

This Report has been cleared for submission to the Director by the Programme Manager, Frank Clinton  
Signed: *Debra Keavey* Date: *18/4/11*



## OFFICE OF CLIMATE, LICENSING & RESOURCE USE

### ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSING PROGRAMME MEMORANDUM

**TO:** LAURA BURKE, DIRECTOR

**C.C:** Frank Clinton

**FROM:** Brian Meaney

**DATE:** 15 April 2011

**RE:** Proposal for a Technical Amendment to Waste Licence Register Number **W0044-02** held by **Padraig Thornton Waste Disposal Limited** in relation to a waste facility at Thorntons Recycling Centre, Killeen Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10.

#### Introduction

Padraig Thornton Waste Disposal Limited operate a waste recycling and disposal facility for municipal and construction and demolition waste. The licensee is authorised to recover and dispose of up to 250,000 tonnes of municipal, industrial, construction and demolition and hazardous waste. Recovery operations include the mechanical sorting of construction and demolition waste and the proposed mechanical treatment of residual municipal waste. Up until the closure of Arthurstown Landfill, residual municipal waste was baled at the facility for disposal at the landfill. The closure of the landfill and the redundancy of the baling equipment at the Killeen Road facility has dictated a change in operations at the facility.

The facility was licensed on 3 December 1999. A revised licence was issued on 2 May 2003. Technical Amendment A was issued on 8 May 2009 and contained new conditions on resource use and energy efficiency, accident prevention and decommissioning and residuals management.

#### Details of Request for Technical Amendment

*Schedule A* of the licence authorises the acceptance of up to 250,000 tonnes of municipal, industrial, C&D and hazardous waste. *Part I Activities Licensed* of the licence restricts the scope of treatment processes for these incoming wastes. In particular, recovery activities are limited in *Part I Activities Licensed* to recovery of cardboard, wood, metals, C&D waste, plastic and vegetable oils. As part of the reconfiguration of the facility (following closure of Arthurstown landfill), the licensee wishes to mechanically process residual municipal waste (that would previously have been baled for landfill disposal) for recovery. The recovery operations specified in *Part I Activities Licensed* do not specifically provide for this activity. The limitations in *Part I Activities Licensed* are proposed for amendment to allow for the recovery of

materials from residual municipal waste and to clarify – with regard to class 11 of the Third Schedule – the use of disposal facilities.

The operational change from baling of residual waste to mechanical treatment is not significant in terms of the potential to cause environmental pollution. The waste is biodegradable and odorous and this will not change. The building proposed for residual waste treatment operates under negative pressure and air is extracted to a treatment plant to avoid odour and dust emissions. Reconfiguration of the facility and associated works on the fabric of the building is expected to result in better containment and reduced leakage of odorous air. The Agency received five odour complaints in 2010, seven in 2009 and four in 2008.

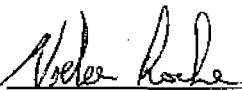
**Condition 5.3** of the licence requires that all putrescible waste *for disposal* is removed from the facility within 48 hours of its arrival at the facility. This condition should be retained but I recommend its amendment to ensure that all putrescible waste, whether for disposal *or* recovery, and including recovered organic fines, be removed from the facility within 48 hours of arrival. The condition also requires that at bank holiday weekends, *waste* is removed from the facility within 72 hours of its arrival at the facility. I recommend that this part of the condition be amended to clarify that *putrescible* waste should be removed within 72 hours at bank holiday weekends.

**Condition 5.9.1** restricts the use of building 2 and building 5 at the facility to C&D waste processing. This condition is recommended for amendment to allow for the processing of other waste in that building.

### **Recommendation**

I recommend amendment of *Part I Activities Licensed*, condition 5.3 and condition 5.9.1 of the licence.

Signed:

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Brian Meaney

Environmental Licensing Programme