



OFFICE OF LICENSING & GUIDANCE

INSPECTORS REPORT ON A LICENCE APPLICATION

To:	Directors	
From:	Niamh O' Donoghue	- LICENSING UNIT
Date:	3 rd July 2006	
RE:	Application for a waste licence review from Oynx Ireland Limited, Licence Register 177-3	

Application Details

Type of facility:	Materials Recovery Facility
Class(es) of Activity (P = principal activity):	3 rd Schedule: 11, 12 (P), and 13 4 th Schedule: 2, 3, 4 and 13
Quantity of waste managed per annum:	80,000 tonnes
Classes of Waste:	Household waste, construction & demolition waste, industrial & commercial wastes
Location of facility:	Carrignard, Six Cross Roads Business Park, Waterford City, Co. Waterford
Licence application received:	14 th March 2006
Third Party submissions:	None
EIS Required:	Yes
Article 13 Compliant	Yes
Article 14 Notices sent:	None
Article 14 compliance date:	14 th March 2006
Site Inspection:	30 th May 2006

Facility

Oynx Ireland Ltd has operated a materials recovery facility at the above location since December 2000 initially under permit from Waterford Corporation. Its first licence was issued in November 2003 (177-1) allowing a maximum of 25,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) of waste acceptance. A reviewed licence was issued in February 2006 (177-2) allowing an increase in volume to 31,250 tpa. Due to the closure of the local authority landfill this tonnage limit is no longer sufficient and the company again applied for a review in March 2006 to increase the volume of waste accepted to initially 55,000 tpa with a final capacity of 80,000 tpa following further development of the site. Planning permission for the facility development to deal with this increased capacity has not yet been applied for and the RD does not allow the exceedence of the 55,000 tpa capacity without the construction of additional infrastructure to the satisfaction and agreement of the Agency. The applicant has not applied for any new classes of activity in the review or changes to the hours of operation or waste acceptance.

The facility covers a 2.5-acre site within the business park. Infrastructure consists of a waste transfer building, recyclables storage building, offices, a truck wash, weighbridge, cardboard baler and two

bunded fuel storage areas (1.5m³ diesel tank, and three 1.95m³ oil tanks). Future development is likely to consist of two extra bays at one end of the waste transfer building. There is a Waterford City and County composting plant adjacent to the facility, which Oynx Ireland operates on behalf of the Councils. It is however, a separate entity.

Operational Description

The applicant proposes to increase waste acceptance initially to 55,000 tpa, which is the capacity of the existing infrastructure. Following site development the annual quantity of waste accepted is proposed to increase to 80,000 tpa consisting of household waste (25,000 tonnes), commercial (48,500 tonnes), construction and demolition (5,000 tonnes) and industrial (1,500 tonnes).

Waste streams recycled at the facility are cardboard, metal, timber, paper, glass, rubble and plastic. Once sufficient quantities are accumulated they are transferred to a recycling facility. Once waste deposited on the transfer-building floor has been deemed non-recyclable it is pushed into a stockpile to await transfer to landfill.

Use of Resources

- Fuel: The facility consumes approximately 18m³ fuel oil and 4.7m³ engine and hydraulic oil annually.
- Electricity: Consumption in 2005 was 107,617kWh principally for the operation of the baler and lighting. Energy efficiency has been assessed on site and the purchase of a new energy efficient baler is planned for 2006.
- Water: Water use is mainly associated with floor wash down, the odour abatement system and hygiene.

The increased volume throughput proposed will result in an increased use of resources. The RD requires resource and energy efficiency assessments.

Emissions

Air

There are no major emission points to air at the facility. The increase in odour, noise and dust due to the proposed increase in capacity is not expected to be significant. The facility waste streams are a mixture of commercial and residual household waste. The residual waste putrescible fraction is small due to the three-bin collection system in Waterford City and County. This source segregates dry recyclable waste and organic waste. Commercial waste is largely non-putrescible. All loads are inspected on arrival and any putrescible loads are bulk loaded immediately. An odour neutralising system is in place in the transfer building, which is operated manually if extra odour control is considered necessary. Two complaints in relation to odour have been received by the facility in the last two years both relate to clients leaving their bins containing putrescible waste for longer than advised before requesting collection. Subsequently, an alternative collection arrangement was put in place.

Dust emissions from the facility arise largely from hardstanding areas in dry weather. Licence No. 177-1 set a limit at 350 mg/m²/day for dust monitored at three points. Four dust monitoring studies have been carried out to date. Results show acceptable levels apart from one location. Elevated levels at this point were attributed to the composting facility adjacent to the location. The RD does not propose to alter dust-monitoring requirements and reinstates the deposition limit.

The existing licence set noise limits at the boundary in accordance with Agency guidelines with annual monitoring. The chief noise source on site is traffic movement. Noise surveys conducted by the company have found exceedence of specified limits. This was attributed to off site as well as on site activities. The facility is located adjacent to the new ring road around Waterford and passing traffic is the dominant noise source in the area. The site development will result in increased noise levels associated with the increased traffic volume, these are not considered to be significant. The RD proposes limits at noise sensitive locations in accordance with Agency guidelines.

Nuisance:

Litter and vermin have not to date caused a nuisance at the facility and operational controls are in place. Nuisance control in the RD is in accordance with the existing licence.

Emissions to Sewer

Process effluent from the truck and skip washing, transfer station floor and domestic effluent is directed via a grit trap and oil interceptor to a Waterford City Council sewer with the ultimate destination being the River Suir and St. John's River. A section S52 notice was issued to Waterford City Council. A change requested from the existing licence and agreed by Waterford City Council was an increase in the maximum daily volume to 775m³ from 763.2m³. However, Waterford City Council placed a kg/day limit on the discharge, which could only be achieved with a discharge of 2.5m³/day. Additional information in the application from the company gave a discharge figure of 775m³ per annum and 2.0m³ per day to the sewer. Following discussions with the company it was ascertained that the annual figure was entered on the table in error. The limit of 2.0m³/day has been entered in the RD with continuous flow monitoring. The requirement to monitor temperature and pH has been reduced from continuous to quarterly.

Storm Waters

There are four storm water discharge points from the facility. All storm water passes through grit traps and oil separators prior to discharge to a dyke offsite, which leads via the St. Johns River ultimately to the River Suir. Shut-off valves are located on all the discharge points. The RD does not propose any changes to storm water monitoring from that of the existing licence.

Groundwater:

There are no emissions to groundwater from the facility. All oils, fuels etc. are stored in bunds, which meet the licence requirements of Reg. No. 177-2 and comply with standard bunding specifications (BS8007-1987). All truck and skip washing occurs on hardstanding areas, the remaining areas are asphalt. The underlying aquifer is classified as a Regionally important fissured aquifer (Rf), vulnerability would be considered high to extreme. No site-specific borehole information is available. The RD requires a hydrogeological investigation within 12 months of the date of grant of the licence to establish baseline conditions.

Restoration, Decommissioning and Aftercare

There are no plans for the closure of the facility in the foreseeable future. The RD requires decommissioning of the facility to the satisfaction of the Agency. Liabilities associated with this type of facility are generally not significant.

Cultural Heritage, Habitats & Protected Species

The facility is located within an industrial zone. There is one proposed natural heritage area and one candidate special area of conservation within 5km of the site. The proposed developments will not result in any emissions from the facility, which could give rise to adverse effects in designated sites.

Waste Management, Air Quality and Water Quality Management Plans

The recycling and recovery facility proposed is in keeping with the South-East Regional Waste Management Plan.

Environmental Impact Statement

I have examined and assessed the EIS and am satisfied that it complies with the EIA and Waste Licensing Regulations.

Complaints and Compliance Record

There have been no complaints received by the Agency regarding this facility. The facility has a good compliance record.

Fit & Proper Person Assessment

The applicants experience, technical abilities, financial and legal standing would qualify them as Fit & Proper Persons.

Submissions

None

Charges

The existing licence set an Agency fee in 2006 of €3122.35. The RD proposes a figure of €3,331.00

Recommendation

I have considered all the documentation submitted in relation to this application and recommend that the Agency grant a licence subject to the conditions set out in the attached PD and for the reasons as drafted.

Signed

Niamh O' Donoghue

Procedural Note

In the event that no objections are received to the Proposed Decision on the application, a licence will be granted in accordance with Section 43(1) of the Waste Management Acts 1996-2005.