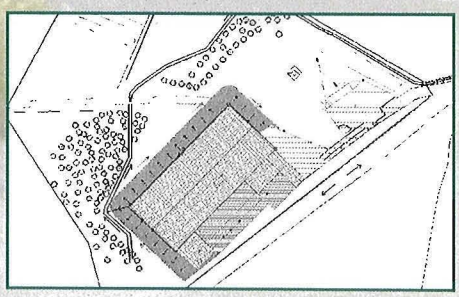
Environmental Impact Statement for Killarney Waste Disposal

Volume I :
Non Technical Summary



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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

for

Killarney Waste Disposal Ltd

January 2005

VOLUME I NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

VOLUME II MAIN REPORT

VOLUME III TECHNICAL APPENDICES

Volume I

Non-Technical Summary

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Killarney Waste Disposal (KWD) currently operate a Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Aughacurreen, Killarney, Co. Kerry under a Waste Permit from Kerry County Council allowing an annual waste intake for recovery of 16,500 tonnes. The site covers an area of 2.2 hectares in total. Figure 1.1 shows the location of the facility.

Killarney Waste Disposal propose to increase the waste intake at the facility to 40,000 tonnes per annum and provide an extension to the facility to incorporate a new MRF building. Therefore an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required together with the Waste Licence Application for the proposed increase in tonnage and facility extension. It is in this context that this EIS has been prepared by RPS-MCOS Ltd. for Killarney Waste Disposal.

1.2 WHAT IS AN EIS?

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is a process for predicting the effects on the environment caused by a project development. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the document produced as a result of that process. Its purpose is to identify the environmental effects of the development and examine how these impacts can be avoided or reduced during the design process.

1.3 WHAT IS A WASTE LICENCE?

The existing facility is operated by KWD under a Waste Permit from Kerry County Council. A Waste Licence application to include for the proposed increase in tonnage will be submitted to the EPA in accordance with Section 42 of the Waste Management Act, 1996 as amended and the Waste Management (Licensing) Regulations, 2004. In accordance with these Regulations an EIS is required for submission to the EPA in part fulfilment of the Waste Licence Application.

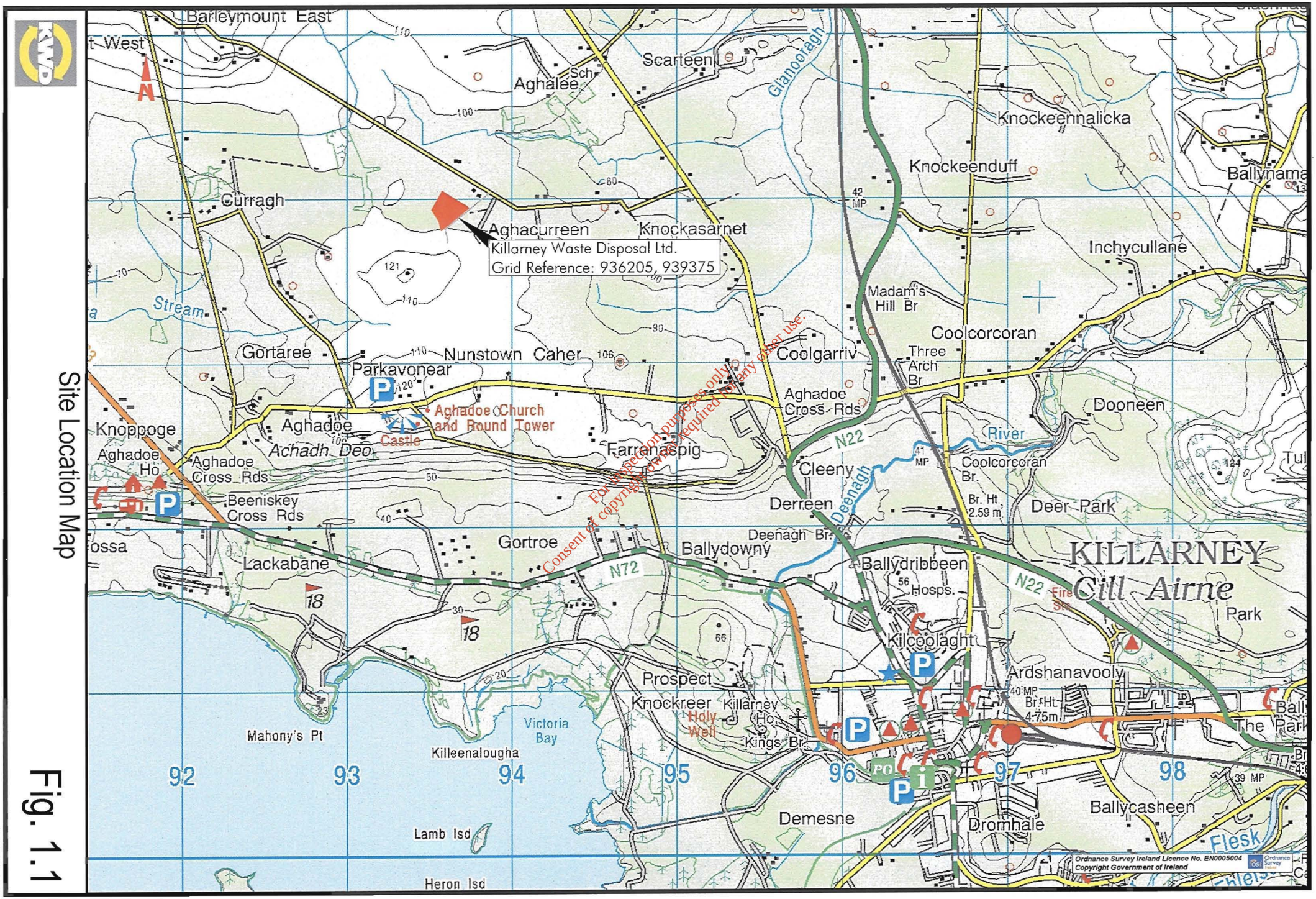
2 THE NEED FOR THE PROJECT

The National Waste Database 2001 Report, published by the EPA in July 2003 describes the waste management situation in Ireland as being one in which the quantities of waste are increasing and the continuing high dependence on landfill and a deficit in infrastructure required to manage waste in Ireland. Recycling rates have increased, the waste industry is more regulated, waste statistics are becoming more accurate and the provision of waste infrastructure has improved. The generation of household waste increase by 20.3% between 1998 and 2001. Commercial waste generation increased by 53.3% largely due to the economic growth that has occurred in Ireland over the last few years.

The Waste Management Plan for the Limerick/Clare/Kerry Region (2000) recommended an integrated approach to waste management involving new recycling initiatives, biological and thermal treatment of wastes and finally landfill of residual waste. This Plan identified the total municipal waste arising in the Region by 2014 will be approximately 381,710 tonnes per annum. Future expansions for Material Recovery Facilities are necessary to achieve the recycling target of 37.1% which has been set for municipal waste in the Limerick/Clare/Kerry Region. The Waste Management Plan for the Limerick/Clare/Kerry Region is currently under review.

An alternative to the current proposed extension is to carry on with the operations at the existing site at the current annual intake ('Do Nothing' Scenario). With waste quantities increasing the Limerick/Clare/Kerry Region waste will have to be sent directly to landfill due to the lack of additional waste sorting and recycling infrastructure in the Region which would mean that the recycling targets would not be achieved and a negative impact on the environment would result.

Figure 2.1: Existing MRF



Site Location Map

Fig. 1.1

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3 STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

This EIA has followed the steps outlined in the Environmental Protection Agency's '*Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements' and 'Advice Notes on Current Practice in the preparation of Environmental Impact Statements'* and the EIA 1999 Regulations (S.I. No. 93 of 1999).

Although the EIA Regulations do not contain any details about the exact form of an EIS, the information to be contained in an EIS is specified in the Second Schedule of the EIA Regulations (S.I. No. 93 of 1999).

This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) follows the general format outlined below:

- Volume 1 – Non-Technical Summary
- Volume 2 – Main Report
- Volume 3 – Technical Appendices

The Non-Technical Summary (Volume 1) outlines the main findings of the EIS and emphasises the most significant of these. A simple matrix is also included which summarises the magnitude of the impacts.

The Main Report (Volume 2) follows the format outlined below:

Chapter 1 is an introduction to the project giving details of the project, the need for the project, alternatives examined including the 'Do Nothing' Scenario and legislative requirements.

Chapter 2 describes the proposed extension to the facility and outlines the existing site layout, infrastructure and operation of the facility.

Chapter 3 addresses the existing environmental situation with an outline of the baseline studies conducted by specialist sub-consultants with the environmental aspects of the project falling under the category of either Human Beings or Natural Environment as follows:

Human Beings

- Community Effects & Material Assets
- Traffic
- Air Quality
- Noise & Vibrations

Natural Environment

- Geology, Hydrogeology
- Water Quality
- Terrestrial Flora & Fauna
- Landscape
- Archaeology & Cultural Heritage

Chapter 4 addresses the potential impacts of the development and highlights the mitigation measures that may be used to minimise negative impacts of the development.

Chapter 5 describes the interactions of effects.

Chapter 6 provides the conclusions and recommendations of this EIS. Each environmental discipline is addressed and the major impacts highlighted.

Volume 3 – Technical Appendices, contain the individual environmental reports prepared by a number of specialist sub-consultants. As explained above the main issues arising from these reports have been described in Chapters 3 to 5 of this Report (Volume 2). Each sub-consultant and their particular discipline is identified below:

• Appendix A RPS-MCOS Ltd	Geology and Hydrogeology
• Appendix B RPS-MCOS Ltd	Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
• Appendix C RPS-MCOS Ltd	Landscape and Visual Assessment
• Appendix D Biospheric Engineering Ltd	Noise
• Appendix E Roger Goodwillie & Associates	Terrestrial Ecology
• Appendix F Conservation Services Ltd.	Aquatic Ecology
• Appendix G RPS-MCOS Ltd	Air Quality
• Appendix H RPS-MCOS Ltd	Traffic

4 PROPOSED EXTENSION

Killarney Waste Disposal propose to apply for an increase in the allowable waste intake of 40,000 tonnes per annum as shown in Table 4.1 and to extend the current processing building.

Table 4.1: Proposed Types/Quantities of Waste to be Accepted at KWD

Waste Type	Maximum Tonnes per Annum
Mixed municipal waste	15,000
Organic waste (kitchen and canteen waste)	2,400
Dry recyclable wastes	5,600
Construction and Demolition waste	17,000
Total Waste	**40,000**

Drawing No. 02-034-J4-MCOS2 Proposed Site Layout Plan and Drawing No. DG0002-01 provides details on a layout for the new processing building on site. It should be noted that the proposed layout is indicative and may change depending on machinery sizes and operational techniques.

The new building has been designed with a maximum number of access points to facilitate delivery and loading of waste to and from the building. There are 5 no. entrances to the new building. It is proposed to build an on-site access road around the perimeter of this building. The extension will be provided on the existing site which is 2.2 hectares in size. The existing Material Recovery Facility will be extended by 2,503 sq.m to a total size of 3,223 sq.m and will not exceed the existing structure's height (ridgeline is 9.45m above foundation ground level).

A designated quarantine area has been identified and any consignment will be removed to the quarantine area for further inspection and if non-compliant will be returned to the customer.

The processing of the mixed municipal waste produces an effluent. The existing processing shed drains to a holding tank of 4.55m^3 capacity. Approx. 6.8m^3 of effluent is produced per month based on outgoing weighbridge dockets from facility. The effluent is stored in the holding tank and transported to Killarney WWTP for treatment. The new processing building will have a similar effluent collection system.

A stormwater treatment system is proposed on site. An interceptor for oil and solids separation is currently in operation on site and it is proposed to direct stormwater runoff from the interceptor to a lagoon and then to a reed bed which will discharge the treated stormwater to a percolation area. Drawing No. 02-034-J4-MCOS2 Proposed Site Layout Plan provides details on the layout of the stormwater treatment system.

A septic tank is in use on site and a Puraflo system is proposed, which will be designed to cater for 12 people at 180 litres per person per day. This equates to a discharge quantity of 2.16 cubic metres per day to be treated by the system. Roof water runoff from the proposed shed will drain to the stream as shown on Drawing No. 02-034-J4-MCOS2 Proposed Site Layout Plan.