



Eastern Regional Fisheries Board

Bord Iascaigh Réigiúnach an Oirthir



Fisheries Ireland
Our Natural Heritage

Catherine O'Keefe Programme Officer Office of Licensing and Guidance EPA HQ, Johnstown Castle Estate, Co. Wexford.

Your Reference – W0231-01 Our Reference – BB/DD/270

July 17th, 2006



Re: Proposed Fingal Landfill – lands at Tooman / Nevitt, North Co. Dublin.

Dear Miss O'Keefe,

Please find the Board's comments outlined below regarding the above waste licence application:

- As correctly identified in the EIS, the Corduff River system (including surface water streams in the Rowans Little / Nevitt area) is salmonid. This system supports significant local populations of both resident Brown trout and migratory Sea trout (both Salmo trutta). Preventing any polluting matter from entering this important river system must be a key component of any planning application in this area.
- As with any development, all measures necessary should be taken to ensure comprehensive protection of local aquatic ecological integrity, in the first place by complete impact avoidance and only as a secondary approach through mitigation by reduction and remedy. Only clean, uncontaminated surface waters must be permitted to discharge to the surface water network in the area so that the ecological integrity of the system is protected.
- As outlined in EIS Section 3.9.4, ground preparation and associated construction works, including large-scale topographic alteration, importation of waste materials and the creation of roads and buildings (as proposed), have significant potential to cause the release of sediments and various pollutants into surrounding watercourses. Pollution of the adjacent freshwaters from poor on-site construction practices could have a significantly negative impact on the fauna and flora of this surface water system. A comprehensive and integrated approach for achieving stream

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protection during construction and operation (in line with international best practice) should be implemented (as in EIS Section 3.9.5).

- Best available technology (BAT) mitigation measures should be implemented to ensure protection of the surface water and ground water system during both construction and operational programmes. The implementation of a SUDS system (as advocated in the Greater Dublin Strategic Drainage Study) on the site is highly desirable both in the short and long term. The maintenance of any attenuation structures (e.g. desilting operations)-must not result in the release of contaminated water to the surface water network. Again and in all cases, it is essential that only clean and uncontaminated surface water should be discharged from the landfill site to the local surface water network. In relation to EIS Section 3.9.5.1, it must be highlighted that the release of any leachate into the local surface and groundwater system is unacceptable and must not be permitted to happen under any circumstances.
- On-site attenuation ponds should allow for the settlement of fine/particulate materials. Online monitoring and telemetry must provide failsafe and alarm-enabled mechanisms on both foul and surface water discharges in order to protect receiving waters. Class I petrol / oil interception, silt and grit trapping and hydro-brake controls should be in place on surface water discharges to protect receiving freshwaters. Silt fencing (or similar operation) of discharge streams should also be implemented during the construction phase.
- The discharge of clean surface waters to the Corduff River system and any construction works associated with the proposed development must in no way impact on the passage of salmonids thereby contravening Section 173 of the Fisheries (Consolidation) Act 1959, as amended.
- It is recommended that the "Requirements for the Protection of Fisheries Habitat during Construction and Development Works at River Sites" (http://www.fishingireland.net/erfb/protect.htm) be consulted when undertaking any works on this site, particularly in the vicinity of surface water features. In-stream works can only be carried out during the period May to September of each year. All in-stream and riparian works (e.g. culverting for the access road) must first be submitted to the ERFB in the form of a proposal and method statement for agreement in advance of initiation. Once agreed, the Board should be informed at least 3-4 weeks in advance of any work to be carried out during channel alterations of any kind. Bankside and riparian works should be designed and implemented in an ecologically sound and sustainable way involving consultation with the ERFB.





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- Although beyond the remit of this authority, it must be highlighted that it is
 essential that local infrastructural capacity is available to cope with
 increased surface and foul water generated by the proposed development
 in order to protect the ecological integrity of any receiving aquatic
 environment.
- The commitment to preservation of a 10m wide riparian corridor or 'leave strip' is very important to the protection of local aquatic ecological integrity (and general biological diversity) and should be implemented in full as proposed in EIS Section 3.9
- The potentially highly polluting nature of the wastewaters generated at this facility highlights the need for implementation of comprehensive foul and surface water management measures in order to safeguard the ecological integrity of local surface waters. Under no circumstances should there exist the possibility of cross-contamination of the two waste water streams, neither should there be any scope for foul water entry to the local surface water system.
- EIS Section 3.9.5.4 the engineering of a new channel section should only be attempted in dry conditions (i.e. offline from the surface water network) with prior ERFB design consultation and supervision, particularly when the channel is being connected to the existing stream network. The compensatory measures as proposed in EIS Section 3.9.5.8 will potentially re-open valuable spawning and nursery habitat upstream of the M1 and improve currently degraded habitats for salmonid species. The ERFB must be consulted on the design detail of any such measures and will supervise implementation should the development proceed.
- As outlined in EIS Section 3.9.5.7, specific monitoring programmes should be implemented in both the short and long term to cover a comprehensive range of aquatic ecological elements including fish, macroinvertebtrates, sediments, water.
- It is respectfully highlighted that appropriate environmental protection measures are the responsibility of the developer and contractor involved, and all works are subject to the provision of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977 (as amended) and the Fisheries (Consolidation) Act 1959 (as amended).

Yours faithfully

Pat Doherty

Acting Chief Executive Officer