

# Srahmore Waste Licence W199-1 Annual Environmental Report 2008

Bord na Móna today operates 5 main subsidiary companies in more than 20 locations throughout Ireland, the UK and USA. The principal businesses are in the Energy, Resource Recovery, Horticulture, Home Heating and Wastewater Treatment and Air Pollution Abatement markets. The company also engages in an extensive rehabilitation program to develop its peat lands in an environmentally sustainable manner. The company turnover for 2007/8 was €370m.



Bord na Móna has long recognised the need to diversify its activities in order to secure a sustainable future. In this context we identified the energy and resource recovery sectors as appropriate areas of growth and development, given our assets, strengths and skills. Significant challenges face Ireland in meeting the country's needs to provide secure sustainable energy and manage waste while minimising the impact on the environment. Bord na Móna is in a strong position to contribute to dealing with these challenges. We have a unique mixture of assets, experience and innovation which will enable us to cross-link our activities in energy, water and resource recovery to provide products and services which will meet Ireland's needs. We also have the capacity to become an exemplar for others to follow in these fields.

With this background we have scoped out a new vision for the future sustainable development of Bord na Móna.

Following on from our vision, we have developed a new mission for Bord na Móna which the Company is committed to achieving.

In 1934 the Turf Development Board was formed to 'develop and improve the turf industry.' The experience of fuel shortages during the war re-enforced the Irish State's commitment to developing the country's bogs. In 1944 the TDB was asked to devise and submit a comprehensive programme, the outcome was the transformation in 1946 of the TDB into Bord na Móna. The Board was given a mandate to increase the use of peat as a fuel and in energy production. Markets for the use of moss peat in horticulture were also developed. In 1990 Bord na Móna implemented a divisionalised and decentralised structure, designed to delegate responsibility downwards ensuring a sharper focus on each profit centre and a greater spirit of enterprise.

# Group Vision A NEW CONTRACT WITH NATURE

The vision statement defines the Company's purpose, in terms of its values.

Values are guiding beliefs about how things should be done.

The vision statement communicates both the purpose and values of Bord na Móna.

For employees, it gives direction about how they are expected to behave and inspires them to give their best. Shared with customers, it shapes the customers' understanding of why they should work with Bord na Móna.

Bord na Móna will seek solutions that optimise the creative energy and potential of the organisation, driven by long term goals and the organisation's vision and mission.

In this context our devolved business units will align their vision and strategic planning with the global direction provided.

Consistent with our vision, innovation will once again return to the core of everything we do. We will capitalise on opportunities to cross fertilise our unique range of skills and technologies that add value and are socially and environmentally sustainable.

Greater focus will be placed on managing and developing our land assets in a responsible and sustainable manner. Our award winning initiatives at Lough Boora (Co. Offaly) and Oweninny (Co Mayo), provide shining examples of what can be achieved

# **Group Mission**

We conduct our affairs with openness, honesty and integrity.

We are Ireland's leading environmentally responsible integrated utility service provider encompassing electricity, heating solutions, resource recovery, water, horticulture and related services.

We capitalise on international opportunities where we have a competitive advantage.

We achieve continuing growth through superior customer service, outstanding quality and innovation delivered through the excellence and commitment of our people.

We engage in sustainable profitable business in the communities we serve, which is rewarding and challenging for employees and other stakeholders.

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#### 1. Introduction

#### 1.1. Report Period

This Annual Environmental Report covers the period of 01/01/08 to 31/12/08 for the Srahmore Peat Repository at Attavally, Bangor-Erris, Co Mayo.

This is the fourth Annual Environmental Report for Bord na Mona's Peat Repository at Srahmore, Attavally, Bangor-Erris, Co Mayo. The structure and contents of this report are based on the requirements of Schedule D Reports & AER Content.

#### 1.2. Waste Licence Register Number - W199-1

#### 1.3. Operator & Address of Facility.

Bord na Mona Energy Ltd

Srahmore,

Attavally

Bangor-Erris

Co Mayo

#### 1.4. Environmental Policy (attached on next page)



#### **Environmental Policy Statement**

Bord Na Mona Energy Limited is a commercial semi-state body with responsibility to develop Ireland's peat resources in the national interest.

Bord Na Mona Energy Limited is committed to gather and make available information on all aspects of its environmental impact and to help improve understanding among the public generally of its role and of the importance of Irish peatlands.

Bord Na Mona Energy Limited recognises the importance of peatland conservation.

Bord Na Mona Energy Limited will leave behind all areas it owns as either an economically or socially integrated resource of high environmental value.

Bord Na Mona Energy Limited seeks to conduct all aspects of its business in an environmentally sensitive manner.

Bord Na Mona Energy Limited will establish an environmental management system specifically addressing the following impacts:

- Discharges to water
- Emissions to atmosphere
- Waste disposal
- Use of natural resources
- Noise, vibration, odour, dust and visual effects
- Natural environmental and eco-system

The environmental management system will be monitored, maintained and continually improved.

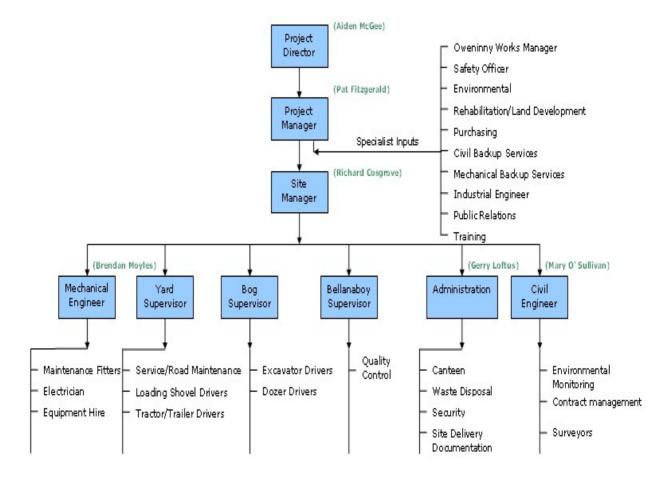
A system of regular environmental audits will be put in place.

Bord Na Mona Energy Limited will continue research and development (R&D) into all aspects of its environmental impact.

This statement is published and is available at all locations within the section and its contents are brought to the attention of all employees

#### 1.5. Current Management Structure

#### Corrib Project - Peat Deposition Phase



### 2. Waste Management Report

#### 2.1. Site Description

The site is situated approximately 1km northwest of the village Bangor-Erris and comprises cutover peatland in the Oweninny bog complex. This consists of eight separate areas of cutover peatland, numbered 1 – 8, each of which was assessed for suitability for the development. Area 5 was selected as the peat reception area. Area 6 was selected for the actual deposition of peat and a section of Area 7 is utilised as a "controlled overflow area" in the event of exceedance of the design rainfall. The peat reception area is utilised for off-loading of the peat is the closest area to the public road.

The site is a peat disposal area for the placement of c. 450,000m³ of peat waste excavated from the development of the Shell Corrib Gas Field Terminal at the nearby Bellanaboy Bridge site. The peat, which is from a 3000 to 5000 year old Atlantic Blanket Bog, is transported by road in trucks to the Srahmore deposit area. It was originally anticipated that peat transport and deposit would take place over a 6 month period, spread out over two seasons. However, peat transport and deposit ceased on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2005, and as of that date, 112,937tonnes were transported to and deposited at the site.

Peat deposition at the site did not resume during 2006, so therefore no peat was deposited at the Srahmore site during 2006.

Peat deposition did recommence on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April 2007 and completed the deposition of peat on the 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007.

Since then, decommissioning of plant and equipment has taken place in accordance with Condition 9.1 of the Waste Licence.

As of this AER, the volume of peat deposited in Srahmore is 448,049m<sup>3</sup>.

A map detailing the final deposition is included in Appendix 1.

During the decommissioning of certain elements and general maintenance of the site during 2008, 10 personnel were employed in the following areas:

BNM (support)	0	General	2	Security	0
		Operatives			
BNM	0	Fitters		Environmental	1
(Engineering)			1		
Head Office Staff	1	Electricians	0	Archaeological	0
Site Office Staff	1	Site Supervisors	0	Canteen	0
Drivers	4	Contractors	-		
		Total			10

Plant on site during all operations is as follows:

Machine	Number	Operator
Excavators	23	BNM
Dozers	1	BNM
Tractors	2	BNM
Quads	1	BNM
Loading Shovels	0	BNM

## 3. Environmental Emissions of the Activity

#### 3.1. Emissions to Atmosphere Summary

The only potential emissions to the atmosphere from the activities on site are dust. As required by Condition 8.8.1, locations for dust monitoring around the site were agreed with the Agency, and Bergerhoff Dust gauges were installed.

As there was no peat deposition operations at the site during 2008, there were no requirement to monitor for dust, as was the case in 2007.

#### 3.2. Emissions to Water Summary

Emissions to water from the site takes place at 3 locations:

Licence Emission Ref. No	SW No
S5-1	SW100
S5-2	SW101
Location 7 (combined from Area 5/6)	SW4

As required by Schedule C (2.2) the following parameters were monitored during peat deposition, from January to December 08

Monitoring during peat deposition	Continuous	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Quarterly
suspension					
(October 2005 to					
December 2006)					
Flow	SW4				
рН			SW4	SW 100 & 101	
Conductivity	SW4		SW100 & 101		
COD			SW4, 100 & 101		
BOD					SW4
Suspended Solids		SW4	SW 100 & 101		
TDS			SW4		
Nitrite (as N)				SW4	
Nitrate (as N)				SW4	
Ammonia (as N)			SW4, 100 & 101		
Total Phosphorus				SW4	
Oils, fats &					SW4
greases					

Emissions from SW4 are monitored using a flow proportional composite sampler, which operates on a continuous basis. Here a sample bottle is filled over a 24 hour period and sent to Complete Laboratory Services for analysis.

The compliance requirements at SW4 are as follows:

18/10 consecutive results, calculated as daily mean concentration or mass emission values on the basis of flow proportional composite sampling, shall not exceed the emission limit value. No individual result similarly calculated shall exceed 1.2 times the emission limit value

Emissions from SW100 & 101 are sampled by grab sample on a Quarterly basis and sent to the lab for analysis. The compliance requirements at SW100 & 101 are as follows:

No grab sample value shall exceed 1.2 times the emission limit value.

The emission limit value (ELV) attached to emissions to water from the site is 35mg/l suspended solids.

Results for the 3 emission points are in Appendix 2.

#### Non-compliances:

Monitoring Point	Emission (SS mg/l)	ELV	Corrective Action
		(mg/l)	
SW7 (Location 7)	49 mg/l	35mg/l <sup>1</sup>	Yes

This represents an over compliance level of 99.7%

#### 3.3 Ambient Monitoring.

#### **River-water Monitoring:**

Schedule C (6) requires monthly monitoring for Suspended Solids and Ammonia at two locations on the Munhin River, upstream and down stream of the discharge from Location 7 (SW4). The average suspended solids upstream and downstream of the discharge from the site were 7mg/l and 10mg/l respectively.

The average ammonia levels upstream of the discharge are 0.017 mg/l to .019 mg/l downstream. These results would be typical of levels found in peatland catchments and are well below the Maximum Allowable Concentration (0.23 mg/l)

These results would indicate that the Srahmore Peat Repository activities are having no negative effect on the suspended solids content of the river during 2008

Results of the analysis are attached in Appendix 3.

#### **Groundwater Monitoring:**

Condition 8.10 required the installation of a groundwater monitoring network at the site, in accordance with Agency guidelines. This required one up-hydraulic gradient, one down gradient of the peat reception area, and two down gradient of the peat deposition area.

Groundwater sampling was conducted on one occasion in 2008, due to the inactivity at the site.

On the 24 and 25<sup>th</sup> of November, all boreholes were monitored with BH 1A displaying elevated Diesel Range Organics (DRO's). A reserve sample for this location was

again analysed and the DRO's for that sample were found to be compliant with the Guide values. This was notified to the Agency.

Results of all sampling during the period of investigation and the groundwater contour map are attached in appendix 4.

#### 3.4 Noise Monitoring Report.

Condition 8.11 of the licence requires a noise survey to be carried out during weeks 2, 6 & 12 at the following locations:

NRA – At site entrance from the R313.

NRB – North/West of the site on the R313 at a dwelling.

NRC – West of the site, close to Bangor-Erris Village

Due to the absence of any peat deposition activity at the site during 2008, noise monitoring was not required

A map of the Waste Licence Emission & Monitoring Points is included in Appendix 6.

#### 3.5 Resource & Energy Consumption

Resource and Energy Consumption for the Facility was as follows:

Marked gas oil for all machine operations - 2988 litres

Electricity usage - 8058 MW/hrs

Due to the completion of deposition at the site during 2007, there was little energy and resource consumption at the site during 2008.

## 4 Environmental Management System

## 4.1 Management & Reporting Structure

This is included in section 1.5 and details the current management & reporting structure.

## 4.2 Schedule of Environmental Objectives & Targets

This sets out the schedule of objectives as proposed by Condition 2.2.2.2.

Objective	Target
Minimisation of suspended solids	Assessment of suspended solids generation during peat deposition during the first two months and setting a programme for its reduction
2. Reduction of fugitive dust	Establish the levels of dust generation during peat deposition during the first two months and setting a programme for its reduction.
3. Protection of dust sensitive areas	Establish the levels of dust nuisance at the three dust sensitive locations during the first two months of monitoring and setting a programme for the protection of these areas
4. Reuse of silt pond waste	Monitor the levels of silt pond waste cleanings at the 7 silt ponds and swale locations over the peat deposition period and establish a reuse option.
Effective spill leak management of Mobile fuelling units	Comply with all of the condition of the licence in relation to operation and maintenance of all mobile fuelling operations, and assess its effectiveness after 3 months operation.
Management of dangerous substances	Comply with the conditions of licence relating to oil and diesel storage, bunding and recycling and review after 2 months operation
7. Management of silt pond flow discharges	Comply with the conditions of the licence in relation to the management of silt pond flow discharges during high rainfall events and assess its effectiveness after two months operation.
Reuse of stone used in internal haul-road construction	Investigate any potential re-uses for the geotextile and stone used in the construction of the internal; haul-roads, either on site or in the locality.

## 4.3 Environmental Management Programme Report.

## Minimisation of Suspended Solids (EMP1)

Activity/Emission	Objective	Target Date	Target	Persons Responsible
OT1 Emission of suspended Solids	Minimisation of suspended Solids	On-going programme during the life of the project and as part of aftercare & maintenance.	To comply with Conditions 8.9.1, 8.9.3 & 8.9.4. a programme of weekly inspections of all drainage and subsequent waste treatments systems, daily inspections of discharges to receiving waters and the regulation and monitoring of all silt generating activities will be put in-place. This will be used for establishing the cleaning roster.  These systems will be assessed on an ongoing basis for the first two months of peat deposition, to assess the degree of suspended solids generation, and this along with the daily results for SS from the Composite Sampler will be used to establish targets for the reduction of Suspended Solids	Site Manager & Environmental Manager
			Status: The inspections and monitoring of these emissions were continued during 2008 and are retained on site for inspection.	

Activity/Emission	Objective	Target Date	Target	Person Responsible
OT2 Fugitive dust emissions	Reduction of fugitive dust emissions during all operations	On-going programme during the life of the project.	This programme will establish the degree of dust generation during the first two months of peat deposition. Peat delivery, tipping on the peat reception area, loading into the trailers and deposition into the bays will be examined along with any dust suppression methods employed and the appropriate Dust Handling Procedure. This will include the first two months of dust monitoring.  The results of these assessments will be used to establish targets for reduction of fugitive dust emissions.  Status: Due to the absence of any peat deposition activities on site during the reporting period, this was programme was not required.	Site Manager & Environmental Manager

## Protection of dust sensitive areas. (EMP3)

Activity/Emission	Objective	Target Date	Target	Person Responsible
OT3 Fugitive dust emissions	Protection of Dust sensitive areas.	On-going programme during the life of the project.	Based of the results of the initial two months dust monitoring at the five dust sensitive locations, a programme of protection of dust sensitive locations will be examined.  This will address any measures to be put inplace, such as the planting of trees, or any special measures to be put in place to protect any areas that exceed the ELV of 350	Site Manager & Environmental Manager

mg/m²/day.	
Status: There were no complaint dust received at the site during 2 the inactivity at the site, so this p was suspended.	2008, due

# Reuse of silt pond wastes (EMP4)

Activity/Emission	Objective	Target Date	Target	Person Responsible
OT4 Reuse of Silt Pond Waste	The reuse of all silt pond wastes.	On-going programme during the life of the project.	As the silt wastes generated form the cleaning and maintenance of silt ponds S5-1, S5-2, Area 5 & Area 6 silt ponds are directly as a result of peat deposition, they will either be used in the Bog & Peat Deposition Area rehabilitation & aftercare, or will be incorporated into the existing bays once deposition is complete.	Site Manager & Environmental Manager
			Status: As all peat wastes accepted and generated at the site are for landfilling purposes, there is no further use for the silt pond cleanings. These will be incorporated into the peat deposited or if of benefit will be used in the final rehabilitation.	Site Manager & Environmental Manager

# Management of mobile fuelling wagons (EMP5)

Activity/Emission	Objective	Target Date	Target	Person Responsible
OT5 Management of mobile Fuelling units	Effective spill/leak management of mobile fuelling units.	On-going programme during the life of the project.	To comply with conditions 3.17, 3.19 and 3.20, the two mobile fuelling units are stored in a bunded location, with an oil spill kit in-place. Fuelling nozzles will be fitted with overflow shutoff mechanisms and auto fill clips will be disabled. All personnel will be made aware through training, of the Oil/Diesel Loading Procedure & the Emergency Response Procedure. Shortened versions of the procedures are posted on the tanks and at the bunded storage location. All service wagons have been inspected before use and biannually there after. Leaks, flaws, necessary repair etc, will be reported to the Site Manager. All the above will be in-place before peat deposition re-commences, and will be reassessed as to their effectiveness every 3 months. The out come of these assessments will determine any improvements to be made and target dates to achieve them.	Site Manager & Environmental Manager
			Status: All of the above measures were inplace for 2008.	

## Management of dangerous substances (EMP6)

Activity/Emission	Objective	Target Date	Target	Person Responsible
OT6 Management of dangerous substances List I & List II	To manage of any dangerous substances as listed in I & II of the Dangerous Substances Directive 80/68/EEC	On-going programme during the life of the project.	The only substances from Lists I & II of the Dangerous Substances Directive (76/464/EEC and 80/68/EEC and amendments) are List I (7) Mineral Oils and Hydrocarbons. The management of these will include:  (1). Pollution Prevention as required by Conditions 3.13 – 3.21. This includes the safe storage of diesels/oil/Filters and protection of ground and surface water during fuelling operations.  (2). Pollution Control: Maintenance of diesel/oil interceptors as required by Conditions 8.9.1 & 8.9.2  All of these measures will be in-place before peat deposition commences.  A review will be carried out after the first two months operation and every 3 months thereafter, to assess the effectiveness of programme OT6.  A programme of improvement will be implemented once the operational performance of the management of diesels & oils has been assessed.	Site Manager & Environmental Manager

	site include 3 Klargester units. These units are installed downstream of the grit trap and are operating successfully. They have also been fitted with alarms, which indicate when they require cleaning. The operation and maintenance of these units is on-going.  They were inspected during this time and are on record. Sampling for COD at SW2 during the year showed an average of 42 mg/l.
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# Management of silt pond flow discharges (EMP7)

Activity/Emission	Objective	Target Date	Target	Person Responsible
OT7 Effective management of Silt pond flow discharges	Effective management of flow discharges during periods of high precipitation and flooding.	On-going programme during the life of the project.	As is required by Conditions 3.11 & 3.12, all silt ponds must achieve specific design criteria i.e. max flow velocity <10 cm <sup>-1</sup> and min. 75m³/nett ha of bog. Flow regulators must also be fitted to ensure the design flow capacity is not exceeded.  The drainage system has been designed to a rainfall event of 31 mm, which equates to a 100 year storm event of 1 hours rainfall.  As the preferred option for the drainage management was the controlled discharge of water from the drains to the swale to the silt ponds, appropriate flow regulators will be inplace to ensure the design flow of each of the silt ponds is not exceeded during heavy rainfall	Site Manager & Environmental Manager

and that any excess runoff generated is
discharged to the overflow area (Area 7).
Condition 3.4 requires a construction quality assurance validation to be completed on the surface water drainage/control/treatment works. This will include an assessment of the performance of the silt ponds and will assess its compliance with the stated maximum flow velocity < 10 cms <sup>-1</sup>
Status.
This was achieved by installing overflow pumps to pump this excess runoff from the swale to this overflow area during 2007. It was further improved by the installation of an automatic gravity overflow to areas 7 which removed the requirement for operator intervention during heavy rainfall and subsequent high discharge rates. This has been set to provide adequate drainage levels to the lowest deposition bay but also to allow overflow into area 7 during periods of high rainfall. This was maintained during 2008, with flow directed to the controlled overflow area during periods of heavy rain.

# Reuse of road building materials (EMP8)

Activity/Emission	Objective	Target Date	Target	Person Responsible
OT8 Road materials re-use	Reuse of stone used in internal haul-road construction.	As stated in the EIS, the decommissioning plan for the internal haul road network would envisage it occurring at the end of the stabilisation period (5 yrs after deposition has been completed). There may also be a requirement to leave these roads in-place as part of the after use of the deposition area.	All materials used in the internal haul road construction will be either recycled or reused.  The Geotextile will be collected for reuse within BNM for under rail lines, or recycled through a licensed contractor.  The 300mm of crushed stone will be recycled through one of the following:  1. As internal service roads to a Proposed Wind Farm Development at Oweninny.  2. As construction material on an alternative site.  3. Through an appropriate recycling contractor.  4. Placement at the base of the toe drains to assist in drainage.  Status: As peat deposition has been completed, on site decommissioning and rehabilitation has also taken place. The stone peat haulage roads will have to be retained on site for 3 – 5 years so that access can be maintained to the bays for maintenance of drainage, monitoring and assessment.  Given the current condition of the roads, it is not envisaged that recycling of the road material will be possible due to	Site Manager & Environmental Manager

encroachment of the deposited peat, flooding and degradation of the road surface and weed growth. Excavation and
cleaning/screening of the road materials for reuse would be time and energy intensive
and the energy and material offset for another site reuse would be negative. This is still the case in 2008.

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#### 4.4 Environmental Management Programme Proposal.

The proposal for 2009 is to continue with projects EMP 1, 4 & 8, as these are the only applicable projects due to the completion of the peat deposition in June 2007

#### 4.5 Silt Pond Inspection & Desilting Report.

Inspections of the silt ponds are carried out weekly. A full log of all inspections is maintained at the site office and this along with SS results obtained form the silt ponds form the basis for the cleaning roster.

The silt ponds servicing the Srahmore site were all cleaned during 2008 as follows:

Silt Pond	Date Cleaned
S5-1	August 2008
S5-2	August 2008
SP1	August 2008
SP2a/b	August 2008
SP3a/b	September 2008
SW4	September 2008
SW104	September 2008

## 5 Site Development Works.

# 5.1 Summary of main changes/developments/works carried out in 2008

- Roads. Some repair work and filling in potholes, was carried out during the summer.
- Maintenance. Some maintenance work was carried out on access roads to the composite samplers, as well as to silt ponds.

- Drainage. Only a very limited amount of drainage work was deemed necessary on site during 2008.
- Two new ponds excavated in Srahmore in November and two original ponds filled in.

#### **5.2 Summary of Planned Works for 2009**

There are no development works planned for 2009, due to the completion of the project

## 6 Waste received and consigned from the Facility

#### 6.1 Non-hazardous waste received by the facility.

		Non-Hazar	dous Was	ste Receiv	/ed
Waste Description	EWC Code	On-site Dispo	osal	On-site I	Recovery
		Method	Tonnes	Method	Tonnes
		None		No	one

#### 6.2 Hazardous waste received by the facility.

		Hazardous Waste Received				
Waste Description	EWC Code	On-site	Disposal	On-site	Recovery	
		Method	Tonnes	Method	Tonnes	
		No	ne			

## 6.3 Non-hazardous waste sent off-site for Recovery/Disposal.

Waste Description	EWC Code	Tonnes	Details of Haulage Contractor	Recovery /Disposal	Name & Address of recovery/Disposal Site
Canteen Waste	20 01 08	0.74	G & T Loftus Recycling Ltd	Disposal	Rathroeen, Killala Rd, Ballina, Co. Mayo Ballina Wastewater Treatment Works, Belleek, Ballina, Co.
Sewage Cleaning	20 03 06	2	Aesthetic Services	Disposal	Мауо

## 6.4 Hazardous waste sent off-site for Recovery/Disposal

Consignment Note/TFS Note Number	Date of Dispatch	Description of Waste	EWC Code	Tonnes	Details of Haulage Contractor	Disposal/ Recovery	Name & Address of Recovery/ Disposal site
				None during	2008 due to inactivity at the site.		

## 7 Environmental Incidents & Complaints.

## 7.1 Reported Incidents Summary.

Date	Nature of Incident	Cause	<b>Corrective Action</b>
	NONE		

## 7.2 Reported Complaints Summary

Date	Nature of Complaint	Cause	<b>Corrective Action</b>
	NONE		

## 8 Review of Nuisance Controls.

The nuisance controls at the site only include dust suppression and pest control.

Due to the completion of the project in 2007, dust suppression was not required. Pest Guard were retained for vermin control during 2008

#### 9 Review of Rehabilitation Plan.

Rehabilitation at the Srahmore site is outlined in the Rehabilitation Plan for the Srahmore Peat Deposition Area and Associated Facilities (Feb 2005). The main criteria<sup>1</sup> defining successful rehabilitation of the Srahmore PDA and associated facility are:

- (i) Stabilisation of the deposited peat<sup>2</sup>
- (ii) Mitigation of silt run-off

Natural revegetation processes are outlined as the BAT for rehabilitation of the Srahmore site. Results so far indicate that vegetation establishes rapidly on the deposited peat. It is anticipated that the plant roots will bind the introduced peat layer, altering the peat structure to create a homogeneous peat mass thereby stabilising the peat.

#### **Deposition Area**

The deposition area comprises access routes on high fields, peat deposition area and drainage channels. The greater part of the deposition area has been covered with peat. The peat was deposited and levelled between high fields using long-reach excavators. The final shaping allows for run-off into drainage channels with the peat remaining undisturbed to facilitate natural revegetation processes.

Within weeks the deposited peat was colonised by a flush of soft rush *Juncus effusus* seedlings. Other plants colonising included bulbous rush *Juncus bulbosus* and sorrel *Rumex acetosella*. The soft rush tussocks form the dominant character of the vegetation with inter-tussock spaces of patchy plant cover, with shrubs such as bramble *Rubus fruticosus* and some willow *Salix* spp. emerging. The cover of this pioneer vegetation is continuous over the entire area of deposited peat. The establishment of other species between the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> These are the basic criteria as identified in the consultation process for development of *The Rehabilitation Plan* for the entire Oweninny Works.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Stabilisation of these areas infers revegetation. Once stabilised there will be no potential peat run-off from the site, which will cover the second criterion for successful rehabilitation.

tussocks of soft rush will further bind the peat together and eventually lead to a complete cover and stabilisation of the introduced peat.

Vegetation cover in the remaining uncovered area is low and comprises patchy growth of bog cotton *Eriophorum angustifolium* and soft rush *Juncus effusus*.

#### Water over-spill area (Area 7)

This area was rehabilitated in line with the rehabilitation plan for the Oweninny Works, Cutaway Bog Rehabilitation (2003). This involved field drain blocking and it is anticipated that natural revegetation processes will proceed in this area and over the duration of the peat deposition activity. The overflow facility will be maintained for the duration of the peat deposition and also for a number of years following the activity to ensure that there is no build-up of water on site. When the area is no longer required, the site will be re-surveyed to determine the vegetative condition and whether further rehabilitation work is required (unlikely to be more than superficial).

#### Off-loading facility (Area 5)

Construction work was completed in April 2005 and the final activity on-site was in Autumn 2007. To date, there has been extensive colonisation of the surrounding bare peat, predominantly soft rush *Juncus effusus*.

#### **Srahmore Assessment March 2008**

A walkover survey of the Srahmore PDA indicates that the vegetation that had established on the deposited peat is developing further. Inter-tussock spaces of the soft rush are becoming further colonised by herbs, grasses and mosses with intermittent pools. The initial pioneer vegetation is maturing a developing a denser growth pattern.

The vegetation will continue to develop over time and Bord na Móna will continue to monitor the changes in structure and composition. There is a slight difference between the peat deposited in 2005 and 2007, relating to the age of the rush tussock. It was noted also that the site is utilised by a number of bird species, particularly nesting Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*).

#### 10 Review of Environmental Liabilities Insurance Cover.

In Accordance with the requirements of Schedule D, Annual Environmental Report Content, a review of the Environmental Liabilities Insurance Cover is required. The initial Environmental Liabilities Risk Assessment (ELRA) was carried out in March 2005. This assessment examined 8 Potential Hazards, including, peat combustion, dust blow, sediment laden run-off and fire etc.

Of the critical potential hazards identified, mobilisation of peat off site and sediment laden run-off have not been highlighted as a potential problem during the operation of the site in 2005 and 2007. The number of non-compliances occurring during the period of operation from 2005 to 2008 is shown on the table below:

Compliance	2005	2006	2007	2008
Levels				
Emissions to	97%	100%	97%	99%
Water				
Emissions to	91.5%	No sampling	100%	No sampling
Air		due to		due to
		suspension		suspension

The risk of peat mobilisation from the site was identified as low in the ELRA, and during peat deposition in 2005 and 2007 there were no indications that the status of this risk had increased.

The Licence requires the completion of a stability assessment of each bay, once it has been filled. No bays were filled during 2005, so a stability assessment was carried out in 2007, after each bay was completed.

To date, the natural re-vegetation as specified in the EIS has progressed better than expected. The continuous cover of soft rush (*Juncus effusus*) is already well established on the deposited peat, and has progressed its stabilisation. Piezometric tubes have been installed in the deposited bays so as to enable monitoring of water levels.

Based on the experiences of peat deposition during the period of operation between 2005 and 2007, the experience of the success of the rehabilitation to date post deposition and the results of environmental monitoring, performance and compliance as reported in the 2005, 2006, 2007 & 2008 AER's, the Environmental Liabilities Insurance Cover is considered to be adequate.

#### 11 Landfill Costs

Condition 12.2.1 requires the licence holder to submit a statement on the determination of charge for the disposal of waste in accordance with the requirements of S.I. No. 337 of 2002 European Communities Regulation 2002.

Following the consultation of this regulation, it is determined that as Srahmore Peat Deposition Site is only accepting waste peat from one permitted contractor, and that this charge has been agreed with the contractor prior to the commencement of the peat deposition and is applicable for the duration of the contract, the provision of this statement does not apply. The price agreed with the contractor is commercially sensitive.

## 12 Other Reports.

## 12.1 Fuel Bowser Testing.

Both fuel bowers were supplied by Cashes Engineering Ltd. Both of these bowers were certified and tested by the manufacturer. A copy of the conformity certificates are kept on file in Srahmore.

Both of these bowsers were designated for re-use elsewhere in Bord na Mona and have since been transferred to the midland bogs.

#### 12.2 Placed Peat Stability Assessment.

Condition 8.7 requires a stability assessment of each bay once filled. This was carried out on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2007 by Tobin Consulting Engineers. Based on the site walkover survey and previous assessments in 2003/2005/2006, all works were carried out in accordance with the rehabilitation plan.

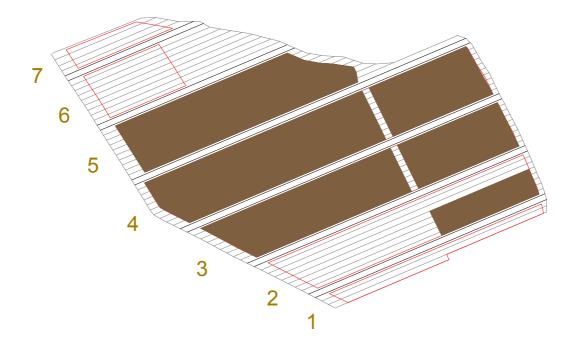
There is no indication of instability in the internal high fields, perimeter high fields, deposited peat bays or drainage system.

The deposited peat is contained within each bay. In its current condition the risk of a mass deposited peat flowing out of bays 2, 3, 4 & 5 and entering the surrounding watercourse is very low.

A copy of this Stability Assessment is retained on file at the site office.

As there was not peat deposited during 2008, a stability assessment was not required.

Bay	Srahmore Storage Volume	Srahmore Deposited Volume	Srahmore Remaining Volume
	(m <sup>3</sup> )	(m <sup>3</sup> )	(m <sup>3</sup> )
1	15,000	0	15,000
2	80,190	30,869	49,321
3	106,974	132,764	0
4	135,802	175,048	0
5	84,856	109,368	0
6	28,806	0	28,806
7	13,372	0	13,372
Totals	465,000	448,049	106,499



## Suspended Solids (mg/l) Location 7 (sw4), Sw100 & Sw101

