
5. NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Introduction

In May 2000 the Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) issued a Waste Licence (W116-01) to Waterford Utility Services (Waste Disposal) Ltd to operate its Materials Recovery and Transfer facility at Carriganard, Butlerstown, County Wicklow. WUS is now applying to the Agency for a review of a number of the Waste Licence conditions. The information included in the application for review is based the requirements of the Waste Management (Licensing) Regulations 2004.

The objectives of the review are to: -

- To amend the licensed activities specified in Schedule A of the licence to include Class 12 of the Third Schedule – Waste Disposal Activities of the Waste Management Acts 1996 to 2003 and to change the description of those activities which are currently licensed.
- To amend the total and individual limits set for annual waste inputs to allow an increase of the total amount 15,000 tonnes specified in Schedule H to 70,000 tonnes and to remove the restrictions on the quantities of the individual wastes provided that the total of 70,000 tonnes is not exceeded in any one calendar year. It is not proposed to change the waste types accepted at the facility.
- To change the current hours of waste acceptance (08:00 and 17:00 Monday to Friday inclusive and between 08:00 and 12:00 on Saturday) to 06:00 - 23.00 seven days per week.
- To change Condition 5.3 to allow public access to a proposed on-site civic amenity facility.

Nature of the Facility

The facility is non hazardous waste materials recovery and the transfer operation. Waste materials are processed and treated on-site to recovery materials that are suitable for recycling and to minimise the quantity of treated waste disposed to residual landfill.

Classes of Activity

The relevant activities as per the Third and Fourth Schedules of the Waste Management Act 1996 to 2003 will be as follows: -

Third Schedule – Waste Disposal Activities

Class 12

“Repackaging prior to submission to any activity referred to in the preceding paragraph of this Schedule”.

Class 11

“Blending or mixture prior to submission to any activity referred to in a preceding paragraph of this Schedule”.

Class 13

“Storage prior to submission to any activity referred to in a preceding paragraph of this Schedule, other than temporary storage, pending collection, on the premises where the waste concerned is produced”.

Fourth Schedule – Waste Recovery Activities

Class 2

“Recycling or reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents, (including composting and other biological processes). This is the principal activity.”

Class 3

“Recycling or reclamation of metals and metal compounds”.

Class 4

“Recycling or reclamation of other inorganic materials”.

Class 13

“Storage of waste intended for submission to any activity referred to in a preceding paragraph of this Schedule, other than temporary storage, pending collection, on the premises where such waste is produced”.

Quantity and Nature of the Waste to be Recovered or Disposed

The quantity and nature of the wastes are presented in Table 1.

Table 1 Annual Waste Quantities

WASTE TYPE	MAXIMUM (TONNES PER ANNUM) ^(Note 1)
Municipal Waste	30,000
Construction and Demolition Waste	20,000
Other Non-Hazardous Solid Waste	20,000
TOTAL	70,000

Note 1: The quantities of the different categories referred to in this table can be amended with the agreement of the Agency provided that the total quantity of waste specified is not exceeded.

Raw and Ancillary Materials, Substances, Preparations used on the Site

Details on the raw and ancillary materials, substances, preparations, fuels and energy that are utilised at the facility are included in the AER for 2005. The increase in waste inputs will result in an increase in fuel oil and energy usage. The actual increases in usage will be reported to the Agency in future Annual Environmental Reports (AERs).

Plant, Methods, Processes and Operating Procedures

The proposed increases in the waste volumes accepted for processing will not result in any changes to the current plant, methods, processes and operating procedures either employed, or envisaged under the current licence conditions.

Information Related to paragraphs (a) to (g) of Section 40 (4) of the Waste Management Acts 1996 2003.

The actual and potential emissions from the facility, which include noise, dust, odour, surface water run-off will not result in the contravention of any relevant standard or emission limit prescribed under enactment. Wastewater is not discharged from the facility, but is removed off-site in road tankers and treated in an off-site wastewater treatment plant.

The site activities take into consideration the Draft Best Available Technique Guidance Note for the Waste Sector: Waste Transfer Activities published by the EPA. The facility operations, when carried out in accordance with licence conditions, will not cause environmental pollution.

WUS is a wholly owned subsidiary of Greenstar Ltd. It is not proposed to amend the current management structure at the facility. In November 2003 WUS was successfully prosecuted on seven charges for breaches of the current Waste Licence. The charges included the off-site disposal of wastes at facilities not approved by the Agency (4 counts), failure to submit a decommissioning plan, failure to provide a proposal for financial provision and failure to maintain written records of the waste recovered or disposed of at the facility.

Source, Location Nature, Composition, Quantity, Level and Rate of Emissions

Noise

Noise surveys were carried out in 2005 and 2006 to assess the impacts associated with emissions from the facility. The surveys included measurements at the site perimeter and at off-site Noise Sensitive Locations (NSLs). The main source of noise recorded at the NSLs was local traffic along the roads and neighbouring activities. WUS has not received any complaints about noise emissions from site activities.

Dust

The primary source of dust emissions from the facility is vehicle movements on paved open yard areas during dry periods. Waste unloading and processing is carried out internally and there are negligible fugitive emissions from this source. The facility is located within an industrial estate so there are significant off-site sources of dust. WUS has not received any complaints about dust emissions from site activities.

Surface Water

Surface water run-off from the roofed and paved yard area passes through an oil interceptor before discharge into the land drain opposite the facility. Surface water monitoring is carried out at the discharge point from the facility (SW3) and in the drain, up (SW1) and downstream (SW2) of the discharge point. The monitoring for 2005 and 2006 indicates that both the surface water discharge and the quality of the water upstream and downstream of the facility is generally good.

Odours

Odour emissions are associated with the handling, sorting and transfer of both household and commercial waste due to its organic content. Emissions from handling and storage of dry recyclable material (i.e. plastics, glass, metals) and C&D waste are negligible. The current materials recovery and transfer operations, which include the acceptance of waste with a putrescible content, are not a significant source of odour nuisance. WUS has not received any complaints about odours from the site activities.

Assessment of the Effects of Emissions on the Environment

Noise

It is not proposed to change the existing site activities or plant items. There will be no new additional noise sources. The monitoring results for 2005 and 2006 indicate that the facility when fully operational does not affect the nearest noise sensitive locations. The sites location, on a cul de sac screened from sensitive receptors by adjoining buildings of the estate, significantly mitigates any noise emissions from the facility. Due to the proposed extended working hours additional night time noise surveys will be carried out.

Dust

It is not proposed to change the existing site activities or plant items therefore there will be no new sources of dust from the facility. There is the potential for increased dust emissions due to increased vehicle movements. Although the emission limit value has been exceeded consistently dust emissions there are contributory off-site sources and WUS has never received any complaints about dusts. Abatement measures to control dust include regular yard and road sweeping and damping down in dry weather conditions and internal processing of wastes.

Surface Water

It is not envisaged that there will be any new sources of surface water emissions from the facility due to the review of operations.

Odour

There is the potential for odours from the acceptance and handling of putrescible wastes. Existing odour control measures include the quick processing and removal of putrescible wastes off site and floor cleaning of areas used to handle putrescible wastes. It is also proposed to carry out weekly monitoring of the facility perimeter and sensitive locations to assess the impact of odour nuisance.

Monitoring and Sampling Points

The proposed amendments to the current licence conditions will require additional night time noise surveys which it is proposed to carry out bi-annually at the existing monitoring locations.

Prevention and Recovery of Waste

Waste oils generated during plant and vehicle maintenance are collected and sent off-site for recycling.

Off-site Treatment or Disposal of Solid or Liquid Wastes

The waste activities will not result in any changes to the types or method of treatment or disposal of solid and liquid wastes.

Emergency Procedures to Prevent Unexpected Emissions

WUS has prepared and adopted an Emergency Response Procedures (ERP) to address emergencies and incidents that result in unexpected emissions.

Closure, Restoration and Aftercare of the Site

The proposed amendments to the current licence will not impact on the agreed measures for the closure, remediation and aftercare of the facility.

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