station.

The existing foul water system is proposed to be modified to incorporate an Effluent Storage Tank constructed within a concrete bunded area. Foul water from within the transfer station, the civic waste facility, the proposed composting area and the area

reserved for the recovery of construction and demolition waste will be stored in the Effluent Storage Tank prior to removal offsite. The proposed modifications also incorporate the conversion of the existing wastewater treatment unit into a pump sump which will direct foul water to the wastewater holding tank. From the holding tank wastewater will be tankered offsite for discharge to Killarney Sewage Treatment Works subject to the agreement of Killarney UDC (Condition 4.14.3). These modifications are as a result of problems with the waste water treatment unit due to shock loadings arising from larger than anticipated quantities of food waste including waste cooking oils in the foul water. The modifications to the foul water drainage system are specified engineering works and will be subject to the prior agreement of the Agency.

In addition to the above, within the site boundary there are areas reserved for composting and recovery of construction and demolition waste (Condition 5.5). These activities will be subject to the prior agreement of the Agency. Condition 4.10 requires proposals for a waste inspection/quarantine area to be constructed at the facility.

(6) Facility Operation/Management

• Waste Acceptance Procedures

Conditions 5.1 and 5.2 specify the waste types to be accepted at the facility. Apart from the recovery of waste oils, batteries, solvent based paints and varnishes and fluorescent bulbs at the civic waste facility no hazardous waste will be accepted at the transfer station. Condition 3.10 specifies that a record must be maintained for each load of waste arriving at and being removed from the site.

• Waste Handling

Refuse vehicles arriving at the facility are weighed and directed to the refuse intake building where the waste is tipped into the hopper and compactor. The compacted waste is transferred into a sealed steel container, which is attached directly to the compactor. Filled containers will be lifted onto trucks using a hook-lift and transferred off site for disposal at landfill.

Domestic waste delivered to the site by members of the public is weighed and deposited in the hopper unit in the refuse intake station for compaction.

Waste destined for landfill, recovered and rejected materials are recorded (weight, destination, nature, etc.) prior to dispatch from the facility (Condition 3.10).

Condition 5.5 requires written proposals to be submitted to the Agency within six months of the date of grant of this licence for any new waste handling procedure including the degassing of CFCs from refrigerators, the composting of biodegradable waste and the recovery of construction and demolition wastes.

• Nuisance Control

Potential nuisances are controlled by Condition 6 Environmental Nuisances. Litter, vermin and odours should not pose a nuisance problem at the transfer station due to the fast turn-around of waste required by Condition 6.1. Waste is largely handled indoors. Waste stored on site prior to transport off-site to landfill will be in sealed

containers. Condition 6.8 requires the licensee to ensure that dust, noise and odours arising from the activities do not impact significantly on the amenities or the environment beyond the facility boundary. Proposals for the nuisance control programme for the proposed composting area and the area reserved for the recovery of construction and demolition waste are required by Condition 6.9.

Condition 8.2 requires a conditioning and restoration plan for the adjoining landfill. This includes requirements that a minimum of 500mm of inert material is placed on any exposed waste within the landfill, that all loose waste within and in the environs of the landfill is removed. Proposals for vehicle cleaning and cleaning of internal roads to prevent spoiling of the public road are required to be submitted (Condition 8.2.1.2 (d)).

- **Hours of Waste Acceptance/Removal**

Condition 5.13 specifies the hours of waste acceptance and removal at the facility.

(7) Emissions to Groundwater

There will be no emissions to groundwater from the transfer station. The adjoining closed landfill site is unlined and there is potential for discharge of leachate generated within the landfill to groundwater. This is required to be addressed in the proposed Conditioning Plan for the landfill required by Condition 8.2.1. Condition 8.2.1.1 requires an environmental monitoring programme to be submitted as part of the Conditioning Plan for the Coolcaslagh landfill site. This will include monitoring of groundwater and leachate as well as proposals for leachate management at the landfill.

(8) Emissions to Air

Measures to minimise the impact on air quality include the following: Quick turn-around time for waste entering and leaving the facility and the storage of compacted waste in sealed containers. Dust emissions are minimised as waste deposition into the hopper unit and its subsequent compaction is within an enclosed area. Dust emissions associated with the capping and restoration of the adjacent landfill will be of short duration. The adjoining active sand and gravel quarry, the associated traffic on internal haul roads and quarrying activities are a source of dust particularly during dry weather conditions. Background dust deposition levels are elevated and two out of the three locations sampled show dust deposition levels in excess of 350 mg/m²/day. This is likely to be due to the quarrying activities and the quality of the access roads. The proposed recovery of construction and demolition waste will be a potential source of dust when this activity is operational. Proposals for a nuisance control programme including dust for the proposed composting Area and the area reserved for the recovery of construction and demolition waste are required by Condition 6.9.

The adjoining closed landfill site has potential to generate landfill gas emissions. Condition 8.2.1.1 requires an environmental monitoring programme for the landfill to be submitted as part of the Conditioning Plan for the Coolcaslagh landfill site. This will include monitoring of landfill gas emissions as well as proposals for landfill gas

management at and in the vicinity of the landfill. Schedule E.5 specifies the nature of the landfill gas monitoring required to be undertaken as part of the Conditioning Plan. Schedule F.4 specifies the Emission Limits for landfill gas measured in any building on or adjacent to the facility which will apply to the landfill gas monitoring programme.

(9) Emissions to Sewer

The site will not be connected to a municipal foul sewer system. Foul water generated at the facility passes through a wastewater treatment unit prior to discharge to the perimeter drain (4.14.4). This system is proposed to be replaced with a foul water drainage system which will direct foul water generated at the transfer station (Condition 4.14.1) to an Effluent Storage Tank. Foul water will be removed from the storage tank and tankered offsite to the Killarney Sewage Treatment Works for treatment

(10) Emissions to Surface Water

Surface water runoff from areas of the transfer station which are not used for the storage or handling of waste will be collected in the surface water drainage system and will be discharged to a perimeter drain to the west of the site. Condition 4.13.3 requires proposals for the introduction of an oil interceptor(s) prior to discharge to the surface water drainage system.

The adjoining closed landfill site has potential to generate surface water runoff. This is required to be addressed in the proposed Conditioning Plan for the landfill required by Condition 8.2.1 which includes a requirement for monitoring proposals for surface water as well as proposals for surface water management. The Woodford River in the vicinity of the site is monitored as part of the Lough Leane Catchment Monitoring and Management System. The monitoring programme for the transfer station includes monitoring of the Woodford River upstream and downstream of the facility. In addition, Condition 9.3.3 requires proposals for biological monitoring of the Woodford River upstream and downstream of the facility.

(11) Noise Emissions

The facility is located in a rural area and the noise monitoring results indicated values which reflect rural background noise with the main sources of noise being the hopper, the reverse alarm associated with the conveyer system and on-site traffic. The implementation of the Conditioning Plan for the adjoining landfill will result in an increase in noise emissions, but only for a limited time, due to the delivery of capping material and the introduction of monitoring infrastructure. Annual noise monitoring is required at the locations outlined in Schedule E.2 while noise emission limits are set in Schedule F.3.

(12) Restoration and Aftercare

- **Transfer station**

In the event of permanent cessation of the transfer station, Kerry County Council proposes to move all plant and equipment from the site. Condition 8.1 requires a proposal for a Decommissioning and Aftercare plan to be submitted to the Agency for agreement.

- **Closed Coolcaslagh Landfill Site**

Condition 8.2 requires a Conditioning Plan to be submitted to the Agency for approval. This conditioning plan is required to include aspects relating to leachate management, landfill gas management, surface water management and a monitoring programme which includes surface water, groundwater, leachate, landfill gas and flora and fauna monitoring.

(13) Other Issues

Due to the presence of a worked out sand and gravel quarry adjoining the access road to the closed landfill the stability of the access road needs to be assessed. Condition 8.1.2.2(e) requires an assessment of the stability of this access road to be assessed to determine its suitability for use as an access road for the transport of restoration material to the landfill site. In the event that the access road is found to be unsuitable an alternative arrangement for access to the landfill will be required to be submitted to the Agency for agreement.

In addition, the stability of the perimeter embankments of the landfill site are required to be assessed (Condition 8.2.1.2(f)) as part of the Conditioning Plan for the landfill.

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

Waste Management – A Strategy for Kerry (December 1998)

The Waste Management Strategy for County Kerry has been approved by the elected members of Kerry County Council but has not been formally adopted. The Waste Management Strategy includes as a policy the closure of the Coolcaslagh landfill site and the construction of a transfer station at the site. The Regional waste management plan for Clare, Kerry and Limerick was recently adopted. This includes as a policy the closure of the Coolcaslagh Landfill site and the construction of a waste transfer station at the site.

(15) Submissions/Complaints

There was one submission in relation to this application received on 09/10/98 from a Mr. Sean Buckley of Coolwood Wildlife Sanctuary, Coolwood, Coolcaslagh, Killarney, Co Kerry.

Mr Buckley states that his business (a wildlife sanctuary children's zoo amenity area) has suffered in the past due to foul smells, flies, toxic smoke and fumes from incineration of waste materials at the dump. He states that the wildlife sanctuary have on occasion had to close the facility and summon the fire brigade. He stated that he felt that the covering of waste material of late with sand has resulted in some improvement in the situation. He also expressed concerns that seepage of leachate during heavy rainfall has in the past resulted in the serious pollution of the Woodford River. He mentioned the added pressure that the dump causes to the tourism in the area and the potential expansion of his site and he wishes to know the future plans for the dump site.

Response

The application for a waste licence applies to the landfill only insofar as it applies to the closure, followed by restoration and aftercare of the landfill. The only other activities to be carried on will be related to the running of the transfer station and the provisions made under Condition 6 specifies the nuisance control measures and monitoring of nuisances required to be undertaken in relation to the transfer station. Condition 6.9 requires the nuisance control programme to be implemented at the proposed composting area and the area reserved for the recovery of construction and demolition waste. Condition 5.15 prohibits the burning of waste within the facility boundary and this includes the transfer station and the now closed Coolcaslagh landfill site.

Condition 8.2.1.2 (c) requires a minimum of 500mm of inert material is placed on any exposed waste within the landfill and that all loose waste within and in the environs of the landfill is removed.

Condition 8.2.1 requires a Conditioning Plan to be submitted to the Agency for agreement for the Coolcaslagh Landfill site. This is required to include as a minimum proposals for the following :

- Restoration Plan.
- Leachate management.
- Landfill gas management.
- Surface water management.
- Environmental monitoring programme including: surface water, groundwater, leachate, landfill gas and flora and fauna. This will include monitoring of the Woodford River. Surface water monitoring associated with the operation of the transfer station includes monitoring of surface water quality and biological monitoring of the Woodford River upstream and downstream of the transfer station,

The future plan for the Coolcaslagh landfill site is for its restoration

Signed _____

Dated:

Tadhg O'Mahony (assisted by Maeve McHugh)
Inspector, Environmental Management & Planning

APPENDIX 1
LOCATION MAP & LAYOUT PLAN

Site Location: Figure A.1.1 of application

**Site Layout Plan: Drawing No. 99-017-02 D.1.1 Rev. D -Site
Layout Plan (revised 23.05.00) of information submitted to
the Agency 25 May 2000**