
INSPECTORS REPORT
WASTE LICENCE REGISTER NUMBER 97-1

(1) Summary:

Swacliffe Ltd. operate a non-hazardous waste transfer station on Sheriff Street, Dublin 1. The facility at Sheriff Street is currently operational although unauthorised. There is no infrastructure (weighbridge, transfer station building etc.) in place at the facility at present. To this end the application has been treated by the inspector as one for a new facility. Hence, under the terms of the draft proposed decision, no waste activities are to be carried on at the facility until the specified infrastructure is in place. The amount of waste accepted at the site currently is estimated at 45,000 tonnes per annum and the maximum permitted in the draft proposed decision is 50,000 tonnes per annum.

Name of Applicant	Swacliff Ltd.
Facility Name(s)	Swacliff Ltd., trading as Dublin Waste.
Quantity of waste (tpa)	50,000
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Required	Yes, included as a stand-alone document with the application
Planning Permission Status and Date Granted	Granted by An Bord Pleanala on 24/12/99 for a limited period of five years.
Number of Submissions Received	One
INSPECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION	The Proposed Decision as recommended by the Inspector and submitted to the Board be approved.

(2) Activity Summary

Class Description:

The applicant describes the class of activity applied for as follows:

Third Schedule:

Class 13, principal activity:

All wastes are temporarily stored at the site prior to transfer. As the waste is not produced at the site, storage at the site falls within this category.

Fourth Schedule:

The applicant initially applied and advertised for the carrying on of recovery activities at the facility. However, when asked to pay the fee applicable (£5,000) for the recovery of waste under an Article 14(2)(b)(ii) notice of 24th May 1999 the applicant stated in the Article 14 (2)(b)(ii) reply, dated 23rd June 1999, that “*The company would prefer to cease all recovery of waste at the facility and amend their licence application rather than pay this additional fee*”. The company subsequently withdrew the application for recovery activities in its letter of 6th August 1999. The inspector notes that this is in direct conflict with government policy on waste management as presented in “Changing Our Ways”. In this instance the draft proposed decision cannot require recovery activities to be carried on at the facility as the fee applicable was not paid. For this reason the draft proposed decision is for a disposal activity only.

(3) Facility Location

Appendix I contains a Location Map showing Swalcliff Ltd.

The site is located on Sheriff Street Upper in Dublin 1. Swalcliff Ltd. moved from their previous transfer station on Mayor Street under a Compulsory Purchase Order to allow the construction of the Irish Financial Services Centre. The site on Sheriff Street was chosen by the applicant for relocation from Mayor Street as it was previously operated as a transfer station. The area is zoned for industrial and mixed use premises and as such there is little impact on residential areas.

(4) Waste Types and Quantities

Total quantities and types of wastes accepted by the facility are shown below.

Table 4.1

YEAR	NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE (tpa)	HAZARDOUS WASTE (tpa)	TOTAL ANNUAL QUANTITY OF WASTE (tpa)
1999	40,000	0	40,000
2000	45,000	0	45,000
2001	50,000	0	50,000

The facility accepts commercial waste and construction and demolition waste in approximately equal quantities. The EIS submitted with the application refers to the site handling a maximum of 50,000 tonnes per annum. Schedule H gives the maximum annual tonnages of each waste type to be accepted at the facility.

(5) Facility Operation/Management
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- **Waste Handling**

There is no infrastructure in place at the facility currently and the waste is taken in and stockpiled in the open air. As the weighbridge is not yet in place, waste quantities coming onto the site are estimated.

The contents of waste skips arriving at the facility will be tipped into one of two bunkers in the main building. One bunker will be for construction and demolition waste and the other will be for light waste (waste paper and cardboard). A mobile grab will be used to segregate the waste. A 40-foot open trailer will be located between the two bunkers into which the grab will deposit construction and demolition waste for transportation to landfill. The commercial/light waste will be compacted for disposal off-site.

Waste inspection and quarantine areas are covered under Conditions 4.7 and 5.4 of the draft proposed decision.

- **Waste Acceptance Procedures**

Vehicles entering the facility are to be directed to the Waste Transfer Shed by a member of staff. Wastes delivered to the site are to be unloaded in the Waste Transfer Shed and sorted into the following groups: waste metals, timber waste, light waste and construction and demolition waste. It is stated in the application that waste will be inspected by the driver at the collection point and that if unsuitable it will not be collected. It will also be inspected at the weighbridge before tipping. Condition 5.3 of the draft proposed decision requires the applicant to submit detailed waste acceptance procedures.

- **Nuisance Control**

Odour

The submission made with regard to this site relates to odour. On foot of complaints from the submitter, Dublin Corporation served a notice under the Local Government (Sanitary Services) Acts 1878-1964 on 8th November 1999 on Mr Moriarty (owner of Swalcliff Ltd.) with regard to this site. The duration of this notice is six months (i.e. until 8th May 2000) and the terms of the notice are that the storage of organic matter including domestic refuse and the storage of other wastes against the walls of the neighbouring properties was to be terminated within seven days of the date of the notice. The Environmental Health Officer in Dublin Corporation has advised that she has inspected the premises on an almost weekly basis since the notice was issued and that the site was cleaned up within the required seven day period. The problem with odours arose due to the fact that the applicant is operating without the correct

infrastructure in place and putrescible waste from the commercial sector was being held outside. The length of time the waste was kept on site may also be a factor.

The Dublin Corporation EHO has also stated that the presence of food waste from hotels causes significant odour and flies problems at the facility currently. Food waste was not included in the list of wastes applied for acceptance at this facility in the application. This waste type will not be permitted at the facility under the terms of the draft proposed decision.

Dust

Dust monitoring is required to be carried out within three months of the date of grant of the licence as the level of activity will increase and construction work will be underway. Dampening down of the concrete surface will be undertaken as required under Condition 6.7.1.

Fire

A mains water supply is available on site. A risk assessment and fire water retention proposal is to be submitted under Condition 10.5 within nine months of the date of grant of the licence.

Litter

The incidents of litter will be reduced by the fact that all wastes are to be handled in an enclosed Waste Transfer Building. Condition 6.4 stipulates that loose litter accumulating within the facility be collected and disposed of on a daily basis.

Traffic

Sheriff Street Upper is defined in the EIS as a “moderately busy” road. Overall projected increases due to the traffic using this site are calculated to be 7.64% based on hourly projected increases. As this is deemed to be significant, a Traffic Management Plan is required to be submitted under Condition 6.9 of the Proposed Decision. This plan is to include the likelihood of delays in accessing the site and an assessment of other potential traffic related problems likely to occur at the site. The site entrance will be enlarged under Condition 4.4.1 and a member of staff will be responsible for ensuring that there is no traffic build up on Sheriff Street. The inspector was informed by the Dublin Corporation Planner for this area that the traffic management aspect of the Environmental Impact Statement was assessed by the traffic section of Dublin Corporation and by the traffic section of An Bord Pleanala with regard to the planning aspects of the facility.

Vermin

Vermin will be controlled under Condition 6.8 of the draft proposed decision.

- **Hours of Operation**

8:00am to 6:00pm Monday to Friday and 8am to 1:00pm on Saturday. The facility shall be closed on Bank holidays and Sundays unless the agreement of the Agency is obtained.

(6) Facility Design

Security: The site is surrounded by walls of height 13.7m (approx.). The entrance gates are locked outside of business hours. There is a night-time security guard and guard dogs in addition to 24 hour CCTV monitoring.

Buildings and Infrastructure:

The site will be a concrete hardstanding area and one large waste transfer building of area 932m² in which there will be two bunkers into which waste will be tipped. There will also be a compactor and a shredder in this building. An office building on the site is to be demolished and a new one will be put in its place. A temporary office is to be put in place in the interim under Condition 4.5.

A weighbridge and vehicle cleaning facilities are to be installed under Conditions 4.8 and 4.10.3 respectively.

Fuel Storage: Fuel storage is proposed in an enclosed, bunded area beside the office building (see Condition 4.11).

(7) Decommissioning and Aftercare

There are no plans for decommissioning and aftercare at this facility at present. However, Condition 8.1 requires that a proposal for a Decommissioning and Aftercare Plan for the facility be submitted within twelve months of the date of grant of the licence.

(8) Emissions to Air

Potential air emissions from the site arise as dust and odour. When the waste transfer building is constructed, waste will be handled inside. Condition 7.3 requires that dust and odour do not cause a nuisance.

(9) Emissions to Groundwater

There are no direct emissions to groundwater.

(10) Noise Emissions

Noise monitoring was carried out at four locations on the boundary of the site prior to its current use as a waste transfer station. LAeq varied from 47.2 to 51.1 dBA (7am to 7pm). The proposed decision stipulates that noise monitoring must be carried out on an annual basis. Emission limits and conditions have been set in Schedule G.3 and Condition 7.1 of the draft proposed decision.

(11) Emissions to Sewer

Emissions to sewer comprise of vehicle wash water and surface runoff from the site hardstanding areas in addition to domestic sewage from the offices. Drainage from the site discharges to a Dublin Corporation combined sewer on Sheriff Street. Emission limits have been set by Dublin Corporation and are set out in Schedule G.1 and Condition 7.6 of the draft proposed decision.

(12) Emissions to Surface Waters

There are no emissions to surface waters.

(13) Other Significant Environmental Impacts of the Development

None.

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

Waste Management Plan for the Dublin Region adopted by Dublin City Council on 7th December 1998.

(15) Financial Provisions

Financial information submitted with the application showed no information that would prevent the Agency for proceeding to proposed decision stage with this application.

(16) Submissions/Complaints/Other Issues

One valid submission was received on 17th November 1999 with regard to this application from Gypsum Industries, Kingscourt, Co. Cavan.

This company owns the building immediately adjacent to the facility in question. The submission complains about odour and pests and states that Dublin Corporation served an Abatement Order on the company.

The two points which the submission makes are as follows:

1. The adverse impact of the use of the site as a waste transfer station
2. The unsuitability of the site for handling putrescible waste.

Inspectors Response:

1. *The area is zoned for industrial and mixed use premises. There is a similar, larger activity located directly across the road from this facility for which a waste licence is also currently being processed by the Agency.*
2. *Organic matter (putrescible waste) shall only be stored in sealed enclosed containers at the site. The conditions of the draft proposed decision ensure that emissions will be adequate controlled.*
3. *Dublin Corporation did not serve an Abatement Order on the company but rather served a notice on the company as described in section 5 of this report.*

Other issues

During a site inspection at Tom Munnely's unauthorised landfill site in Pollardstown, The Curragh, Co. Kildare, on 20th October 1999, an Agency Inspector was informed by a lorry driver that the waste in his lorry was from Dublin Waste which is the trade name under which Swalcliff Ltd. operate.

Inspectors Comment

The conditions of the draft proposed decision ensure that adequate records are made of the destinations of each waste load taken from the facility.

Signed _____
Sara Kennelly

Dated: _____

APPENDIX I

Location Map showing Swalcliff Ltd. (not to scale)