



**OFFICE  
RESOURCE USE**

**This Report has been cleared  
for submission to the Director by  
the Programme Manager F Clinton  
Signed: N. Keavey Date: 18/01/11**

**INSPECTORS REPORT ON A TECHNICAL AMENDMENT**

<b>To:</b>	Laura Burke, Director
<b>From:</b>	Michael Owens - LICENSING UNIT
<b>Date:</b>	18/01/11
<b>RE:</b>	Technical Amendment of Waste Licence W0082-02, Greenstar Environmental Services, Dock Road, Limerick.

**Introduction**

Greenstar Environmental Services (Greenstar) has requested a Technical Amendment to Waste Licence Reg. No. W0082-02, in order to provide for the operation of a new civic amenity area (CAA) on their facility at Dock Road, Limerick. The proposed change will not result in any new waste types being accepted at the facility, nor will it lead to an increase in the annual waste volumes being handled at the facility.

**Background**

Waste Licence Reg. No. W0082-02 was granted to Ipodec (Ireland) Limited on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2003 for the operation of a non-hazardous waste transfer station. Greenstar acquired the facility in April 2010.

Current activities at the facility include the recovery of mixed dry recyclables, timber, food and garden wastes, water clarification sludges and mixed municipal wastes for onward transfer to further recycling or disposal facilities. The current licence sets a maximum quantity of waste to be accepted at the facility at 90,000 tonnes per annum, consisting of municipal, commercial and industrial, construction and demolition wastes. In 2009, 42,536 tonnes of waste were received for recovery at the facility, a reduction of 27% on the amount received in 2008. The focus of current activities at the facility is on the commercial sector but Greenstar are now proposing to provide centralised recovery/recycling options at the facility to householders and small commercial businesses in the Limerick area.

**Description of proposed Civic Amenity Area (CAA)**

It is proposed to use a section of existing open yard, which is currently used for parking and the storage of empty skips and bins, to locate the CAA. The CAA will facilitate the deposition, by members of the public, of wastes for further processing at the facility. The CAA will comprise a range of skips and open and enclosed bins and containers for the different waste types. It will not require the provision of any permanent structures.

It is estimated that up to 1500 tonnes of household and commercial waste will be accepted at the CAA annually, comprising dry recyclables, bulky waste (such as beds and mattresses), garden wastes, residual mixed waste (black bag) and C&D waste. These wastes will be combined with the wastes already accepted at the facility and processed in the onsite Waste

Transfer Building prior to shipment off site. Further onsite treatment activities include the following:

- Sorting and bulk transfer of mixed municipal waste,
- Sorting of mixed dry recyclables,
- Baling of papers, cardboard, plastics and metal packaging,
- Bulking and transfer for composting of garden waste.

Such activities are already authorised under the current licence.

The OEE has confirmed that the proposed development cannot be accommodated under the current licence as the licence does not specifically cater for the provision of a dedicated CAA, neither was the operation of such a facility included in the original licence application.

### **Proposed Amendments to Licence Reg. No. W0082-02**

#### **1. Condition 1.6 - Hours of operation**

It is proposed to amend condition 1.6 of the licence in order to set the hours of operation of the CAA from 9 am to 6 pm, 7 days a week, unless otherwise agreed with the Agency.

#### **2. Condition 3.4.3 - Site security**

It is proposed to insert a new condition 3.4.3 in the licence setting out a requirement to install separate security fencing around the CAA. This will facilitate the development and operation of the CAA while ensuring that members of the public are prevented from accessing the remaining area of the facility.

#### **3. Condition 3.10.4 - Management of surface water runoff from the CAA**

It is proposed to insert a new condition 3.10.4 in the licence to require the connection of the surface water runoff from the CAA to the facility's existing sewage and foul water collection system. This requirement will act in tandem with condition 4.7.1 of the existing licence whereby the sewage and foul water discharge from the facility must be connected to the Limerick Main Drainage Scheme when available. The Main Drainage is now available for connection and Greenstar are currently seeking approval from Limerick County Council regarding connection to it.

The combined requirements of new condition 3.10.4 and the existing condition 4.7.1 will ensure that runoff from the CAA discharges directly to the Local Authority sewer and will therefore not have any local environmental impact.

#### **4. Condition 3.11.5 – Integrity testing of underground pipelines**

Condition 3.11.5 of the existing licence does not currently provide for regular integrity testing of underground pipelines. It is proposed to amend existing condition 3.11.5 to include a requirement for regular integrity testing of underground pipelines. The inclusion of this requirement was requested by the OEE. The amended condition will ensure regular integrity testing of underground structures as well as all other structures used for movement or storage of liquids.

#### **5. Condition 3.13 ii) – Provision of suitable sampling point for surface water discharge**

Current arrangements for monitoring of the surface water discharge from the facility are considered to be inadequate by the OEE. Therefore, on request from the OEE, it is proposed to insert a new sub-condition into condition 3.13. This will set out a requirement for the licensee to provide a suitable sampling location on the surface water discharge from the facility.

## 6. Condition 4.2.3 - Acceptance of waste

Condition 4.2.3 of the licence states that only operators that are appropriately authorised under the Waste Management (Collection Permit) Regulations 2007 can deposit waste at the facility. It is proposed to amend condition 4.2.3 so that waste can be deposited the Civic Amenity Area without the need for a waste collection permit (i.e. by members of the general public).

## 7. Condition 4.9 - Operation of CAA

It is proposed to insert a new condition 4.9 in the licence setting out how the CAA may be operated and controlled. Condition 4.9.1 states that the acceptance of waste at the CAA cannot commence until the requirements of conditions 3.10.4 and 4.7.1 are met.

Conditions 4.9.2 to 4.9.5 set out how the CAA is to be operated and controlled once acceptance of waste commences.

## 8. Condition 5.4.1 – Setting of trigger levels for surface water discharge

The quality of the surface water discharge continues to be an issue at the facility. The OEE has requested that condition 5.4.1 of the existing licence be amended so that the licensee is required to:

- (i) Determine normal background levels of total organic carbon (TOC), suspended solids and ammonia in the surface water discharge from the facility; and
- (ii) Agree trigger levels for these parameters in the surface water discharge.

## 9. Condition 5.8 – daily visual inspection of surface water discharge

It is proposed to insert a new condition 5.8 into the licence to set a requirement for a daily visual inspection of the surface water discharge at emission point FE1. This is a standard requirement of all new licences and will ensure that contaminated surface water discharges are detected at the earliest possible time.

## 10. Condition 6.4.1 – Overnight storage of black bin waste


It is proposed to amend condition 6.4.1 so that the mixed residual waste (black bin) receptacle in the CAA is managed as per the existing requirements of condition 6.4.1. It is proposed to insert the following text (highlighted in bold) into the existing condition 6.4.1 as follows:

*“All waste for disposal **and all mixed residual and putrescible waste** stored overnight at the facility shall be stored in a secure area within the Waste Transfer Building...”*

### Recommendation

I recommend that the Amendment be issued subject to the conditions and for the reasons drafted. It is considered that the proposed new activity, if carried out in accordance with the conditions of the licence, will best ensure continued satisfaction with Section 40(4) of the Waste Management Acts 1996 to 2010.

Signed



Michael Owens

Inspector

Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use

