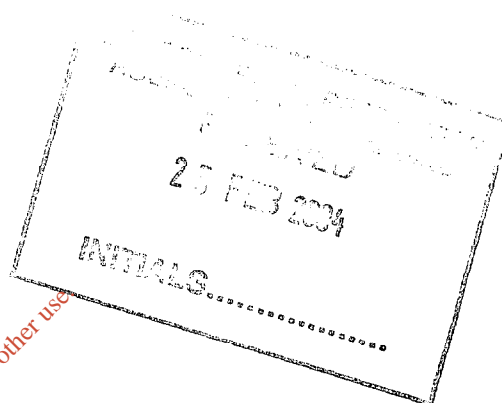


Section G

Decommissioning and Aftercare



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Section G – Decommissioning and Aftercare

Section G.1 – Decommissioning

The STI Model 2000 waste processing system is to be separately housed in both industrial units, taking up approximately 25% of the total floor area. The unit does not require any special installation features or material changes to the building envelope or to the existing utilities at 420 Beech Road, much like the existing facility. The STI Model 2000 consists of modular components, each of which have a specific entity and are found in many industrial processes.

The specific components of the STI Model 2000 are as follows:

1. Weighing device, bin lift and shredder: This is where weighing and mechanical destruction of the waste takes place. These items are floor-mounted and secured together. To decommission these items would require the shredder to be decontaminated and dismantled by removing the bolts and couplings.
2. The STI Model 2000 is the main process point and is an encapsulated auger where steam is introduced to the waste stream for disinfection. To decontaminate this unit sodium hypochlorite will be passed through the unit after waste processing has ceased. The unit can then be safely removed by truck from site.
3. Filtration consists of ducting to a HEPA filter and Carbon Filter. The membranes from the HEPA filter and the Activated Carbon can be removed and processed as waste as a decommissioning requirement, with both filter vessels decontaminated before removal.
4. The bin wash system is fully self-contained and following use can be decommissioned in line with the manufacturer's procedures. This item is widely used in process industries and can be utilised again.

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5. Support items such as electric motors, central heating boilers and programmable logic controls (PLC's) technology are all industry standards and easily removed.

Removal, following decontamination and cleaning of the above components, would take approximately six weeks as a project. In the event of a decision to decommission, no waste streams would be taken on-site and all existing materials would be processed.

It should be noted that the existing Joint Waste Management Board contract is a ten year duration which gives very strong financial support to the project. In the unlikely event that any component of the plant would require decommissioning during its lifetime, as distinct from replacement as part of maintenance, any wastes will be dealt with by alternative routes if necessary.

Decommissioning will not result in any short term or long term effects on the environment.

The following actions will be carried out as regards decommissioning and aftercare:

1. All residues will be processed through the facility including disposable workware, cleaning materials (non-chemical) and any packaging. The HEPA filters, activated carbon and quality testing materials will be sent for incineration or through an appropriate alternative technology system.
2. All treated waste will be conveyed by Flexible Intermediate Bulk Container (FIBC) to the STI roll on/off skips for final disposal.
3. All equipment will be sprayed with a branded disinfection solution or will be steam cleaned under management supervision to the required standards.
4. Loose debris will be placed in a rubbish container for disposal. This will not include any items except standard commercial wastes.

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5. All walls, drains and storage areas will be cleaned as above.
6. All sanitary systems will be cleaned by an approved contractor.
7. All gas lines will be shut down.
8. All electrical power to equipment will be shut off.
9. Any lubricants will be disposed of by an approved contractor.

As part of the technology licence between the process designers, Sterile Technologies Inc, and the applicant company, Sterile Technologies Ireland Ltd, there is a requirement that any decommissioning occurs only under the supervision and control of Sterile Technologies Inc. This is to also protect patent rights. This will then be signed off as complete.

In relation to the site, the licence holder will carry out a post decommissioning review of the internal drainage, using approved competent contractors. All information will be made available to the Agency once received.

STI will also advise the Local Authority of the intention to cease operations.

Section G.2 – Aftercare

Once post decommissioning standards have been confirmed, an aftercare plan (if necessary) will be drawn up.