

Regarding correspondence received by the Agency on 24/03/2009 from Padraig Thornton Waste Disposal Limited concerning Thornton Recycling Centre, Killeen Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10 (Waste Licence Reg. No. W0044-02), the licensee has requested an extension of operating hours and approval for acceptance of road sweepings and gully emptyings at the site. The OEE has indicated that the extension of operating hours cannot be accommodated under the terms of the current licence.

## **Extension of Operating Hours**

Thorntons Recycling is currently licensed to operate their facility at Killeen Road twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week with the exception of bank holidays.

Due to current market conditions, competition among recycling companies and customer demand, Thorntons Recycling have requested removal of Condition 1.8.2. from Licence W0044-02 to enable acceptance of waste and operation of the Killeen Road facility on bank holidays.

The facility has been licensed to operate on Sundays since revised license W0044-02 was granted on 02/05/2003. Since 2003, a total of 255 complaints concerning the facility have been received. The complaints relate to odour, noise and dust. In 2007, 15 complaints were received, concerning the same. By 2008 the number of complaints had reduced to four.

Considering the enforcement record for the site and the reduction in the number of complaints received in 2008, the OEE has recommended that Condition 1.8.2 of Waste Licence W0044-02 be amended to read: 'Notwithstanding Condition 1.8.1 waste shall not be accepted and the facility shall not operate on Bank Holidays, unless otherwise agreed in advance with the Agency'.

The existing Waste Licence W0044-02 for the facility is considered to contain sufficient conditions to control odour, noise and dust emissions from the facility under Condition 6 – *Emissions*, Condition 7 – *Nuisance Control* and Condition 8 - *Monitoring*.

For the reasons outlined above and giving consideration to the fact that the facility is currently licensed to operate on Sundays, which is considered outside of normal hours of operation, I recommend amendment of Condition 1.8.2. in accordance with the OEE recommendation to allow the acceptance of waste and operation of the facility on Bank Holidays subject to Agency approval.

## **Acceptance of Road Sweepings and Gully Emptyings**

The second part of this technical amendment relates to Condition 1.6 of Waste Licence W0044-02, which states: 'No road sweepings and gully emptyings shall be accepted at the facility unless otherwise agreed with the Agency in advance'.

Padraig Thornton Waste Disposal Limited has requested removal of Condition 1.6 from Waste Licence W0044-02 to allow the acceptance of road sweepings and gully emptyings at the facility. Thornton's Recycling are looking at the possibility of dewatering sweeper and gully material at the site.

Provision exists under Condition 1.6 to allow the acceptance of this material at the facility subject to Agency agreement. Therefore I recommend that the amendment can be accommodated under Condition 1.6 of the existing licence and a technical amendment is not required to remove the condition from the licence.

As Thorntons Recycling are investigating the option of dewatering sweeper and gully material at the site, it should be noted that any modifications to existing onsite processes will require agreement with the Agency or may require a further technical amendment or review of the licence.

## New conditions

Conditions concerning Resource Use and Energy Efficiency, Accident Prevention, and Decommissioning and Residuals Management, have also been included in this technical amendment to bring the conditions of Waste Licence W0044-02 in line with legislative changes introduced under the Protection of the Environment Act, 2003.

## **Recommendation:**

For the reasons outlined above I recommend that the Agency agree to a technical amendment of Padraig Thornton Waste Disposal Limited, Waste Licence (Reg. No. W0044-02) for the facility Thornton's Recycling Centre, Killeen Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10 under Section 96 of the EPA Acts 1992 to 2007, to permit the acceptance of waste and operation of the facility on Bank Holidays subject to Agency approval and I recommend refusal of the request to remove Condition 1.6 from the licence as the licensee's request to take in road sweepings and gully material can be accommodated under Condition 1.6 of the existing licence.

Signed

Lisa Maher Inspector

**Environmental Licensing Programme**