SUB (11)

Co Cork

Louise & Michael Purdy Sarsfield Court Glanmire

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

17th August, 2010

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ELP Admin
EPA Headquarters
PO Box 3000
Johnston Castle Estate
Wexford

Re: Application No. W136-03 Applicant: Greenstar Recycling (Munster) Ltd. Sarsfield

Court Industrial Estate, Glanmire, Co Cork.

Dear Sirs,

We are writing to you in relation to the above application at Greenstar's facility in Sarsfield Court Industrial Estate, Sarsfield Court, Gianmire, Co Cork.

We object to this proposal for the following reasons:

- 1. The facility will be in use 24 hours a day and we are concerned that the large volumes of waste could pose a fire hazard or even worse, an explosion. What would be the health implications on our family if we were subject to toxic fumes and emissions?
- 2. Air Quality: We chose to live and rear our family in a country area away from toxic fumes and poor air quality. Will this expansion subject us to poor air quality caused by dust and contaminated air from the facility, not to mention the extra traffic fumes from all the heavy goods vehicles and traffic accessing the site.
- 3. Liquid seepages/wastes: Our potable drinking water is from a bored well, as are all the residents surrounding the facility. Greenstar also have a bored well for their water supply. We can only assume that the proposed expansion will require an excessive increase to their current supply. In the past our own well ran dry when new homes

were built in the area. We are concerned that the expansion may require us to sink a new deeper well or will the council be required to supply the area with mains water. The site is on the top of a hill under which are natural springs which run into the Glashaboy river, a contributory supplier of water to local reservoirs. The threat of leakage from the plant, either due to the facility not being maintained properly or due to accidental spillage, is a very real threat to ourselves as a family, to our neighbours and worse case scenario a considerable number of residents in north Cork, Cobh and Midleton. Liquid seepages can occur not only from improperly constructed or damaged (wear & tear) vessels or pit liners, but also from road traffic where the contents are not properly sealed.

- 4. Noise: The plant is going to be run 7 days per week 24 hours a day. The noise levels at night could pose a serious mental health hazard to our family, whose home is built close to the roadside on the R616 within a few hundred yards of the facility. The continuous noise from the plant and heavy goods vehicles accessing the plant will cause sleep disturbance and pose a threat to our mental health.
- 5. Odour: We have not been made aware of the what adour emissions or the possible environmental impacts this expansion will incur. There are regular foul odour emissions from the plant which seem to become excessive from a Fri evening to Sunday night. We believe that the plant releases these odours outside of EPA business hours knowing they will not be monitored. The plant was prosecuted in 2006 under Sections 39 of the Waste Management Acts1996-2003 for a breach of its Waste Licence reg. No. 36-2. The prosecution related to odour nuisance at the facility and in the immediate area of the facility. As we are witness to continuous odours from the plant, this does not invoke our faith in the company's future operation to the regulations and licence which they must adhere to set down by the EPA and An Bord Pleanala.
- 6. As we have not been given any assurances from Greenstar regarding the maintenance and continuing safe and environmental soundness of the operation it raises serious objections for us, as residents living within close proximity of the site. Continued maintenance practices are reliant on both the financial soundness of the owners along with human related safety factors, the integrity of the operation is in no way assured on an ongoing basis.
- 7. We are concerned about the proposed civic amenity accepting approximately 10

tonne of hazardous waste. Again we must rely on the company to operate under the regulations and license which have been set out and which they have flaunted in the past and hope that there is no accidental leakage or seepage which could affect our water and prove to be a health hazard. What will happen when the company have reached or exceeded the 10,000 tonne. Our local roads have been subject to illegal dumping in the past and we fear that this will increase when the plant has reached its capacity and can no longer accept hazardous waste.

We as parents to a young family are totally in favour of this type of facility providing it is located in an area where it is not a threat or nuisance to the public and their local environment. We are asking the EPA to deny this application as the location is not suitable for the proposed expansion.

Please consider our letter of observation and we look forward to hearing from you in the near

future.

Yours sincerely,

Louise Purdy

Michael Purdy