167-1 office

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RE: EPA Oral Hearing - Carranstown Incinerator

Dear Ms. Russell.

I refer to your letter, dated 28th February, in relation to the oral hearing to be held into objections to the proposed waste licence in respect of the Indaver Ireland (Branch of Indaver NV) waste incineration facility at Carranstown.

As you are probably aware, the Agency has not made a final decision in relation to this waste licence application and has decided to hold an oral hearing into the objections to the proposed decision. This hearing will provide the objectors with an opportunity to outline their objections in an open, public forum. All parties to the hearing can bring their concerns, information and any evidence that supports their objections to the attention of the chairperson of the hearing, who is required to make a report on the hearing and recommendations to the Board of the Agency. The Board of the Agency will in due course, and following receipt of the report and recommendations, make a final decision. As the licensing of such facilities is a quasi-judicial function of the Agency it would be inappropriate for any member of the Board of the Agency to participate at the hearing. The report and recommendations of the chairperson of the hearing, together with the objections and submissions received from all parties, will ensure that the Board of the Agency is fully informed when making its final decision.

Your letter goes on to request a number of reports, plans, procedures and other documentation. The application file, which includes the Environmental Impact Statement, totals 11 lever arch files of documents. The documentation includes A4 pages plus coloured maps and drawings. It is estimated that the cost of copying these documents would be of the order of €700. If you require a full copy of the application arrangements can be made to have it copied on payment of the costs involved. However, since the files are freely available for inspection at our offices in Wexford during office hours, I recommend that you examine the files there and identify those parts of the application that you require in order to reduce your costs.

Dr. Padraic Larkin

Director, Office of Licensing and Guidance.