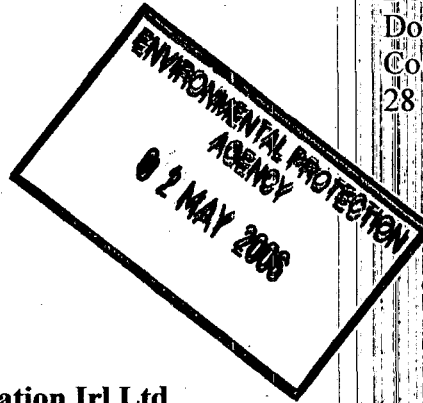


EPA Headquarters
PO Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co Wexford

05j(3)
Donoughmore
Donard
Co Wicklow
28 April 06



Your Ref: 204-1 Brownfield Restoration Irl Ltd

Re: Proposed Decision on an application for a Waste Licence at Whitestown Lower, Co Wicklow.

Dear Sirs

We wish to make a submission with regard to the above proposed decision and we enclose the appropriate fee.

Firstly we want to congratulate the agency on the proposed decision, and we write in support of it. However there are some areas of concern to us and we would ask you to take them on board in making your final decision.

1. Condition 1: Scope 1.10

The specified period of the licence is 5 years. No start date is mentioned. It is imperative that an immediate start date be specified.

2. Lagoons

We do not think that open lagoons are acceptable. Mobile leachate holding tanks should be specified for use at Whitestown, as at the Roadstone site.

3. Composting Unit and other Plant

Noise in a valley location, as the Whitestown site is, can be clearly heard over a wide distance. As large volumes of material will be required to feed the composter, some limitation on its operational hours must be specified. It should also be specified that the composting unit together with all other plant brought onto the site must be removed off site on completion of the remediation.

4. Recycling/ Recovery Buildings

While we realise there have to be buildings to facilitate the recycling/recovery of materials on site, the nature of the buildings should be temporary or better still mobile. If the applicants intend to continue to operate a recycling transfer station on this site when the clean up is finished, then that will be a whole new application at that time. **There is no reason whatsoever that this licence should be looking to facilitate possible future commercial development at Whitestown.**

5. Operational Hours

Bearing in mind the point raised at 3 above, the proposed operational hours are excessive. Living in this area as we have done for over 30 years, we have been subjected to reversing bleeps and machinery motor noise from the illegal operation which was carried on at this site for many years, together with those associated with its legitimate business of quarrying. The prospect of legitimate constant noise emanating from this site from 07.30-19.30 Mon – Fri and 08.00 - 16.00 on Sat is not encouraging and leaves very little time for residents to have any kind of respite from such noise, from which there is no escape unless one remains indoors with the windows closed. **There is no mention in the proposed licence of Bank Holidays. These must be treated as Sundays and excluded from hours of business activity, and we suggest a reduction in operational hours as follows: Mon-Fri 08.00 - 18.00 (except Bank Holidays), Sat 08-13.00.**

6. Monitoring

Given the murky history of the Whitestown site and the uncertainty regarding the actual volume of illegally dumped waste there, we believe a fulltime EPA technical expert should be appointed to be present during normal operational hours at the site for the duration of the remediation process.

7. Reporting: Condition 11: 11.2 & 11.3

We suggest substituting '*immediately*' for '*as soon as practicable*'. Otherwise any air or water pollution could have travelled a considerable distance before the incident is reported. Since everyone now carries a mobile phone, there is no reason why the agency could not be informed immediately if an incident should occur.

In conclusion, we wish to express our thanks to all involved in the preparation of the proposed licence as we believe the local environment will at last be cleaned up and revert to its original state, at which time the landowner will be at liberty to apply through the normal channels for any future use of the site.

In the event that the applicants Brownfield Restoration Irl Ltd do not appeal the proposed decision, we would respectfully request that our fee be returned.

Yours Sincerely

Emer and Russ Bailey