



**OFFICE OF  
LICENSING &  
GUIDANCE**

**INSPECTORS REPORT ON A LICENCE APPLICATION**

<b>To:</b>	BOARD OF THE AGENCY	
<b>From:</b>	Breen Higgins	- LICENSING UNIT
<b>Date:</b>	03/11/2006	
<b>RE:</b>	Application for a Waste Licence Review from Advanced Environmental Solutions (Ireland) Ltd., Licence Register W0194-02.	

**Application Details**

Type of facility:	Waste Transfer Station
Class(es) of Activity ( <b>P</b> = principal activity):	3 <sup>rd</sup> Schedule: Classes 6, 11, 12 & 13 4 <sup>th</sup> Schedule: Classes 2 ( <b>P</b> ), 3, 4, 9, 11 & 13
Quantity of waste managed per annum:	99,000 tonnes
Classes of Waste:	Household waste, commercial waste, industrial waste, non-hazardous industrial sludges, hazardous waste (WEEE), construction & demolition waste and sewage sludge.
Location of facility:	Kyletalesha & Kyleclonhobert, Co. Laois.
Licence application received:	31 July 2006
Third Party submissions:	Three
EIS Required:	Yes
Article 14 Notices sent:	06 September 2006
Article 14 compliance date:	28 September 2006
Site Inspection:	04 September 2006

**1. Facility**

The review application relates to the proposed extension of the existing Advanced Environmental Solutions (AES) Waste Transfer Station at Kyletalesha & Kyleclonhobert, Co. Laois. The facility is located approximately 3.5km northwest of Portlaoise and some 0.5km northeast of the N80 primary

route along a local third class road (L-2117-0). The site is located in a rural setting and is surrounded by a knackery to the southwest, a landfill facility (Kyletalesha Landfill WL 0026-2) to the west, virgin and cutaway bog to the northeast, with coniferous forestry to the southeast. There are six residential dwellings within 1km of the facility, the closest of which lies 500m to the northeast of the facility.

The facility currently accepts waste quantities in the region of 40,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) and an application has been made to increase intake levels to 99,000tpa. To accommodate the increased processing and treatment of mixed residual & source segregated waste it will be necessary to establish more extensive waste reception, segregation and processing capacity, together with the associated abatement infrastructure. This increased intake will also involve the extension of the existing waste transfer station building for the temporary storage of hazardous waste, i.e., waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).

Classes 6, 11, 12 and 13 of the Third Schedule and Classes 2, 3, 4, 9, 11 and 13 of the Fourth Schedule have been sought. The principal activity will be Class 2 of the Fourth Schedule, i.e., recycling or reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents (including composting and other biological processes).

Waste will be accepted and processed at the facility Monday to Friday inclusive between the hours of 07:00 to 20:00 and on Saturdays between 0700hrs and 1800hrs. Due to the nature of the process involved the infrastructure for the treatment of biodegradable waste will operate on a continuous basis. The facility is expected to employ a total of 25 employees when fully operational.

Prior to the construction of the extended waste handling facilities it is proposed to import approximately 100,000 tonnes of inert infill in order to raise the site to formation level by an average height of 2.2m. The importation of the clean fill material is further regulated by *Schedule D: Specified Engineering Works* of the RD. All imported material shall be certified as clean, engineering grade material by an indemnified engineer prior to acceptance on site. The development will occupy a landscaped site of approximately 4.7 hectares (ha) with an additional 1.5 ha of screen/buffer.

## **2. Reasons for Review**

The applicant cites a number of reasons for their licence review request, namely;

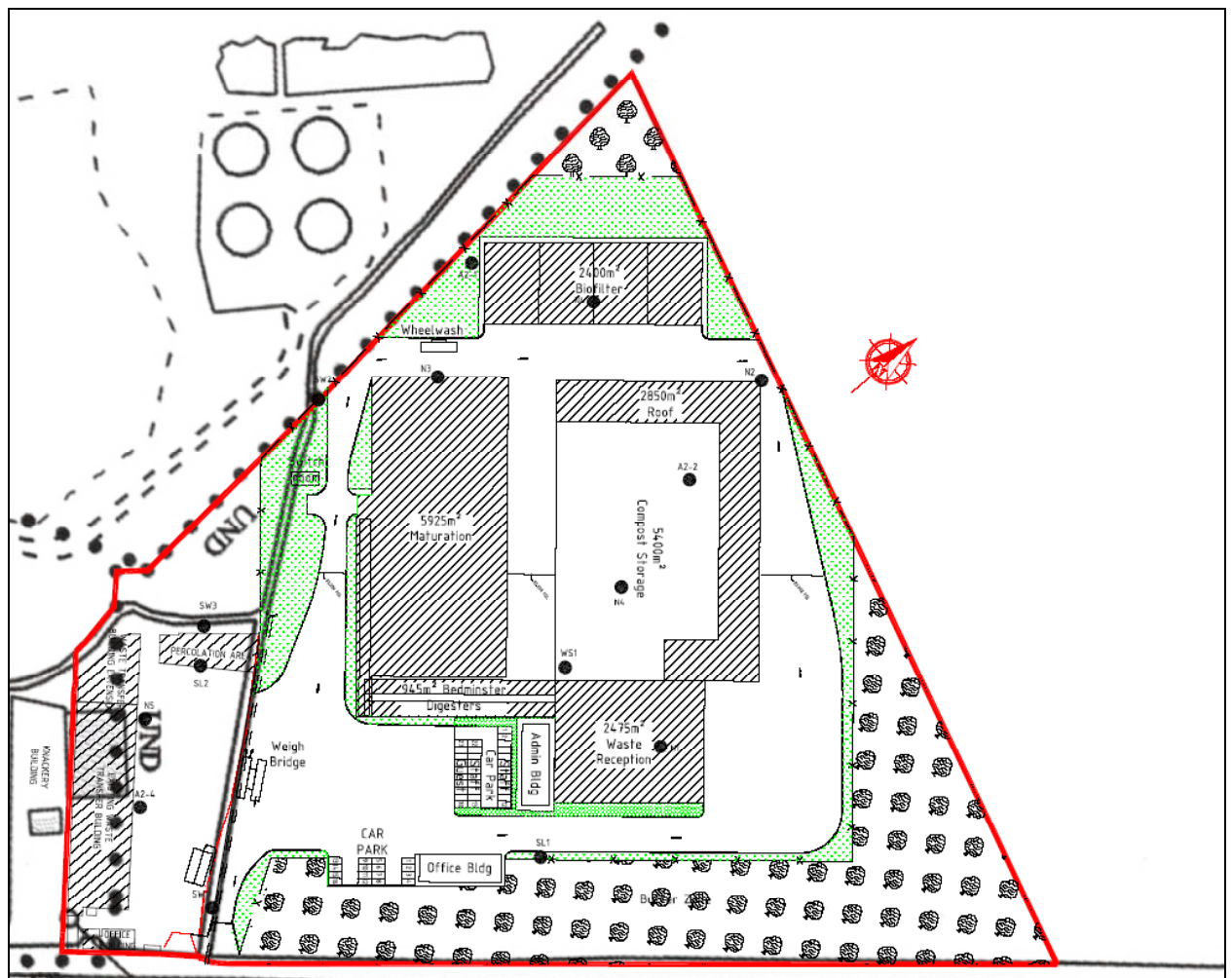
- An increase in annual waste intake from the current 40,000tpa to 99,000tpa; including the acceptance of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) in the form of end-of-life personal computers.
- A proposal to establish infrastructure for the treatment of mixed residual waste and source separated biodegradable waste.
- An amendment to the site boundary and area, in order to accommodate the proposed increase in the existing waste management capacity, from 0.8 ha to 4.7 ha with an additional 1.5 ha acting as a screen/buffer.

- Inclusion of either composting or anaerobic digestion technologies on-site and associated infrastructure, including the disposal of residues of such processes. This change necessitates Class 6 of the Third Schedule of the Waste Management Acts to be added to the list of approved activities for the site.

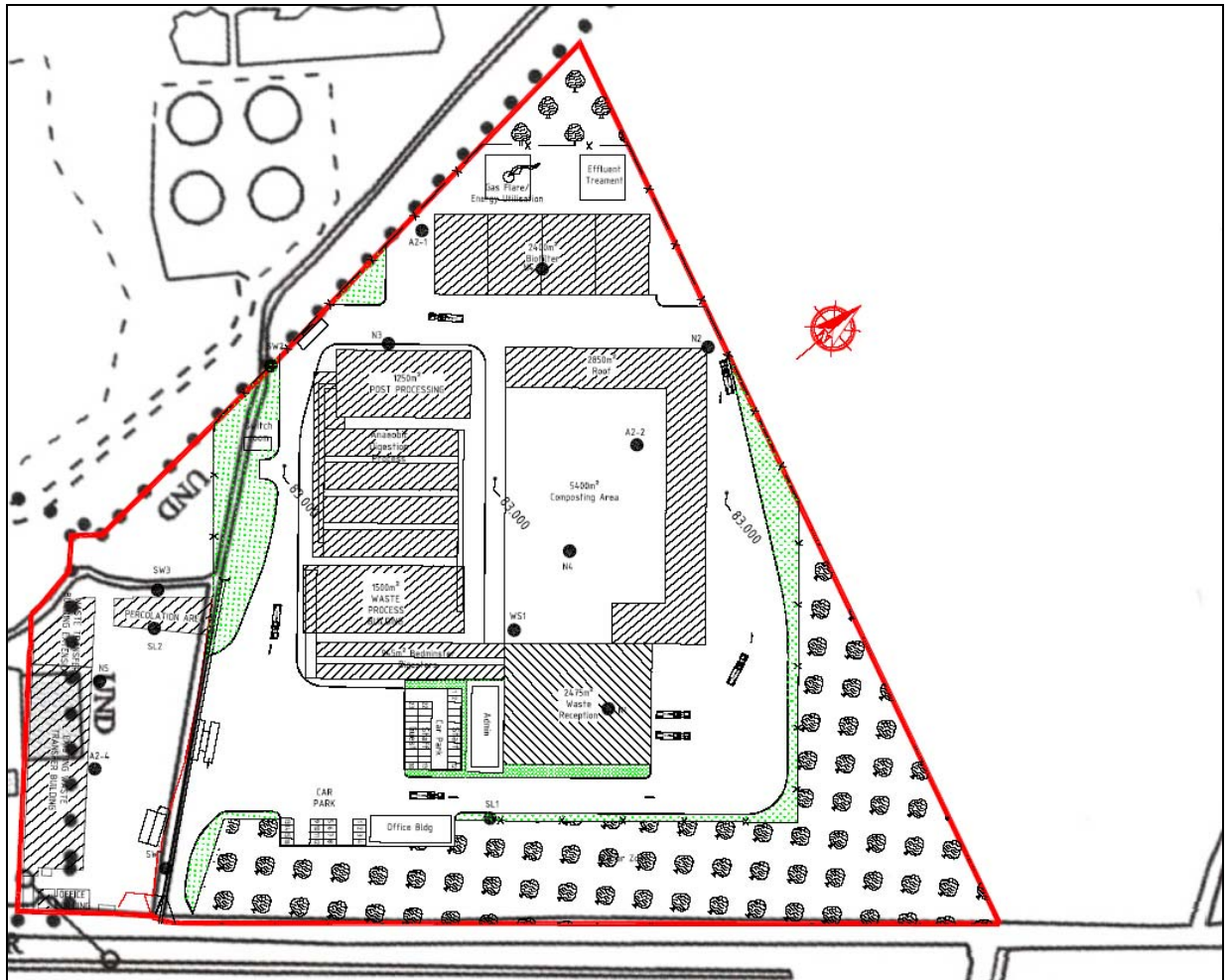
The review also provides an opportunity to redraft and reinforce certain elements of the existing licence with a view to accurately reflecting the development of the site since the grant of first licence (W0194-01).

Options 1 & 2 below show the alternative site layouts for the processing of biodegradable waste via composting and maturation or anaerobic digestion.

**OPTION 1: PROPOSED EXTENSION AND COMPOSTING INFRASTRUCTURE**



## OPTION 2: PROPOSED EXTENSION AND ANAEROBIC DIGESTION INFRASTRUCTURE



### 3. Operational Description

The RD permits the acceptance of 99,000tpa of waste from the date of grant of the licence, consisting of household waste, commercial waste, industrial waste, construction & demolition waste, hazardous waste, sewage sludges and non-hazardous industrial sludges. Household, commercial and industrial waste streams will account for the majority of material entering the site at 80,000tpa. Of the proposed 80,000tpa intake the facility will have the capacity to handle up to 40,000tpa of source separated organic waste which will be converted to compost on-site. The RD also allows for the acceptance of hazardous waste (WEEE, 5,000tpa), while sewage sludge (6,000tpa) and non-hazardous industrial sludges (3,000tpa) will also be processed within the composting system.

All waste delivered to site will be processed through the waste reception building where source separated waste, residual municipal solid waste and

sludges will each have separate dedicated areas. The waste reception building will be operated under negative pressure and all delivery entrances will be provided with automatic roller shutter doors.

Having passed through the initial bag splitting and screening processes the organic material is passed to one of two 'Bedminster Digesters'. The site will have a dedicated digester for the processing of source separated waste and a second for the processing of residual municipal waste. All waste in the digesters is maintained at temperature and moisture levels designed to maximise microbial growth. The waste resides in the digesters for a period of three days while being continuously turned and aerated to assist the breakdown of organic material. Following the three-day process 'rough compost' is formed which is then conveyed through a trommel screen to remove any large residues. The screened 'rough compost' will be then transferred to either an aeration hall for maturation or to anaerobic digestion.

Should the company decide to utilise the maturation process all aeration, turning and curing of the material shall take place indoors. As per *Schedule C.1.3: Control & Monitoring of Composting Process & Emissions* the process will be closely controlled to obtain optimum biological activity. As with the waste reception area the maturation area will be maintained under negative pressure and it is proposed that all gases will be passed through on-site woodchip biofilters.

In the event that AES decide to utilise anaerobic digestion (AD) it is proposed to use a reactor that will act to transform the carbon in the waste to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) in the absence of oxygen. This CH<sub>4</sub> can be used to produce energy through the use of a gas engine or turbine. A further by-product is a nutrient rich liquid which can be, as an option, used as a fertiliser or soil conditioner. A third by-product from the process will be a stable organic material comprised largely of the organic compounds lignin and chitin.

All waste residues produced as a result of this process shall be appropriately disposed of at a licensed waste facility.

#### **4. Use of Resources**

The estimated resources used on-site will be diesel oil (100,000 litres), hydraulic oil (6,000 litres), coolant/antifreeze (200 litres), electricity (7,500,000 kWh), water (10, 000m<sup>3</sup>) and cleaning chemicals (1,000 litres).

Should anaerobic digestion be used on-site for the composting process the resultant biogas would be used to provide electricity for the site.

#### **5. Emissions**

Emissions to atmosphere are likely to arise as a result of the composting or anaerobic digestion of the biodegradable fraction of the waste imported to the site. These processes will occur within an enclosed building operating under negative pressure, with all gases generated as a result of the activity being collected and conveyed to the on-site abatement. Should composting and maturation be chosen as the preferred method atmospheric emissions would

emit from the woodchip biofilters. On the other hand if anaerobic digestion is chosen as the preferred method emissions will derive from the operation of the energy utilisation infrastructure. In either case the emissions shall be controlled in the RD through *Schedule C: Control and Monitoring*.

## **5.1 Air**

### **Odour**

The potential for odours from this site arise mainly from the movement of waste materials to and from the site, the handling of unprocessed material and the composting of materials either by maturation or anaerobic digestion. Odour nuisance will be controlled at the facility through Condition 6.11 of the RD. Furthermore, Condition 8.4 requires that waste be transported, stored and handled in a manner that will minimise odour generation. All areas where wastes are to be handled will be operated under negative pressure and all off-gases passed through the on-site biofilters. The biofilters will consist of a total area of 2,400m<sup>3</sup> of wood chip or similar material. The biofilters will be constructed in four discreet cells each approximately 1-2m in depth.

Odour modelling was carried out for the site using the ISC Prime atmospheric dispersion model. A number of different scenarios were run including:

- a biological composting system incorporating indoor aerobic composting processes, and operation of the existing facility, and
- a biological composting system incorporating anaerobic digestion (AD) technology, a gas utilisation plant, a biofilter treating the odours from the waste preparation hall, post processing and dewatering, aerobic composting of the product from the AD process, and operation of the existing facility.

This modelling concluded that during operation of the proposed facility, regardless of the specific process chosen by AES, residents living in the vicinity of the facility should feel no additional odour impact (nearest residence is 0.5km away).

### **Bioaerosols**

Baseline bioaerosol monitoring was carried out at the facility in accordance with the document "*Sampling Protocol for the Sampling and Enumeration of Airborne Micro-organisms at Composting Facilities*" (The Composting Association, UK). The predictive assessment of bioaerosol impact was performed in order to ascertain any potential bioaerosol risk associated with the proposed facility operation. The composting of biodegradable waste provides the conditions whereby microbes grow exponentially by utilising the nutrients in compost as a food source. During the mechanical aeration of the composting material it is possible for some microbial cells to become airborne or aerosolised, thus giving rise to 'bioaerosols'. Of these bioaerosols the most significant is *Aspergillus fumigatus*; a fungus classified as a Group 2

pathogen<sup>1</sup> under the Biological Agents at Work Legislation (Directive 2000/54/EC on the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work).

Modelling of potential emissions from the composting activities estimated that air quality standards for *Aspergillus fumigatus* and total mesophilic bacteria would not be breached. According to the assessment results the maximum impact concentrations for *Aspergillus fumigatus* and total mesophilic bacteria are near background levels and from 11 to 250 times lower than the proposed lowest bioaerosol impact criteria.

The study submitted by the applicant determines the facility to be fully compliant with the recommended setback distance of 200m, as endorsed by the Agency. The risk of bioaerosol exposure at this facility will be further reduced by carrying out all composting activities indoors and by passing all operational air through the proposed odour abatement infrastructure.

### **Dust**

The clearing of the site for construction is likely to cause dust emissions in the immediate proximity of the site. The impact of dust emissions is likely to be short-term and limited primarily to the construction period. The applicant proposes to sow with grass-seed all applicable areas of the site immediately after construction being completed. Furthermore, any stockpiles of material on-site during the construction phase will be sprayed with water during dry period, all roads will be constructed of tarmac or asphalt and will be sprayed during periods of dry weather while all vehicles will be required to pass through a wheel wash prior to leaving the site.

Further dust emissions are likely to be created by the processing and chipping of timber wastes delivered to the site. To mitigate against any increased risk of elevated dust levels Condition 8.7 requires that all waste processing including wood chipping activities take place indoors. Dust deposition limits of 350mg/m<sup>2</sup>/day have been set in the RD together with a requirement for monitoring at specified locations, as per *Schedule C: Control and Monitoring*.

## **5.2 Emissions to Surface Waters**

There are no proposals to discharge any trade or sanitary effluent to the nearby surface waters. It is proposed to culvert the stream running along the eastern boundary of the site in order to eliminate potential impacts on the stream as a result of the development or operation of the site. All leachate generated within the composting areas and from the wheel wash area will be collected and stored on site in appropriate holding tanks prior to disposal at an agreed municipal wastewater treatment plant, as per Condition 8.11 of the RD.

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<sup>1</sup> Group 2 biological agents are those that can cause human disease and might be a hazard to workers; it is unlikely to spread to the community; there is usually effective prophylaxis or treatment available.

### **5.3 Storm Water Runoff**

There are two streams flowing through the site. One rises in the Local Authority landfill to the north and flows in a southerly direction through the site, forming the eastern boundary of the existing transfer station. A second stream rises to the west of the facility, flows in an easterly direction and joins the first stream at the northeast corner of the site. This combined stream ultimately joins the River Triogue 0.8km to the southeast of the site.

All run-off from roofs and other clean areas within the transfer station is collected by a series of drains and directed to 'Aqua cell' attenuation units. Storm water run-off from areas where there is likely to be traffic or other potential sources of contamination shall be collected and passed through a Class 1 oil interceptor, from here the discharge shall be passed through an attenuation unit and ultimately discharge to surface water. The RD requires surface water discharges to be monitored at four points SW1, SW2, SW4 and SW6 in accordance with Condition 6.16 and Schedule C.2.: *Monitoring of Storm Water Emission.*

### **5.4 Emissions to ground/groundwater:**

The bedrock underlying the site is limestone. The overburden deposits beneath the site and in the immediate vicinity have low permeability and are not considered as aquifers. The bedrock underneath the site is classified as locally important, generally moderately productive in local zones (LI). The vulnerability of this aquifer is rated as low thus giving a resource protection rating of LI/L.

The water supply for Portlaoise and Mountmellick is sourced from a number of wells and springs. The existing well fields are located 4-5km to the east of the site, between Straboe and Aghnahily, within the Portlaoise Limestone aquifer.

Discharges to ground/groundwater will be restricted on-site through the use of hardstanding areas throughout the facility and bunding for all hydrocarbons and chemicals. All bunded areas shall be integrity tested at intervals of 3 years, as per Condition 6.9 of the RD.

In order to safely treat and dispose of domestic effluent on-site the facility currently utilises a puraflo™ treatment system in conjunction with a single percolation area which is located to the north of the existing site. Due to the planned extension it will be necessary to construct a new percolation area that will be used to treat all domestic effluent generated from the new office buildings and welfare facilities proposed for the site. The new treatment system and percolation area will be located south of the proposed new administrative building and car park. Prior to the installation of any such percolation area a comprehensive site suitability assessment shall be carried out by a competent assessor in accordance with the Agency's *Wastewater Treatment Manuals – Treatment Systems for Small Communities, Business, Leisure Centres and Hotels, 1999.*

As a result of the planned filling of the site to formation level during the construction phase it is not anticipated that there will be any direct impact on



the underlying geology or hydrogeology. This work will however have an indirect impact on the groundwater monitoring regime employed at the neighbouring Kyletalesha landfill (Reg. No. W0026-02). Due to the site being raised in level a groundwater monitoring well associated with the landfill, bearing the identity number LW-2, located on the development site will be lost. In accordance with Condition 6.17 of the RD, and as per commitments given in the application documentation, the licensee will be requested to install a new well to replace the well lost to the development and to provide access to this well for monitoring and maintenance purposes at all reasonable times.

## **5.5 Noise:**

Noise measurements were taken on site during two separate monitoring events, with night-time noise monitored on 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2006 and daytime noise measured on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2006. Six separate locations were used for monitoring purposes and ranged from the site boundary (N1) to approximately 500m from the boundary (N6). The nearest noise sensitive location, a domestic dwelling, is located approximately 500m to the northeast of the proposed extension boundary. A daytime Leq of 61.7 dBA was recorded at noise sensitive location (N3), located along the local third class road (L-2117-0). The elevated noise level was attributed to background traffic noise. Existing noise in the area of the site is reported as being dominated by the activities of the landfilling operations at Kyletalesha landfill and operations at the existing waste transfer facility. These activities include the movement of waste materials, the operation of plant on-site such as generators and the reversing of plant.

In order to assess the increase in noise levels as a result of the development and operation of the extended facility an impact assessment was carried out. This assessment considered not only the impact of development works but also any projected increased noise levels resulting either from the composting process or the anaerobic digester operation. The assessment concluded that there may indeed be short term, temporary noise level increases during the construction phase. It is proposed by the applicant that the movement of soil to and from the site shall be restricted to a number of journeys similar to those likely under the new waste acceptance regime.

To counteract any projected increase in noise level the RD restricts development works to between 0800hrs and 2000hrs during weekdays and between 0800hrs and 1700hrs on Saturdays. There shall be no development work carried out during nighttime, Sundays or bank holidays. Condition 1.6 of the RD controls operating hours at the facility. Furthermore, Condition 1.6 facilitates any emergency work necessary while the development works are taking place on-site. These operations are regulated by the standard noise limits as outlined in the RD.

Noise levels during the operational phase will be related to the operation of equipment on-site, e.g., timber shredder and loading shovel together with traffic movements bringing waste materials to and from the site.

Standard noise limits and conditions have been included in the RD (i.e., daytime 55dB(A) and night time 45dB(A) at the boundary of the facility. The licensee is required to conduct a noise survey annually in accordance with the methodology specified in the “Environmental Noise Survey Guidance Document” as published by the Agency.

#### **5.6 Land:**

As the application documentation does not propose to accommodate the spreading of any organic material on lands as a result of this activity conditions relating to landspreading activities have been omitted from the RD.

#### **5.7 Nuisance:**

Condition 5.6 of the RD controls potential nuisances such as vermin, birds, flies, dust and odour at the facility. As all activities are carried out indoors it is unlikely that the activity will give rise to significant litter impacts, in addition to this all movements of waste to and from the facility shall be covered and/or enclosed as per Condition 6.12.3.

### **6. Cultural Heritage, Habitats & Protected Species**

The applicant details that there are no known archaeological, architectural, or other features of cultural heritage located within the site boundary. Two Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) occur within 1.5km of the site, namely Clonreher Bog (Code: 002357) and the Ridge of Portlaoise (Code: 000876). Clonreher Bog is an area of raised bog and lies approximately 600m to the west of the site. The Ridge of Portlaoise is an esker ridge approximately 7km south west of the site and contains important bird habitats. Neither site is likely to be adversely affected by the proposed development.

The site is located approximately 1km to the west of the River Triogue which is a tributary of the cSAC, River Barrow and River Nore (site code 002162). The development and operation of the extension will not negatively impact on the surface water for those reasons already described.

### **7. Waste Management Plan**

The waste transfer facility proposed is in keeping with the Waste Management Plan for the Midlands Region. Section 7 of the plan outlines the approach towards waste management over the five-year period of the plan. The focus is to reduce the regions dependence on landfill and move towards an integrated approach. It is proposed to achieve this aim by the recovery of secondary materials (recycling) and the biological treatment of organic materials in association with other waste management techniques.

### **8. Environmental Impact Statement**

I have examined and assessed the EIS and having regard to the statutory responsibilities of the EPA, I am satisfied that it complies with Article 94 and

Schedule 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (S.I. No. 600 of 2001) and EPA Licensing Regulations (S.I. No. 85 of 1994, as amended).

## **9. Best Available Techniques (BAT)**

I have examined and assessed the application documentation and I am satisfied that the site, technologies and techniques specified in the application and as confirmed, modified or specified in the attached Recommended Decision comply with the requirements of BAT. I consider the technologies and techniques as described in this report; the application; and in the RD; the most effective in achieving a high level of protection of the environment having regard to the way the facility is located, designed, built, managed, maintained, operated and decommissioned.

## **10. Compliance with Directives/Regulations**

The facility as conditioned in the RD complies with the European Communities (Animal By-products) Regulations, 2003 (S.I. No. 248 of 2003). The disease control aspects relating to these regulations fall under the remit of the Department of Agriculture and Food.

## **11. Compliance Record**

I am advised by the Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE) of the Agency that compliance with the licence has generally been good. The views and suggestions of the OEE inspector for the site have been taken into account as part of this preparation of this Recommended Determination.

## **12. Fit & Proper Person Assessment**

The legal, technical and financial standing of the applicant qualifies them to be considered Fit and Proper Persons.

## **13. Proposed Decision**

The significant environmental risks posed by this proposal are odour, dust/particulate and noise emissions. The RD incorporates a number of conditions specific to this site aimed at ensuring that risks to the surrounding environment are minimised. Conditions 4.6 and 6.11 together with Schedule B.3 of the RD specifies requirements for the prevention of fugitive dust and sets limit values for dust and particulates. The RD specifies limited operational hours as well as defining ELV's to be achieved at the boundary of the facility. In order to mitigate against potential odour impacts all waste activities shall occur indoors under negative pressure, all off-gases from these activities shall be passed through the on-site biofilters or the energy utilisation plant on-site.

In the event that anaerobic digestion techniques are employed on-site the primary option for handling of the gas generated shall be through the use of energy utilisation operated at temperatures in excess of 650°C. As per Condition 3.13, operation of the gas flare shall occur only in the event of a malfunction and/or maintenance of the utilisation plant. To ensure that there

is no risk of odour to the environment from the operation of the gas flare it shall be operated at temperatures in excess of 1000°C.

This inspector is satisfied that the conditions set out in the RD will adequately address all emissions from the facility and where activities are carried out in accordance with the conditions, it will not cause environmental pollution.

#### 14. Submissions:

Three valid submissions were made by concerned parties in relation to the proposal as follows;

TABLE 1: SUBMISSION DETAILS	
No.	Name & Address
1	Ms. Imelda Carew, on behalf of Mountmellick Environment Group.
2	Cllr. Pat Bracken, Garoon, Mountmellick, Co. Laois.
3	Mr. Sean Fleming, T.D., Castletown, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.

The main issues raised in the submissions are summarised below. However, the original submission should be referred to at all times for greater detail and expansion of particular points.

##### 14.1 Imelda Carew, Mountmellick Environment Group.

The submission was addressed primarily to the planning authority and copied to the Agency. The submission expresses the view that insufficient information has been provided to the public on three separate grounds:

- the operation of the facility and the processes involved,
- the impact to the environment vis-à-vis odour, noise and traffic,
- the resultant impact of this facility on the operation of the landfill. It is submitted that as the facility is not operated by Laois County Council there is a risk that the quantity of waste transported into Kyletalesha will increase threefold.

##### Comment:

The Recommended Decision as drafted provides for a very high level of protection to the surrounding environment. At all times due regard has been afforded to the Best Available Techniques (BAT) for this type of activity. The impact of odours and noise are addressed by carrying out all operations under tightly controlled regimes. All potential off-gases from the process are collected and conveyed to the on-site treatment, i.e., woodchip biofilters or energy utilisation. These processes are controlled by *Schedule C.1.1: Control of Emissions to Air*.

Noise levels at the facility are controlled through the imposition of restricted waste acceptance and operating hours as per Condition 1.6 of the RD in conjunction with a 55dB(A) daytime limit and a 45dB(A) night time limit for noise levels.

Due to the regional nature of waste management practices in Ireland it would be envisaged that the operation of the extended waste transfer station will have an impact on the operation of Kyletalesha landfill and should in fact result in a decrease in the quantity of biodegradable material deposited therein. The proposed facility is in keeping with the requirements of the Landfill Directive and the aims of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government policy document entitled '*National Strategy on Biodegradable Waste*' to divert maximum quantities of biodegradable waste from landfill.

#### **14.2 Cllr. Pat Bracken.**

The submission raises concerns that as AES are a commercial company the proposed facility will involve the importation of large quantities of waste into the Kyletalesha area from outside the region. Were the company to do so, states Cllr. Bracken, it would be in contravention of national, regional and local policy on waste management. The submission also expresses concerns about the increased traffic that would likely result from the extension of activities at the AES facility.

#### Comment:

National and regional strategy/plans regarding the recovery and recycling of biodegradable waste have been considered during the assessment of the application. The facility is compatible with national strategy and will assist in the implementation of the objectives of the Government's policy statement *Preventing and Recycling Waste – Delivering Change (March 2002)* amongst other policy documents referred to above. The proposals are also deemed to be compatible with the objectives of the Midlands Waste Management Plan and the Laois Sludge Management Plan. AES operate collection services throughout the midlands region and as such are likely to source the vast majority, if not all, of the biodegradable waste for the facility from close proximity to the facility. Furthermore, it is government policy that regional/county borders should not act as a barrier to the operation of such waste facilities and as such do not restrict the movement of waste for this purpose.

The issue of increased traffic volumes as a result of the extension of the facility is a matter for the relevant authorities to consider through the planning process.

#### **14.3 Mr. Sean Fleming, T.D.**

The submission raises concerns similar to those raised in the earlier submissions, namely that the facility does not comply with the terms of the Waste Management Plan for the region and will result in 'waste tourism' occurring in the area.

The submission also expresses a concern that it is unclear how much hazardous waste and sewerage (sic) sludge is to be accepted at the facility and that the fate of each waste stream is not adequately addressed in the application. This, it is suggested, may result in there being a risk of odours being released from the facility.

In conclusion the submission states that the applicant failed to examine alternative locations for this facility as part of the EIS process and as such the EIS is inadequate.

Comment:

The issue of national and regional policy with regard to waste management has been considered previously in this report.

The quantities of sewage sludge and hazardous waste (WEEE) are defined in *Table A.2: Waste Acceptance* of the RD; the quantities accepted at the facility can only be varied with the prior agreement of the Agency and are therefore appropriately controlled. The individual limitation on waste streams may be varied with the agreement of the Agency subject to the overall total waste acceptance limit remaining the same, i.e., 99,000 tonnes per annum.

The Agency is satisfied that the provisions proposed for the acceptance and handling of these materials satisfy the requirements of BAT for the sector, any risk of odours being released from the facility as a result of activities on site have been addressed as per Section 5 of this report.

The issue of alternative locations investigated, as part of in the EIS process, is a matter for the relevant authorities to address through the planning process. However, as can be seen from the EIS in considering an alternative location AES addressed a number of factors and ultimately decided upon the existing Kyletalesha & Kyleclonhobert site. As stated in Section 8 of this report the EIS complies with Article 94 and Schedule 6 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (S.I. No. 600 of 2001) and EPA Licensing Regulations (S.I. No. 85 of 1994, as amended).

## **15. Charges**

The existing licence set an Agency fee in 2006 of €12,018.45. The RD proposes a figure of €12,217.00.

## **16. 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 RD and for the reasons as drafted.

Signed

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Breen Higgins

Inspector

Office of Licensing and Guidance

## **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.