



This report has been cleared for Submission to the Board by the Programme Manager P. Nolan  
 Signed: *[Signature]* Date: 26/06/08

INSPECTORS REPORT ON A LICENCE APPLICATION	
<b>To:</b>	DIRECTORS
<b>From:</b>	MAEVE MCHUGH - LICENSING UNIT
<b>Date:</b>	11 JUNE 2008
<b>RE:</b>	APPLICATION FOR A WASTE LICENCE FROM CORK COUNTY COUNCIL, LICENCE REGISTER W0089-02

Application Details	
Type of facility:	Existing Landfill, New Waste Transfer Station and new upgraded Civic Amenity Facility
Classes of Activity (P = principal activity):	3 <sup>rd</sup> Schedule: 1, 4, 5, 12 (P), 13. 4 <sup>th</sup> Schedule: 2, 3, 4, 13
Quantity of waste managed per annum:	24,152 (17,000 tonnes for disposal, 7,152 for recovery)
Classes of Waste:	Mixed household waste, dry recyclables, Construction and Demolition waste, garden waste, WEEE, hazardous waste (household & similar)
Location of facility:	Derryconnell Landfill, Derryconnell, Schull, Co Cork
Licence application received:	06/07/07
Article 16 notice issued:	21/01/08
Article 16 response received:	16/04/08
Third Party submissions:	None
Site Visit	14/08/07

**1. Facility**

The facility to which the waste licence application relates is located at Derryconnell, in a rural setting outside the town of Schull in West Cork. There is an existing landfill at the facility, which was licensed by the Agency in October 2000. The landfill is licensed to accept 14,000 tonnes per annum of waste. There is also a small Civic Amenity Facility and leachate holding infrastructure on the site.

The licence was technically amended in 2005 to incorporate reference to BAT and to include measures regarding Resource Use and Energy Efficiency, Accident Prevention and Emergency Response and Closure, Restoration and Aftercare Management to meet the requirements of the IPPC Directive.

The developments proposed at the facility include the construction, on previously undeveloped land, including a new Waste Transfer Station and the construction of a new (upgraded) Civic Amenity Facility for the public, catering for the recovery of up to 5,000 tpa of waste.

The lifespan of the landfill in Derryconnell is limited – it is estimated that the landfill will reach capacity in July/August 2008. With this in mind Cork County Council propose to continue landfilling until the landfill is full at which point they propose to commence the operation of a temporary Waste Transfer Station and ultimately a new waste transfer station. The Recommended Determination limits the operation of the *temporary* Waste Transfer Station to the period of time after the landfill has ceased accepting waste and while the new Waste Transfer Station is under construction.

## **2. Infrastructure & Operational Description**

### **2.1 Existing Landfill Facility**

The landfill has been operational since 1985 as an unlined landfill. It was licensed in 2000 to allow for the development of three new lined landfill cells accepting 14,000 tonnes per annum of waste.

The existing landfill operates as follows:

Waste is delivered to the site by Local Authority Waste Collection Vehicles or permitted contractors, weighed and tipped onto the working face of the landfill. Alternatively waste is delivered by members of the public to the small, existing Civic Amenity facility, weighed and deposited into a skip. When the skip is full the waste is transferred to the working face of the landfill. The working face is covered over on a daily basis.

### **2.2 Waste transfer Station**

The waste transfer activities will take place within a dedicated building. Waste for disposal will continue to be brought to the site by the Local Authority waste collection vehicles. These vehicles, which will be weighed at the weighbridge, will tip the waste into a compactor in the waste transfer building. Here, waste will be compacted into an ejector trailer before onward transport to a licensed landfill facility. The applicant is also considering the possibility of developing a construction and demolition waste recovery area, which if it is developed will be controlled by the requirements of Condition 3.18 of the RD.

### **2.3 Civic Amenity Facility**

The facility is to be constructed so that members of the public will have access to certain areas only. Receptacles will be provided where waste can be placed. Household waste for disposal brought to the site by members of

the public will be weighed and charged for on a by-weight basis. This waste will be put through a hatch in the waste transfer building and stored in a dumper vehicle prior to being placed into the compactor.

There will be hatches in the side of the transfer building where the public can place cardboard, paper, plastic and cans. These will travel down chutes into a dedicated compactor for dry recyclables.

There will be an area where reusable items of furniture can be placed. The Civic Amenity will also provide for the collection of flat glass, WEEE, green waste, metal etc.

A site office, a waste quarantine area and separate receptacles for household hazardous waste will be provided at the facility.

#### 2.4 Temporary Waste Transfer Station

The applicant also proposes a temporary waste transfer station which will remain operational until the permanent waste transfer station is constructed. The operation of the temporary waste transfer station is controlled by Condition 8.8 and Schedule A Limitations of the RD.

### **3. Use of Resources**

The RD requires the licensee to carry out an audit of the energy efficiency of the site and, as a result, to identify improvements, which should then be incorporated into the Schedule of Objectives and Targets.

### **4. Emissions**

#### 4.1 Emissions to Atmosphere

The principal emissions to air will be landfill gas and the combustion products of landfill gas and the emission of odorous products from the leachate lagoon.

Following the closure and restoration of the landfill the odour emissions will mainly arise from the waste transfer station. All waste tipping and compaction will take place within the waste transfer building. Putrescible waste for disposal is to be placed in a sealed unit, and removed from the facility within forty-eight hours of being accepted at the facility, with the exception of bank holidays, when a limit of seventy-two hours will apply.

#### 4.2 Emissions to Sewer

There are no direct emissions to sewer from the current operations on site and none proposed from the new development on site. Leachate collected from the landfill is stored in a leachate lagoon and transported to Bandon Wastewater Treatment Plant for treatment. Following closure of the landfill any abstracted leachate will continue to be stored in the lagoon. The applicant also proposed that other sewage or soiled wash water from the transfer building would also be stored in the leachate lagoon and transported to the Bandon treatment plant.

#### 4.3 Emissions to Surface Waters

There are no proposed discharges of process emissions to surface waters. All surface water runoff from the site will be collected and diverted to surface water via a Class I full retention separator.

#### 4.4 Surface Water Runoff

Surface water runoff from the site will discharge via a Class 1 full retention interceptor, to a perimeter drain and ultimately to the Ahboy River. The conditions of the RD require continued monitoring of surface water at a number of locations around the site's perimeter drains and local stream. There is also a requirement to maintain a supply of spill kits and absorbent material in case of oil spillages at the site. Process effluent, leachate and other wastewater will be stored in the leachate lagoon and tankered offsite to an agreed wastewater treatment plant.

#### 4.5 Emissions to ground/groundwater:

The landfill originally operated as an unlined landfill and later three lined cells were added. All waste handling and storage areas at the Waste Transfer Station and Civic Waste Facility will be hard surfaced. Runoff from these areas will be diverted to the on-site interceptor or the leachate lagoon.

#### 4.6 Noise:

The noise emissions from the facility will change in the coming years from being dominated by landfill machinery to noise emissions which, following the restoration of the landfill, will be dominated by the noise from the new Waste Transfer Station and Civic Amenity Sites. Ongoing noise monitoring will track the changing noise environment.

#### 4.7 Nuisance:

Condition 5.5 of the recommended decision requires that the licensee puts in place measures to ensure that vermin, birds, litter etc., do not give rise to nuisance.

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

It is expected that the imminent closure and subsequent restoration of the Derryconnell landfill will have a positive effect on the local environment from the point of view of emissions, generation of leachate etc. Emissions from the operation of the new Waste Transfer Station and Civic Waste Facility will be minimal and will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

### **6. Waste Management Plan**

The proposed facility is in keeping with the objectives of the Waste Management Plan for the County.

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

The facility will be in compliance with both the Landfill and IPPC Directives.

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

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

## **9. Proposed Decision**

I am satisfied that the conditions set out in the RD will adequately address all emissions from the facility and will ensure that the carrying on of the activities in accordance with the conditions will not cause environmental pollution.

## **10. Submissions**

There were no submissions made in relation to this application.

## **11. Charges**

The charges for the facility have been set at €13,066.

## **12. 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

*Maevé McHugh*  
PP   
Maevé McHugh

### **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 as soon as may be after the expiry of the appropriate period.