

SUB NO. 138

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
16 FEB 2012

Submission

Subject: Submission to EPA Waste Licence Application W0140-04 in respect of Nurendale Limited trading as Panda Waste Services Limited at Rathdrinagh, Beuparc, Navan, Co. Meath.

Objection Summary: I, the undersigned, am gravely concerned about the proposals and object to all the proposals outlined in licence application W0140-04 and subsequent amendments. Including construction and operation of (1) Biomass Furnace, (2) Bio-Gas Power Plant (3), CHP Furnace, (4) Refuses Derived Fuel (RDF) Production (5) ESB generators, flares and ancillary works. The following are some of the reasons for my concerns and objection.

> **Incinerator-like Biomass Furnace and CHP Furnace – Toxic Emission Concerns:**

Introduction of a large smoke emitting Biomass Furnace and CHP Furnace will potentially release cancer causing dioxins, fine particle matter/ash and other toxic emissions over a wide area via the proposed chimneys, for which planning permission has not been granted. I am also deeply concerned that municipal waste will be incinerated in the Biomass Furnace which is abundant on the waste handler site, resulting in release of extremely toxic emissions such as dioxins.

> **Bio-Gas Power Plant - Disease & Pollution Concerns:**

Bio-Gas Power Plant is understood to be based on an unproven type of Anaerobic Digestion which involves incubation of large quantities of infected unsanitised waste for 28 days as part of the bio-gas generation process. Potentially generating infectious diseases and risking a local or national disease outbreak, in an unsuitable agricultural location, close to sensitive sites, such as the nearby Knockcommon or Yellowfurze National School risking the children that attend.

The proposed location is also completely unsuitable as it will be located beside a food storage depot, dairy farms, and a tributary of the Boyne. Posing a potential risk to food safety and the health and wellbeing of the community. Also concerns exist regarding the fire and explosion risks associated with Bio-Gas Power Plant.

> **Drinking Water Contamination Concerns:**

Potential impact on air and water quality in the heritage rich Boyne valley and surrounding areas. Pollution of the adjacent Lougher River and Boyne River, from toxic substances such as liquid Ammonia from system failures in the facility, damaged waste water system and/or site runoff.

I'm concerned about public drinking water quality and ground water contamination in the area, particularly potential risks to public drinking water extracted from Roughgrange pumping station on the Boyne, only a short distance downstream of the proposed development. Roughgrange pumping station supplies drinking water to East Meath and Louth including populated areas such as Drogheda, Duleek, Ashbourne and Dunshaughlin.

> **Tourism, Heritage and Environmental Impact Concerns :**

Contamination of the Boyne Valley would damage the natural and built heritage in the area. The Boyne is a Special Area of Conservation and Special Protection Area. Pollution from the development would damage key salmon and sea trout spawning beds and their habitats, it would also damage habitats for other protected species in the SAC such as Otter, Lamprey, Kingfisher and Whooper swans. Pollution of the Boyne valley eco-system and damage to the views from Newgrange's Special Buffer Zone would impact tourism jobs in the area, particularly those supporting the nearby Newgrange World Heritage site. The industrial development proposed in this area close to Newgrange Buffer Zone could risk UNESCO removing the world heritage status.

The development is likely to subsequently increased HGV traffic on roads to the facility including the N2 and through Slane Village with associated road hazard risks, increase odour pollution and increase noise pollution.

I am extremely concerned that no Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Appropriate Assessment was provided which is understood to be a legal requirement.

Request: I, the undersigned, request that the Environmental Protection Agency refuse licence application reference W0140-04 from Nurendale Limited.

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