



**OFFICE OF
LICENSING &
GUIDANCE**

INSPECTORS REPORT ON A LICENCE APPLICATION

To:	SUB BOARD	
From:	PERNILLE HERMANSEN	- LICENSING UNIT
Date:	31/3/05	
RE:	APPLICATION FOR WASTE LICENCE FROM WALLACE RECYCLING LTD., LICENCE REGISTER 197-1	

Application Details

Type of facility:	Waste Transfer Station
Class(es) of Activity (P = principal activity):	3 rd Schedule: Classes 11 and 13 4 th Schedule: Classes 2, 3, 4, and 13
Quantity of waste managed per annum:	10,000 tonnes increasing to 50,000 tonnes over a five year period
Classes of Waste:	Household waste, commercial waste, industrial waste, construction and demolition waste.
Location of facility:	16/17 Mullingar Business Park, Mullingar, County Westmeath
Licence application received:	16/10/03
Third Party submissions:	Two
EIS Required:	Yes
Article 14 Notices sent:	22/04/04
Article 14 compliance date:	28/07/04
Article 16 Notices sent:	22/04/04
Article 16 Compliance date:	14/02/05
Site Inspection:	11/11//03 Site notice inspection non-compliant; Inspector Donal Howley 18/12/03 Site notice inspection compliant; Inspector PH 28/2/05 Site inspection; Inspector PH

1. Facility

Wallace Recycling Limited (WRL) has applied for a waste licence to upgrade the current waste permitted facility to a licensed waste transfer station at 16/17 Mullingar

Business Park, Mullingar County Westmeath. WRL has been operating a waste facility at the site since 2000 permitted by WCC. The site (about 1 acre) was purchased by Director Michael Wallace in 1995 prior to this the site was a greenfield site.

The proposed facility is located within an industrial estate approximately 1 km south west of Mullingar town. To the north of the site is Kilmurray Concrete factory, to the east an empty industrial plot, to the south three business units and to the west an industrial plot used to store concrete products. The closest residential dwelling is about 300 m north of the site. The river Brosna which flows into Lough Ennell passes approximately 1 km SW of the site.

The applicant has proposed the following waste acceptance and operational hours for the facility. The RD allows for these hours (Condition 1).

	Hours of Operation	Hours of Waste Acceptance
Monday to Saturday	08:00 to 18:00	8:30 to 17:30

Facility Development

The installation of infrastructure at the facility is controlled by Condition 3 of the recommended decision.

The facility comprises of a transfer station building with site offices located opposite the transfer station. The applicant has obtained a planning permission dated 30/09/02 from WCC to erect a new extension (approximately 551 m²) to the existing building (approximately 750 m²).

At the site inspection carried out on 28/02/05, it was observed that the transfer station building was not fully enclosed and ancillary items such as the trommel and stockpiles of waste (timber, plastics, end of life vehicles) were placed on unpaved ground. The RD (Condition 3) requires the following to be carried out:-

- ❑ the existing transfer station building shall be fully enclosed,
- ❑ an impermeable concrete surface shall be installed in all areas of the facility,
- ❑ all waste processing equipment shall be installed and fully enclosed within the waste transfer building,

and the following to be installed

- ❑ the proposed drainage network,
- ❑ a separate waste quarantine area and
- ❑ security fencing

prior to commencement of waste license activities.

2. Operational Description

The EIS details proposals to initially accept 10,000 tpa increasing to 50,000 tpa over a five year period with increments of 10,000 tpa each year. The waste types to be accepted at the facility consist of household waste, commercial waste, industrial waste and construction and demolition waste as detailed in Schedule A. The RD does not

allow for acceptance of hazardous waste such as end of life vehicles (Condition 1 and Schedule A).

The increase of 10,000 tpa every year over a five year period would not be easily manageable and difficult to enforce. In my opinion the handling/operational requirements for 50,000 tpa will be the same as for 10,000 tpa and particularly so in relation to BAT as published¹ Furthermore the handling of wastes are controlled by Conditions 6.13 and 8.1 which are not tonnage specific. To ensure that the facility meets BAT, the RD sets out the infrastructure required prior to commencement of waste licence activities (Condition 3). The RD requires that the applicant notify the Agency one month prior to the commencement of the scheduled activities (Condition 11). The RD allows the acceptance of 50,000 tpa (Schedule A).

The applicant proposes that most waste will be mechanically sorted and segregated via trommel and semi-automatic picking line. Sorted recyclable material will be pre-processed on site i.e. crushed, shredded, sieved and baled prior to being transported for off-site recovery. Non-recyclable waste will be stored on site prior to transport for disposal at licensed facilities.

At the moment, the applicant has placed three open skips by the weighbridge which is used as a civic amenity facility. The applicant has proposed that the civic amenity facility will close due to WCC building a civic amenity facility nearby. During the site inspection carried out on 28/02/05 it was observed that the public entered the site and carried household waste inside the waste transfer station building. The RD does not allow for a civic amenity facility at the site and restricts the public access to the facility (Condition 3).

3. Use of Resources

Condition 7 requires the applicant to carry out an audit of the energy efficiency of the site. Reduction of energy use and water usage as well as use of raw materials shall be identified and incorporated into the Schedule of Environmental Objectives and Targets.

4. Emissions

4.1 Air

There are no point sources for emission to air at the proposed facility. The applicant proposes to implement good house keeping measures to ensure odour nuisances are not an issue at the facility. The applicant has installed an odour suppression misting system that works by spraying a fine mist of water and surfactants reagents into the air. The RD requires further odour control at the facility (Condition 6). All waste for disposal shall be stored inside the waste transfer building in enclosed containers and be removed within 48 hours (on Bank Holiday weekends within 72 hours). Furthermore the applicant shall maintain all buildings processing putrescible waste at negative air pressure with ventilated gases being subject to treatment as specified by the Agency (Condition 6).

¹ DRAFT Reference Document on Best Available Techniques for the Waste Treatments Industries. EPA BAT Guidance Note for Waste Treatment

4.2 Emissions to Sewer

All trade and sanitary effluent and storm water from the facility are currently discharged to foul sewer. The effluent flows to the Clonmore sewage treatment plant from where the treated effluent is discharged into the River Brosna.

The applicant has proposed to discharge sanitary effluent and trade effluent from the transfer building to the foul sewer at the southern boundary of the facility. Storm water from the yard and roof buildings is proposed to be discharged to the sewer at the northern boundary of the facility. The proposal also includes the installation of two new oil interceptors in addition to the existing oil interceptor.

The proposed drainage network makes it possible to separate storm water from trade and sanitary effluent in the future (if requested by WCC) except that the applicant has proposed to discharge trade effluent and storm water run-off from the existing wash bay to the northern boundary (future storm water run-off drainage network). The RD allows the drainage network to be installed as proposed by the applicant except that trade effluent and storm water run-off from the wash bay shall be discharged to the foul sewer (Condition 3).

A Section 52 consent has been obtained from Westmeath County Council. Consent conditions and sanitary authority charges requested by WCC have been added to the RD (Condition 5). The monitoring requirements are detailed in Schedule C. The emission limit values for discharge to sewer are set in Schedule B.

4.3 Emissions to ground/groundwater:

The applicant states that the underlying rock consists of Calp limestones and shales and the soil overburden parent material consists of glacial tills of unspecified depths. There are no published aquifer maps of the solid geology of County Westmeath but the applicant gives a tentative groundwater resource protection code assigned to the area near the facility as LI/M (Locally important aquifer moderately vulnerable to contamination).

Condition 5 of the RD specifies that there shall be no direct emission to groundwater. Furthermore the RD requires that all areas of the facility shall be impermeable concrete surfaces (Condition 3). The proposed fuel storage area shall be bunded as per Condition 3 of the RD.

4.4 Noise:

The applicant has monitored noise emissions at four site boundary locations and three locations outside the site boundary. The monitoring results for site boundary locations (measured twice during the day time) exceed the noise emission limit value set in the RD (Schedule B). The highest value is measured at N3 (L_{Aeq} 74.5 dB(A)) which is at the southeast rear corner of the site. At the monitoring locations outside the facility boundary during the first monitoring interval the emission limit value is only slightly exceeded at one monitoring location (N7: L_{Aeq} 56.5 dB(A)). During the second monitoring interval for the locations outside the site boundary the result slightly exceed the emission limit value set in the RD (57.5 to 58.1 dB(A)).

The applicant states that passing traffic and activities on the Kilmurray Concrete site as well as other surrounding commercial units contribute to the noise levels in the vicinity of the proposed facility. The applicant concludes that the noise levels from the existing operations and activities carried out at the proposed facility do not cause nuisance condition beyond the site boundary.

Condition 5 requires that the applicant shall ensure that emissions do not result in significant impairment of and or significant interference with amenities or the environment beyond the facility. Furthermore the RD requires that noise emissions measured at noise sensitive locations shall not exceed the limit value(s) and that there shall be no clearly audible tonal component or impulsive component in the noise emissions from the activity at the noise sensitive locations (Condition 4 and Schedule B). Condition 6 and Schedule C set the requirements for noise monitoring. The noise emission limit values to be measured at any noise sensitive location are set in Schedule B.

4.5 Nuisance:

Potential nuisances at the facility are controlled by Condition 6 of the RD.

Dust monitoring carried out at the proposed facility at three boundary site locations show that all monitoring results are below the dust deposition rate set in the RD (the highest measured dust deposition level was 291.66 mg/m²/day).

Schedule B sets out the dust deposition rates and Schedule C list the monitoring requirements for dust monitoring.

5. Cultural Heritage, Habitats & Protected Species

The applicant states that there are no recorded archaeological finds or features on the site. The applicant details that the site is not covered by any designations for conservation. According to the applicant there are four designated sites of nature conservation interest within 5 km of the site (3 pNHA and 1 pNHA/pSPA). The Royal Canal (pNHA) is closest to the proposed site (about 0.4 km). It is not expected that there will be any impacts arising on the sites designated for conservation from the development of the proposed facility.

6. Waste Management Plan

The waste management plan for the Midlands region has been considered during the assessment of this application for a waste licence.

7. Environmental Impact Statement

I have examined and assessed the EIS and am satisfied that it complies with the EIA and Waste Licensing Regulations as per Article 14 letter of acknowledgement.

8. Compliance with Directives/Regulations

The facility does not fall under the scope of the IPPC directive or the Landfill 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 Wallace Recycling Limited has never been convicted of any offence under the WMA, 1996.

Technical Competence & Site Management

The Managing Director of the facility is Mr. Michael Wallace. The facility employs 10 staff. The applicant states that staff will undergo a series of internal environmental awareness raising workshops as part of the company's commitment to continued environmental improvement and a full training record will be kept for each permanent staff member.

Financial Provision

The audited accounts for 2002 and 2001 were supplied with the application. The applicant states that funds have been secured from ACC Bank, Mullingar for the further development of the facility. Also WRL has acquired bonds with ACC Bank, Mullingar to cover any liabilities incurred in carrying on the proposed waste activities. Condition 12 of the RD requires the applicant to provide an annual statement detailing the measures in place in relation to the underwriting of costs for remedial actions following anticipated events or accidents/incidents as may be associated with the carrying on of the activity.

10. Submissions

There were two submissions made in relation to this application both from Mr Thomas J. Wright, M.D., Writech Industrial Services Ltd. Mullingar Business Park, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath received on 5/9/04. The first submission contains a cover letter (details discussed below). The second submission contains a cover letter with the same wording as the first submission and attachments which were not included in the first submission. The issues detailed in the submissions are in relation to nuisances from the facility and facility infrastructure.

Nuisances

The observed nuisances are: odour nuisances affecting the work of his employees, litter protruding on to his property, and evidence of rodents nesting on his property.

Comment: Condition 5 of the RD requires that the activities shall be carried out in manner such that emissions including odours do not result in significant impairment of and/or significant interference with amenities or the environment beyond the facility boundary. The licence also requires that litter and odour control is applied to control possible litter and odour nuisances from the facility (Condition 6). In relation to vermin nuisances the applicant is required to submit a proposal for agreement by the Agency for the control and eradication of vermin and fly infestations at the facility (Condition 6).

Facility Infrastructure

Mr. Wright states that he does not like the exterior of the facility. In addition Mr. Wright points out that WRL is not compliant with the current planning restriction detailing that there should be at least 2 m safe-way/clear-way between his boundary fence and WRL as well as a perimeter wall between his property and WRL to stop any further pollution.

Comment: Condition 3 requires the applicant to install and maintain security and stockproof fencing and gates. In relation to the safe-way/clear-way this is an issue for the Planning Authority and outside the remit of the Agency.

11. Charges

The RD requires that the applicant shall pay an annual contribution of €11,440.00 (Condition 12).

12. Recommendation

I recommend that a licence be granted subject to the conditions set out in the attached RD and for the reasons as drafted.

In making the recommendation for a waste licence I have taken into account all information submitted as part of the application and the submissions.

I am satisfied, on the basis of the information available, that the waste activity, or activities, licensed hereunder will comply with the requirements of Section 40(4) of the Waste Management Acts, 1996-2003.

Signed

Pernille Hermansen
Inspector
Office of Licensing and Guidance

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.