Request for additional Deformation

RE:/ Planning Permission is sought for development at site at Drummin Td., Carbury, Co. Kildare, the development will consist of the following: Demolish part of their existing facility and to develop a new facility for the indoor production of phase 1, 2 and 3 mushroom substrate, currently being produced outdoors on the site, as detailed hereunder: a Demolish only those existing growing tunnels required to make way for proposed development and demolish existing outdoor phase 1 composting facility, b Construct a new building to facilitate the indoor production of phase I mushroom substrate, comprising of 1. A double portal framed structure fully enclosing the raw material storage and handling area for the phase 1 composting process and 2. An adjoining mass concrete walled, flat roofed structure enclosing sealed phase 1 composting bunkers with 3. Covered conveyor helts and ancillary plant on flat roof area together with 4. Ventilation stack to flat roof area all as part of a single building. C Construct a new building to facilitate the production of phase 2 and phase 3 mushroom substrate, comprising of a double portal framed structure-enclosing 1. Loading and unloading areas 2. Fully enclosed phase 2/3 composting tunnels, 3. Ancillary processing rooms, 4. Ancillary plant and ESB rooms and 5. Ancillary staff and administration facilities all as part of a single building. D. Construct new systems for dealing with roof water, yard water and foul water including: 1. New 400,000 gallon over ground clean water storage tank for storage of surface water runoff from roofs, 2. Diversion point for roof water runoff to new outfall into existing surface water drain, 3. Collection Stumps, 4. Oil/Fuel interceptor, 5. Wheel washes, G. Construct new hard surfaced areas for manoeuvring of vehicles and temporary storage of dry straw. H. Construct covered diesel fuel tank and bund for fuelling station. I. Upgrade site entrance and front boundary as required to achieve greater sight distance splays onto public road. This planning application will include an Environmental Impact Statement and will require a Waste Management License all together with associated site works -Carbury Compost Ltd., - 06/912.

Only one reply to Further Information requests will be accepted and the documents submitted will be taken as a full and final response to the Further Information request. Failure to fully address all items of Further Information may lead to Clarification of Further Information and/or a decision may be made in the absence of the information requested.

1. Notwithstanding the mitigation measures contained in the Environmental impact Statement, it is considered that the potential visual implications of the development have not been adequately demonstrated. In particular you are requested to address the visual impact of the proposed development on both the visual amenity of the adjoining land uses and the greater local landscape setting. This visual impact assessment shall include the following:

Significant use of colour photomontages from appropriate vantage points on all boundaries of the site and in the wider vicinity of the site to demonstrate the potential impact of the proposed

development.

Cross sections shall also be required, demonstrating the relationship of adjacent dwellings and

public roads to the proposed development.

Please submit a full set of coloured elevational drawings, at a suitable scale, indicating in detail the proposed external finishes and colour. The chosen material finish shall reflect the proportions and detailing of the whole building, which shall break down the bulk of the proposed structures. The chosen colour scheme shall ensure the proposed development is visually unobtrusive and set

A detailed focus on the visual impact of the proposed 17,5m high emission stack in the context of both the adjoining landholdings and the wider vicinity of the site.

Full and detailed proposals to mitigate against all negative visual impacts.

2. Please submit a detailed and comprehensive landscaping plan, prepared by a suitably qualified landscape architect/horticultrist indicating how you intend to landscape the proposed development and shall include the following:

- Details of existing mature hedgerow & trees to be maintained, reinforced or removed on site.

The names of species in both Latin and English and a schedule for implementation for the proposal. Species shall be predominantly native deciduous, indigenous to the area, and should incorporate the use of mature and semi-mature tree species.

Cross sections of the sites boundaries showing the heights of proposed screening at time of

planting and at different growth periods to maturity.

The proposed landscaping plan shall ensure that the proposed development is adequately screened and set into the local rural landscape.

3. The EIS submitted 10/05/06 states that the site will be operated 24 hours a day and 7 days a week stating that composting is a continuous process. The following operational hours are then given:

Raw materials imported: 0600 to 2000 hrs Monday to Friday

Compost exported: 0500 to 2000 hrs Monday to Friday & 0800 to 1300 hrs on Saturdays

Mushrooms exported: 7 days a week

Site operations: 0600 to 2000 hrs seven days a week

Clarification is therefore required regarding the operational processes that take place outside these stated hours. Please submit a schedule detailing the full hours of operation, categorising the different operational processes taking place.

4. Applicant to show how the proposed 60 car parking spaces satisfy the requirements of the Kildare County Development Plan.

County Development Plan.

5. Applicant is requested to consider further reducing the number of entrances to the development to just one, the current proposals shows the two proposed new entrances too close together.

6. Applicant to submit plans showing adequate furning movements within the curtilage of the site, for number and types of vehicles indicated of the site.

Note to Applicant

You should note that this request for further information is not an indication that your application will receive favourable consideration, but is necessary to provide sufficient information in order to make a full assessment of your application.

Date: 4th July 2006

Signed 4

Authorised/Office

Bracetown Business Park Clonee, Co Dublin.

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Senior Planning Officer Kildare County Council Planning Department Devoy Park Naas Co. Kildare

Our Ref: 02724/001/DR/01/BM

19 July 2006

Dear Sir

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE EXPANSION AND MODERNISATION OF OPERATIONS AT COMPOSTING FACILITY IN CARBURY, CO. KILDARES PROPOSED FACILITY WILL INCLUDE FOR THE DEMOLITION OF SOME EXISTING BUILDINGS AND THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF SOME NEW INFRASTRUCTURE.

Planning Register Ref. 06/912 - Response to Request for Further Information

#### Introduction

**Traffic** wise Ltd. has been commissioned by the Applicant to provide a response to the Local Authority Request for Further Information of 4 July 2006. The following specifically addresses the site access issue raised in Item 5 of the request, which in the interest of clarity is transcribed below.

#### Item 5

"Applicant is requested to consider further reducing the number of entrances to the development to just one, the current proposal shows the two proposed new entrances too close together".

Response to Item No.5

(File Reference 06/912)

General

In the preparation of the current access regime a series of alternative site access arrangements had

been examined in detail. One such arrangement involved providing a single access point from the

R403 as is suggested by the Local Authority.

This single access option would clearly reduce the number of possible turning movements to and from

the R403 to an absolute minimum.

In the preparation of access options nonetheless a second access was considered essential due to

the location of existing utilities and infrastructure close to the boundary of the site which fronts onto

the R403 Regional Road.

Given the arrangement of utilities and service areas within the site, the provision of a single access

was forecast as likely to cause conflicts between vehicles manoeuvring within the site close to the

road frontage of the R403 and vehicles entering the site. Albeit likely to be an infrequent occurrence,

such conflict is considered likely to require HGW entering the site to wait in the carriageway of the

R403 Regional Road which is clearly undesirables

The geometry of the existing R403 Regional Road past the site is such that visibility sightlines from

the site are currently severely restricted. From a detailed topographical assessment it has been

established that NRA: Design Manual for Roads and Bridges compliant visibility sightlines can be

achieved only over about a 40m section of the existing site frontage. This is the 40m section located

between the centrelines of the proposed dual access arrangement.

There is a large ESB substation located on the site between the two proposed accesses. The

rationale guiding the decision to propose two access points was that the substation prevents left turns

into the site from the southern access and conversely right turns into the site from the northern

proposed access, accordingly neither access in isolation is considered wholly satisfactory in serving

the development. The optimum solution with respect to serving the site and minimising potential

conflict and delay on the R403 is the proposed dual access arrangement.

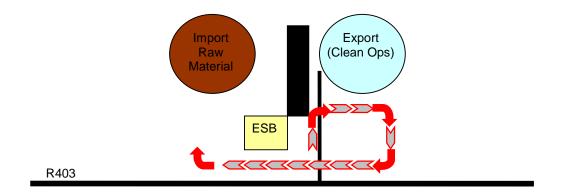
#### Vehicular Operation

Vehicles exporting mushroom product are required to access the mushroom pack-houses, which are located to the south of the site. Vehicles exporting compost product are required to access the emptying hall which is also located to the south of the site adjacent to the mushroom pack-houses. Product is exported from a clean or sterile environment.

Raw materials required for the composting process include horse manure, poultry litter, straw and gypsum. Delivery vehicles require access to the materials storage area located in the north-eastern corner of the site. It is standard company policy to keep the raw materials separate from the sterilised product to avoid any risk of cross contamination.

#### Single Access Circulating and Entry Regime

If a single access is provided at the site it will need to be provided on one side or other of the electricity substation accordingly not all movements will be achievable upon entry. The diagram below shows that required route of a vehicle importing raw materials should the access be located to the south of the substation. Clearly the converse arrangement with an access to the north of the substation would require export vehicle to undertake a similar, yet mirrored route to that shown in the diagram. Given the limitations imposed by the present infrastructure it can be seen that a singular access arrangement would unnecessarily complicate internal manoeuvres which in turn will conflict with vehicles entering the site. With the single access there is the potential that entering vehicles and finding internal vehicles blocking their path, might from time to time be forced to wait in the carriageway of the R403 outside the site. Such vehicular conflict and the associated potential difficulties on the R403 are clearly undesirable.



#### Access Spacing

The current proposed dual access layout is based upon detailed topographical assessments. The location of the proposed northern access is as far north as is possible whilst still maintaining NRA: Design Manual for Roads and Bridges compliant visibility sightlines. The southern access has similarly been optimised with respect to the provision of visibility sightlines and is as far south as is feasible. Accordingly the proposed access points are as far apart as is practicable whilst ensuring that both are provided with adequate sightlines.

#### Operation of Proposed Dual Access

The rationale behind the dual access is to reduce or limit insofar as practicable the potential delay or disruption which might result on the receiving R403 Regional Road.

Vehicles delivering raw materials will access the development site through the more northerly of the two accesses. Vehicles exporting product from the 'clean's side of the facility will do so through the more southerly access. This regime will provide threat access whereby vehicles will be capable of entering the site without direct conflict with vehicles manoeuvring within the site. This regime reduces the possibility of delays to the free flow of insound vehicles which if delayed could potentially cause undesirable delay and interruption on the public highway.

All inbound vehicles will be required to slow down in the R403 Regional Road carriageway in any case. Passing is prohibited on this section of the R403 Regional Road. Given the proposed access spacing it is not considered likely that inbound vehicles passing one access to enter the other would cause undue traffic hazard for following vehicles.

There are likely to be occasions when vehicles will wish to exit from both accesses simultaneously. Notwithstanding the fact that drivers are likely to employ some level of courtesy to fellow users of the site, it is acknowledged that one vehicle will potentially reduce visibility for the other. This scenario is however likely to be infrequent and would have no more impact on safety than say a bus stopping at the roadside under the present arrangement.

The proposed accesses serve a private commercial enterprise. These are not 'junctions' on the public highway. The current traffic generation of the site is very low and upon realisation of the proposed expanded facility these volumes are not considered likely to be significant.

## Conclusion

There are currently four sub-standard accesses serving the site at which restricted visibility criteria are considered to represent a serious traffic hazard. The proposed form of dual access layout is considered to rationalise site specific safety issues associated with the current access layout. Visibility sightlines at both of the proposed accesses have been shown to be compliant with the requirements of the National Roads Authority: Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, on **Traffic** wise Ltd. Drawing No. 027/01/01/PL01.

At this particular location **Traffic**wise Ltd. consider that the proposed access arrangements represent the optimum site layout for vehicles manoeuvring inside the site, vehicles accessing the site and the interaction thereof. The provision of two accesses would facilitate the segregation of vehicles importing raw materials and exporting sterilised product and avoid the risk of cross contamination. It would also significantly reduce the likelihood of internal marshalling of vehicles causing traffic to stop in the public carriageway (as would occur with a single access).

On balance we consider that the current dual access arrangement is likely to cause less hazard to current road users than the suggested singular access. We respectfully urge the Local Authority to agree that in this instance the spacing of the two access points does not represent a significant traffic hazard.

Yours sincerely

Julian M Keenan For **Traffic**wise Ltd.



# Landscape Plan for Carbury Mushrooms, Carbury, Co Kildare

		Prepared by		Verified by			
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# 1 Summary

A site visit was made to a mushroom and compost facility near Carbury, Co Kildare. Existing habitats were mapped and an inventory of tree species present was made including boundary hedgerows. In addition a more detailed tree survey was carried out for the roadside where modifications are required as part of the development. Recommendations are provided for species to plant, with relative proportions of shrubs and trees, so as the new features will best integrate into the surrounding landscape. Figures are provide for both baseline habitats and proposed screening.

## 2 Introduction

This report provides a landscape plan designed to ensure that the proposed upgrading and expansion of the existing composting facility and mushroom growing facility near Carbury, Co Kildare is adequately screened from the local rural landscape. Recommendations are provided on tree planting; including species composition, planting densities and approximate heights. A figure indicating baseline habitats and trees currently on the site is provided in addition to a plan of the site showing heights of proposed screening trees at time of planting and other details.

Recommendations are based on best ecological principles and follow the results of a habitat and tree survey carried out at the existing facility and adjacent areas.

# 2.1 Proposed Development`

Carbury Compost Ltd. (CCL) proposes to modernise and expand their composting facility at Drummin, Carbury, Co. Kildare. The site measures some 9.4 ha and is located approximately 2km south of Derrinturn village. The site includes both the composting facility (5.03 ha) and a mushroom growing facility. The proposed facility will include for the demolition of some existing buildings and the design and construction of new infrastructure of the demolition of some existing buildings and the design and construction of new infrastructure of the demolition of some existing buildings and the design and construction of new infrastructure of the demolition of some existing buildings and the design and construction of new infrastructure of the demolition of some existing buildings and the design and construction of new infrastructure.

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## 3 Scope and Methodology

#### 3.1 Flora

A full habitat survey including habitat description (flora) and site habitat assessment was carried out for the site. A map of habitats is illustrated in Figure 1.

Habitats were mapped according to A Guide to Habitats in Ireland (Fossitt, 2000) and in accordance with Draft Habitat Survey Guidelines: a Standard Methodology for Habitat Survey and Mapping in Ireland (Heritage Council, 2002). A description of habitats noted is provided with a general descriptive assessment of their ecological quality.

In addition a tree survey was carried out for the roadside boundary as this area specifically will be modified to increase road width at the facility. All trees and large shrubs were identified and recorded. For mature or old specimens the following details were recorded; tree number, height (m), crown spread (m), diameter at breast height, age, condition and other comments. Details of each tree are described in table 1. Trees and hedges on the other site boundaries were recorded and described in Target notes.

A site visit was conducted on 31st July 2006. The weather conditions were good.

Plant nomenclature followed Webb et al., (1996) for vascular plants (excluding grasses) and Hubbard, (1984); for grasses. Lating nomenclature is provided for each species at first description.

# 3.2 Survey Limitations

No significant limitations were encountered.

#### 4 Receiving Environment

## 4.1 Habitat survey

The following habitats exist on the site.

- Other artificial lakes and ponds (FL8)
- Dry meadows and grassy verges (GS2)
- Amenity grassland (GA2)
- Mixed broadleaved woodland (WD1)
- Hedgerows (WL1)

- Treelines (WL2)
- Buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3)

# Other artificial lakes and ponds (FL8)

A pond surrounded by dense reed (*Phragmites australis*) and willow (*Salix* sp) was constructed in the past as part of a Tesco natures choice scheme.

#### Dry meadows and grassy verges (GS2)

A portion of the site is overgrown by nettles (*Urtica* sp), cleaver (*Galium aparine*) and willowherb (*Epilobium* sp).

### Amenity grassland (GA2)

A football pitch is regularly cut and exists at the western boundary of the facility. Species include daisy (*Bellis perennis*), silverweed (*Potentilla anserina*) and grasses.

#### Mixed broadleaved woodland ((WD1)

A plantation including ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), alder (*Alaus glutinosa*), sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) and oak (*Quercus* sp) has been planted around the artificial wetland.

# Hedgerows (WL1)

- At Target Note 1, managed planted box (Buxus sempervirens) hedge occurs.
- At Target Note 2, managed planted Leyland cypress (Cupressocyparis leylandii) hedge occurs.
- At Target Note 3, is a managed hedgerow composed of native species including hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), privet (*Ligustrum vulgare*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) and ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*).

#### Treelines (WL2)

- At Target Note 5 is a planted scattered treeline of 8 mostly dying grey poplar *Populas x* canescens. Other scattered trees planted on this area of amenity grassland include mountain ash (*Sorbus acuparia*) and sycamore. Some immature beech trees grow right beside the site boundary
- At Target Note 6 along the northern boundary of the site, treelines are dominated by
  mature deciduous trees. 15 of these trees are >20m high and >0.5m diameter at chest
  height with associated dense crown spread. Species occur in the approximate ratios
  ash (2), beech (1) and sycamore (1).
- At Target Note 7 mature hawthorn trees dominate treelines.

 At Target Note 4 is a group of 3 mature ash trees and 3 mature sycamores. All these trees are >15m high.

- At Target Note 8 are 3 mature ivy (Hedera helix) clad ash trees of 14-15m height and 0.7 diameter, chest height.
- At Target Note 9, treelines are dominated by planted Leyland cypress (Cupressocyparis leylandii) and scattered elder (Sambucus nigra).
- At Target Note 10, Leyland cypress dominated treelines include a large grey poplar and 2 mature beech (see Tree survey results). Other species include species from a remnant hedgerow including a hazel tree, an ash tree, scrubby blackthorn and elder bushes. Some short mature mountain ash trees (N=2) and immature beech (N=6) have been planted here.
- At target note 12 are immature scattered beech trees (N=9), all approximately 6m high.

## Buildings and artificial surfaces (BL3)

Most of the site consists of a mushroom factory and composting facility with associated buildings and concrete surfaces.

At Target note 11 the boundary of the site consists of a fence line.

# 4.2 Tree survey

A tree survey was carried out for the boundary hedgerow and includes a description of planted Leyland cypress (*Cupressocyparis leylandii*) shrub and other scrubby growth. Table 1 tabulates and provides details on significant trees surveyed here. For details of target note and tree identification location see Figure 1.

Table 1: Tree survey results for roadside trees.

Tree	Nos. trees	Species	Height	Crown	Diameter at	Age	Condition	Comment
identification		Common and	(m)	spread	Breast			
		Latin name		(m)	Height (m)			
Α	1	Beech (Fagus	15	13	0.75 each	Mature	Good	Pollarded - 3 separate
		sylvatica)						stems at chest height
В	1	Beech (Fagus	15	14	0.9	Mature	Good	
		sylvatica)				r USE.		
С	2	Beech (Fagus	16	6	0.5	Mature	Good	2 beech adjacent to each
		sylvatica)			could, su	3		other
D	1	grey poplar	>25m	15	1.3 TOSEBUIL	Mature	Good	Planted
		(Populas x			tion puredu			
		canescens)		:159	1.3 roses of for ati			
	8	grey poplar	>20m	8 For Still	0.75	Mature	3 Good.	Planted
		(Populas x		x of cor			Rest	
		canescens)		8 Forth			dying/	
							poor	
							condition	

# 5 Landscaping plan

The landscape plan is displayed in Figure 2. Target notes displayed here are described in table 2. For the existing screening see description and or target notes which refer to figure 1 under the habitat survey section 4.1.

Table 2: Recommendations based on development requirements.

Target	Existing	Changes with	Screening plan	Result	
note	screening	development			
number	and /or Target				
(Figure 2)	note (Figure 1)				
1	Light screening.	Beech tree to be removed	Plant 4 Ash trees (>6m high) along new site	Improve existing screening	
	Mature beech tree	and set back the existing	boundary. Plant roadside hedgerow to include		
		site boundary to facilitate	hawthorn /blackthorn/ hazel mix. These would be		
		traffic sightlines.	planted in the ratio 552:1 respectively. They will be		
			a minimum of 50cm high and planted 50 cm apart.		
			go ited to		
2	Moderate	Removal of box hedge and	Plant Ash trees (>6m high). Plant roadside	Improve existing screening.	
	screening.	trees and set back the site	hedgerow along new boundary to include hawthorn		
	Managed box	boundary to facilitate traffices	blackthorn/ hazel mix. These would be planted in		
	hedge and mature	sightlines.	the ratio 5:2:1 respectively. They will be a minimum		
	beech tree	sightlines.	of 50cm high and planted 50 cm apart		
3	Good screening	With gate widening and	Plant 6 Ash trees (>6m high). Plant roadside	Maintain existing screening	
	see target note 10	boundary set back loss of	hedgerow along new boundary to include hawthorn	quality.	
		small mountain ash, beech	/blackthorn/ hazel mix. These would be planted in		
		and road edge Leyland	the ratio 5:2:1 respectively. They will be a minimum		
		cypress and 2 mature	of 50cm high and planted 50 cm apart.		
		beech trees.			

Target	Existing	sting Changes with Screening plan		
note	screening	development		
number	and /or Target			
(Figure 2)	note (Figure 1)			
4,5 and 6	Moderate	Remove beech trees with	Maintain grey poplar on existing green area. Under	Improve existing screening.
	screening. 8 grey	road widening and	plant / reinforce with hawthorn /blackthorn/ hazel	
	poplar and 6	boundary set back.	mix. These would be planted in the ratio 5:2:1	
	immature beech		respectively. They will be a minimum of 50cm high	
	trees		and planted 50 cm apart.	
7	No significant	None	and planted oo on opport	
	screening on		JOSE LEGITE	
	southern fence line.		in the feet	
8	Light includes a	None	Reant 4 Ash trees (>6m high).	This will "soften" any
	mature hawthorn	<b>♦</b> 0'	Wite	possible visibility of the
		, of co		proposed development
		Consent of Co		from the south west and
		C		improve existing screening.
9	Light managed	None	Reinforce hedgerow through planting hawthorn and	
	hedgerow		blackthorn on bare areas and gaps. These would	
			be planted in the ratio 5:3 respectively. They will be	
			a minimum of 50cm high and planted 50 cm apart.	
			Allow existing hedgerow which includes ash trees to	
			grow naturally and cease any more cutting.	

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Target Existing		Changes with	Screening plan	Result	
note	screening	development			
number	and /or Target				
(Figure 2)	note (Figure 1)				
10	Good. Mature ash	None	None		
	trees				
11	None	None	Plant approximately 75 Ash trees trees> 6m high,	This will "soften" any	
			2m apart in gaps no allow a "natural" look. Under	possible visibility of the	
			plant / reinforce with hawthorn /blackthorn/ hazel	proposed development	
			mix. These would be planted in the ratio 5:2:1	from the south.	
			respectively. They will be a minimum of 50cm high		
			and planted 50 cm apart.		
			and planted 50 cm apart.		
12	None. This area is	None 🞺	None		
	well screened by	, of co			
	woodland in the	Consent of co			
	uninhabited area				
	east of here				
13	Good. Mature tree	None	None		
	line				

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#### 6 References

Environmental Protection Agency (2003). *Advice Notes on Current Practice in the Preparation of Environmental Impact Statements*. EPA, Wexford, Ireland.

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Webb, D.A., Parnell, J. and Doogue, D. 1996. *An Irish Flora* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Dundalgan Press, Dundalk.

