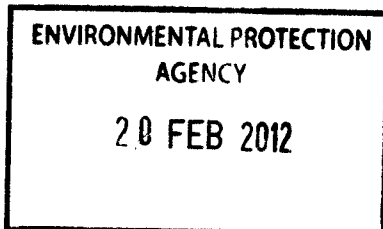




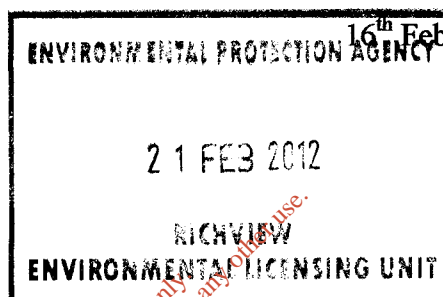
Panda

An Animal for Recycling

Attn: Ms. Caroline Connell,
Environmental Protection Agency,
Headquarters,
PO Box 3000,
Johnstown Castle Estate,
Co. Wexford



Panda Ref: 140.03-EPA-07-12
Re: Technical Amendment - W0140-03



16th February 2012

Dear Ms. Connell,

The Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE) has informed us that what had been considered to be an incompatibility between the types of waste accepted at our Beuparc facility with those specified in Schedule A.1 of our licence can be resolved by means of a Technical Amendment of the Licence.

Schedule A.1 specifies that only dry recyclable Household waste and Commercial and Industrial waste that excludes putrescible wastes can be accepted, whereas we have always accepted and processed mixed Household, mixed Commercial and Industrial wastes and treated mixed wastes from other waste management facilities

The OEE recommended that we provide the Office of Climate, Licensing & Resource Use (OCLR) with the information on which the OEE has reached its decision on the Technical Amendment and request the OCLR to initiate the Technical Amendment process.

Our current License (W0140-03) was issued in 2009 in response to a 2007 application by Panda to review the Licence that was in force at that time (W0140-02). The objective of the review was to:

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- increase the quantities of waste received at the facility,
- allow the acceptance of Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment,
- alter the site boundary to accommodate the construction of a new building, and
- change the operational hours.

W0140-02 authorised the acceptance of 165,000 tonnes of waste, which comprised Household (20,000 tonnes), Commercial & Industrial (45,000 tonnes), Construction and Demolition (85,000 tonnes) and Compostable (15,000 tonnes) wastes.

The licence allowed the acceptance and processing of mixed Household and Commercial and Industrial waste (EWC 20 01 03) and wastes from other materials recovery facilities (EWC 19 12 12). At the time the review application was lodged, the acceptance and processing of EWC 20 03 01 and 19 12 12 was absolutely crucial to the economic viability of the facility, and this remains the case.

The review application sought to increase the total annual waste acceptance limit to 250,000 tonnes, which would comprise Household (35,000 tonnes), Commercial & Industrial (75,000 tonnes), Construction and Demolition (120,000 tonnes) and Compostable (20,000 tonnes). The proposed increases to the Household (15,000 tonnes) and Commercial & Industrial (40,000 tonnes) wastes were to accommodate expected increases in the amount of dry recyclables arising from the roll out of source segregation services.

The review application did not seek to change either the processes carried out, which included mechanical segregation of mixed Household and Commercial and Industrial waste, or the types of waste already accepted, which included Household, Commercial & Industrial mixed waste (EWC 20 03 01) and treated wastes from other waste facilities (EWC 19 12 12).

An extract from the review application describing the processes carried out (the mechanical treatment of the mixed waste using a shredder, magnet and trommel to separate out the organic fraction which was then sent to the on-site in-vessel composting system), the Waste Recovery Activities carried out (Class 2-Recycling of the organic fraction of the Household and Commercial and Industrial waste) is in Attachment 1. The extract also contains the list of EWC codes accepted at the facility, which includes EWC 19 12 12 and 20 03 01.

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Schedule A1 of Recommended Decision (RD) on the application contains the same wording as that in the Licence (W0140-03). The Inspector's report on the RD, a copy of which is in Attachment 2, clearly acknowledges that it was not proposed to change the categories of waste accepted and also that these wastes include mixed Household and Commercial & Industrial waste that contains an organic fines fraction (paragraph 3 on Page 2). The report also states that mixed waste from the domestic and commercial & industrial collections will continue to be treated at the facility (paragraph 1 on Page 3).

The Inspector's report does not refer to any significant environmental issues associated with the acceptance and processing of mixed Household and Commercial & Industrial wastes that would warrant their exclusion. Nor does the report present any grounds for prohibiting the acceptance of any Household and Commercial & Industrial wastes, other than 'dry recyclables'. It is quite clear from the Inspector's report that it was not the Agency's intention to stop the acceptance and processing of mixed Household and Commercial & Industrial wastes.

The reference to Dry Recyclable Household waste and the exclusion of putrescible waste from the Commercial & Industrial waste in Schedule A1 is not consistent with Condition 1.2 which restricts the waste activities to *those set out in Part 1 Schedule of Activities Licensed and as set out in the review application*... As referred to above, in the application Class 2 of the Fourth Schedule Waste Recovery Activities is described as 'Recycling of the organic fraction of the Household, Commercial & Industrial waste and the Construction & Demolition waste accepted at the facility is carried out...' and the EWC codes listed in the application include EWC 20 01 03 and 19 12 12.

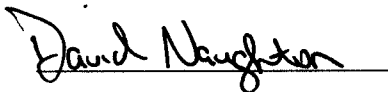
Condition 3.11.3 of the waste licence states '*Unless otherwise agreed by the Agency, all buildings processing putrescible waste shall be maintained at negative air pressure with ventilation gases being subject to treatment as specified by the Agency*'. This condition requires the licensee to install an odour abatement system i.e. negative air pressure system, in buildings that processes putrescible waste.

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We consider that the reference to Dry Recyclable Household waste and the exclusion of putrescible waste in Schedule A.1 is due to a clerical error when the RD was drafted. The Agency can amend Schedule A1 under Section 42 (a) of the Waste Management Acts 1996-2011, to clarify the position that the acceptance and processing of mixed Household and Commercial and Industrial wastes are authorised by the Licence.

Yours Sincerely



David Naughton,
Environmental Manager,
Panda.

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Attachment 1.

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Article 12 (1)(b)

The relevant planning authority is Meath County Council. An application for planning permission for the construction of the new recycling and skip repair buildings was submitted to the Council in December 2006 (Ref. No. SA/60656).

Article 12 (1)(c)

The facility does not discharge process wastewater to sewer. Condition 3.12 of the existing licence requires process wastewater (floor wash down and vehicle wash) to be directed to a wastewater storage tank, the contents of which are removed off-site to a wastewater treatment plant. It is proposed to direct this discharge to the constructed wetland once it is installed and cease its removal to the wastewater treatment plant. There will be no process wastewater from the new recycling building, as it will handle dry recyclables. Surface water run-off from the extended eastern portion of the site will be directed to the proposed constructed wetland for treatment.

Article 12 (1)(d)

The facility is located in Rathdrinagh, Beuparc, Navan, County Meath. It is in the townland of Rathdrinagh, at National Grid Reference: E2973 N2689, and the location is shown on Drawing No. 1. The site is located on the N2 approximately 4km south of Slane, County Meath. The River Boyne flows in an easterly direction approximately 3km north east of the site. The facility is bound to the west by the N2 Dublin to Monaghan Road and to the north by a third class road, the Knockcommon Road. Surrounding activity is predominantly agriculture, however there are some commercial units adjacent the site to the west. There are nine residential dwellings with 0.5km on the Knockcommon Road and thirteen residences within 0.5km along the N2 and a third class road on the western side of the N2, Senchelstown Road.

Article 12 (1)(e)

The facility is a non hazardous waste materials recycling and transfer operation. Wastes are processed and treated on-site to recover materials suitable for recycling, and to minimise the quantity of treated waste disposed to residual landfill. In addition to expanding the existing activities the facility intends to accept and store Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE). The WEEE will be dismantled to maximise the rates of recovery of each individual component or material type. This will form the first stage of the recycling process and allow the component parts and housings to be shipped directly to the different recycling operations and not to intermediary processing facilities.

It is proposed to construct a new processing building to accommodate the additional waste volumes. There are currently two buildings used for waste handling, as shown on Drawing No. V130_A_11. Building 1 is used for all domestic, commercial and industrial mixed waste and dry recyclables. Source segregated dry recyclables, such as cardboard, plastics etc are compacted and baled and sent for recovery. The mixed waste is mechanically treated using a shredder, magnet and trommel to separate out the organic fraction which is sent to the on-site in-vessel composting system. Non-recyclable residual waste is sent to landfill.

Building 2 is used to segregate the C&D waste using a shredder, trommel, wind blower, magnet, ballistic separator and a picking line to recover ferrous and non ferrous metals, rubble, timber and inorganic fines. Front loading shovels are used to load the shredder, and a grab is used to pick out large pieces of steel etc and load the waste for consignment. Recovered materials are sent off-site for further recycling and recovery, while non recoverable residuals are sent to landfill.

PANDA expects the percentage of dry recyclables in the overall MSW and C&I waste streams to increase significantly in the coming years, due to the roll-out of separate household waste collection services and the introduction of source segregation by individual companies and commercial institutions. PANDA has also identified a number of other waste treatment processes that have the potential to divert further waste from landfill, enhance recycling/recovery rates and assist in meeting national waste recycling targets e.g. acceptance of WEEE and the production of Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF).

It is therefore proposed to construct a new building (Building 3) to the south of the site to process dry recyclables, store WEEE and possibly produce RDF. All the dry recyclables currently handled in Building 1 will be re-directed to Building 3 and Building 1 will be used exclusively for mixed waste from the domestic and commercial & industrial collections.

It is also intended to provide the Dedicated C&D Recovery Area, which is required under Condition 3.13 of the current licence, along the eastern site boundary. A portion of this area extends outside the current licensed area. The revised licence area for the site is shown on Drawing No. V130-A-11. The C&D Recovery Area will, when complete, be provided with an impermeable concrete slab, surface water drains and reinforced concrete walls as required by the Condition. The area will contain the concrete crusher, which is required to process the increased volumes of C&D materials at the location shown on Drawing No V130 A 12. The materials processing section of the crusher will also be enclosed as shown on Drawing No. PW28092006.

A new C&D fines screening system with an aperture of 10mm ('flip-flop') is in operation at the facility and is located internally in Building 2. The flip-flop is used to improve the quality of the C&D fines.

The capacity of the facility plant is detailed on Table 12 (1) e. It is based on the existing waste processing hours and far exceeds the proposed volume of waste that will be handled. Therefore, the existing plant items have the capacity to accommodate the proposed increases in waste inputs and will meet the duty and standby capacity requirements specified in Condition 3.9 of the current licence.

The location of the new processing building and ancillary infrastructure is shown on Drawing No. V130_A_13. The building encompasses 4320m² and has sufficient capacity to handle the proposed additional volumes. The proposed waste processing operations will require the use of a range of fixed and mobile plant. The configuration of the plant and equipment has not been finalised, as this will be the subject of a competitive tendering process. However, an indicative internal layout is shown on Drawing No. V130_A_14. Elevations and Sections are shown on Drawing No. V130_A_16.

The final configuration and details of the individual component parts and emission mitigation measures will be submitted to and approved by the Agency before the processing plant is installed.

Table 12 (1) e Plant Capacity

Qty	Description	Duty Capacity (Tonnes/Hour)	Weekly Capacity (Tonnes)
2	Trommel	100 t/hr	6,050
3	Loading Shovels	50 t/hr	4,125
1	Timber Shredder	25 t/hr	1,375
1	Stone Crusher	145 t/hr	7,975
1	Picking Station	25 t/hr	1,375
1	Shredder	25 t/hr	1,375
2	Excavator	50 t/hr	5,500
1	Baler	25 t/hr	1,375
1	Flip-Flop	50 t/hr	4,125
1	Crusher	50 t/hr	4,125

The skip repair building will be used solely for the repair of damaged skips. It will not have floor drains and will not contain oils or paints. It will contain a welder and work stations. It is not expected that there will be any emissions of environmental significance from the skip repair building. Plans and elevations for the skip repair building are shown on Drawing No. V130-A-18.

Article 12 (1)(f)

It is not proposed to alter the existing Third and Fourth Schedule of the Waste Management Acts 1996 - 2003 activities, which will remain as follows: -

Third Schedule – Waste Disposal Activities

Class 12

“Repackaging prior to submission to any activity referred to in the preceding paragraph of this Schedule”.

Waste at the site is baled and compacted prior to submission to off-site licensed landfills/recovery facilities.

Class 11

“Blending or mixture prior to submission to any activity referred to in a preceding paragraph of this Schedule”.

Household and commercial/industrial wastes are mixed prior to submission to off-site licensed landfills.

Class 13

"Storage prior to submission to any activity referred to in a preceding paragraph of this Schedule, other than temporary storage, pending collection, on the premises where the waste concerned is produced".

Wastes are stored prior to submission to off-site licensed landfills.

Fourth Schedule – Waste Recovery Activities

Class 2

"Recycling or reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents, (including composting and other biological processes)".

Recycling of the organic fraction of the Household, Commercial/Industrial waste and Construction & Demolition waste accepted at the facility is carried out. Wood and green waste is shredded, plastics and cardboard are recovered for off site recycling.

Class 3

"Recycling or reclamation of metals and metal compounds"

Metals and wire, which are recovered from the incoming waste, and aluminium cans delivered to the site separately, are stored on-site pending removal to off-site recycling facilities.

Class 4

"Recycling or reclamation of other inorganic materials".

Inorganic materials comprising inert C&D waste and glass are recovered from the incoming waste and stored pending removal off-site for recycling. This is the principal waste activity undertaken at the site.

Class 11

"Use of waste obtained from any activity referred to in a preceding paragraph of this Schedule".

Inert wastes may be used at the site.

Class 13

"Storage of waste intended for submission to any activity referred to in a preceding paragraph of this Schedule, other than temporary storage, pending collection, on the premises where such waste is produced".

Wastes are stored prior to submission to off-site permitted/licensed recycling and reclamation facilities.

Article 12 (1)(g)

All of the Household, C&D and Commercial wastes accepted at the facility are currently processed and stored on-site pending transfer off-site for either for recovery, or disposal at appropriately licensed/permited off-site facilities.

It is not proposed to alter the types of waste accepted at the facility from that specified in Condition 1.3.1 and Table A.1 of the current waste licence. WEEE will be accepted as part of the Commercial & Industrial waste stream. The amended Table A1 includes the proposed increases to both the total quantity and the individual categories of wastes.

Table A.1 Waste Categories and Quantities

WASTE TYPE	MAXIMUM (TONNES PER ANNUM) ^(Note 1)
Household	35,000
Commercial & Industrial	75,000
Construction and Demolition	120,000
Compostable	20,000
TOTAL	250,000

Note 1: The quantities of the different categories referred to in this table may be amended with the agreement of the Agency provided that the total quantity of waste specified is not exceeded.

The relevant European Waste Catalogue Codes (EWC) are presented below. Given the mixed nature of the waste processed at the facility it is not possible to provide accurate predictions of the future quantities of waste broken down into individual EWC codes. However, the EWC codes and quantities of the individual wastes will be presented in future AERs.

Proposed EWC Codes List:

15 01 packaging (including separately collected municipal packaging waste)

- 15 01 01 paper and cardboard packaging
- 15 01 02 plastic packaging
- 15 01 03 wooden packaging
- 15 01 04 metallic packaging
- 15 01 05 composite packaging
- 15 01 06 mixed packaging
- 15 01 07 glass packaging
- 15 01 09 textile packaging

16 01 end-of-life vehicles

- 16 01 03 end-of-life tyres
- 16 03 06 end-of-life vehicles, containing neither liquids nor other hazardous components

16 05 gases in pressure containers and discarded chemicals

16 05 05 gases in pressure containers other than those mentioned in 16 05 04

17 04 metals (including their alloys)

17 04 01 copper, bronze, brass

17 04 02 aluminium

17 04 03 lead

17 04 04 zinc

17 04 05 iron and steel

17 04 06 tin

17 04 07 mixed metals

17 01 concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics

17 01 02 bricks

17 01 07 mixture of concrete, bricks, tiles & ceramics other than those mentioned in 17 01 06

17 02 wood, glass and plastic

17 02 01 wood

17 02 02 glass

17 02 03 plastic

17 05 soil (including excavated soil from contaminated sites), stones and dredging spoil

17 05 04 soil and stones other than those mentioned in 17 05 03

17 06 insulation materials and asbestos-containing construction materials

17 06 04 insulation materials other than those mentioned in 17 06 01 and 17 06 03

17 08 gypsum-based construction material

17 08 02 gypsum-based construction materials other than those mentioned in 17 08 01

17 09 other construction and demolition waste

17 09 04 mixed construction and demolition wastes other than those mentioned in 17 09 01,

17 09 02 and 17 09 03

19 08 wastes from waste water treatment plants not otherwise specified

19 08 01 screenings

19 09 wastes from the preparation of water intended for human consumption or water for industrial use

19 09 02 sludges from water clarification

19 12 wastes from the mechanical treatment of waste (for example sorting, crushing, compacting, pelletising) not otherwise specified

19 12 02 ferrous metal

19 12 09 minerals (for example sand, stones)

19 12 12 other wastes (including mixtures of materials) from mechanical treatment of wastes other than those mentioned in 19 12 11

20 01 separately collected fractions (except 15 01)

20 01 01 paper and cardboard

20 01 02 glass

20 01 08 biodegradable kitchen canteen wastes

20 01 34 batteries and accumulators other than those mentioned in 20 01 33

20 01 36 discarded electrical and electronic equipment other than those mentioned in 20 01 21, 20 01 23 and 20 01 35

20 01 38 wood other than that mentioned in 20 01 37

20 01 39 plastics

20 01 40 metals

20 02 garden and park wastes (including cemetery waste)

20 02 01 biodegradable waste

20 02 02 soil and stones

20 02 03 other non-biodegradable wastes

20 03 other municipal wastes

20 03 01 mixed municipal waste

20 03 07 bulky waste

20 03 99 municipal wastes not otherwise specified

Article 12 (1)(h)

Details on the fuels and energy that are utilised at the facility are included in Table 12.1 h. The table includes the cost and tonnes of carbon dioxide produced. As the electricity is supplied by Airtricity, 0 tonnes of carbon dioxide are produced. It is envisaged that the increase in waste inputs will result in an increase in fuel and energy usage. However, it is not anticipated that the increase in waste volumes will cause a pro-rata increase in energy usage but the actual usage cannot be determined at this time. The actual increases in usage will be reported to the Agency in future AERs.

Attachment 2.

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This Report has been cleared for submission to the Board by acting Programme Manager Jonathan Derham
Signed: *AKelce* Date: 23/9/08



**OFFICE OF CLIMATE,
LICENSING &
RESOURCE USE**

INSPECTORS REPORT ON A LICENCE APPLICATION

To: Directors

From: Donal Grant

**- ENVIRONMENTAL
LICENSING
PROGRAMME**

Date: 23/09/08

RE: APPLICATION FOR A WASTE LICENCE REVIEW FROM NURENDALE LTD. (T/A PANDA WASTE SERVICES), RATHDRINAGH, BEAUPARC, NAVAN, CO. MEATH, LICENCE REGISTER NO. W0140-02

Application Details

Type of facility:	Non-Hazardous Materials Recovery Facility
Class(es) of Activity (P = principal activity):	3 rd Schedule: 11, 12, 13 4 th Schedule: 2, 3, 4(P), 11, 13
Quantity of waste managed per annum:	165,000tpa currently, 250,000tpa applied for
Classes of Waste:	Dry recyclable non-hazardous household, commercial & industrial wastes.
Location of facility:	Rathdrinagh, Beauparc, Navan, Co. Meath
Licence application received:	01-May-2007
Third Party submissions:	Four
EIS Required:	No
Article 14 Notices sent:	26-July-2007, 15-April-2008
Article 14 compliance date:	01-Oct-2007, 13-May-2008, 15-Aug-2008
Site Inspection:	01-June-2007

1. Facility

The existing licence for the Panda Waste facility was granted in April 2005 and provided for an extension of the licensee's waste acceptance limits from 24,000tpa to 165,000tpa. The facility is a non-hazardous waste materials recycling and transfer

operation and has expanded rapidly since being granted its first licence in July 2002. The current infrastructure includes a reception and administration building, two large waste acceptance and handling buildings and a large waste processing yard including a timber shredding area. The licensee also owns an area of land (approx. 1.7 ha) to the rear of the existing facility and it is this land which will be developed as part of the proposed licence review. The applicant proposes to construct a new waste processing building which is intended to cater for the treatment of dry recyclable waste and non-hazardous WEEE, and a constructed wetland (reed bed) system for the treatment of site surface water. Apart from the increase in waste quantities accepted, the applicant is also requesting a number of changes to their existing licence as part of this licence review. The applicant proposes to alter the site boundary to take in the proposed new building and reed bed system and to relocate a dust monitoring location (DS3) from its current location to a new location at a point on the extended site boundary. They also wish to alter the licence to allow them to agree changes to their hours of waste acceptance with an OEE officer in the future, rather than be tied to hours set in the licence. Having consulted with the OEE officer assigned to this facility, this request was refused and the hours of operation specified in the existing licence have been retained in the recommended decision. This refusal was based on the close proximity of a number of local residents to the site and historical complaints relating to out of hours traffic to and from the site.

2. Operational Description

The main processes at the facility include the treatment and handling of household, commercial & industrial (C&I), construction & demolition (C&D) and compostable waste. These processes are currently undertaken in the two existing waste processing buildings (Building 1 & Building 2), the timber shredding area and in the two enclosed composting tunnels. WEEE is not currently accepted at the site however the applicant anticipates accepting and treating non-hazardous WEEE in the proposed new waste processing building. The WEEE will be accepted on site in the Commercial & Industrial waste category so no change to the waste categories accepted on site are proposed.

Table 1: Proposed Waste Categories and Quantities

Waste Types	Maximum Tonnes per annum (tpa)
Household	35,000
Commercial & Industrial	75,000
Construction & Demolition	120,000
Compostable	20,000
Total	250,000

Building 1 is used for all domestic, commercial and industrial mixed waste and dry recyclables. Source segregated dry recyclables are compacted and sent for recovery. The mixed waste is mechanically treated using a shredder, trommel and magnet to separate out the ferrous and organic fines waste fractions, the latter is then sent to the on-site in-vessel composting system. Non-recyclable residual waste is sent to landfill.

Building 2 is used to segregate the C&D waste using a shredder, trommel, wind blower, magnet, ballistic separator and a picking line for ferrous metals, rubber, etc.

The applicant expects the percentage of dry recyclables in the overall MSW and C&I waste streams to increase significantly in the coming years and propose to handle all dry recyclable waste processing in a proposed new building (Building 3), allowing Building 1 to be used exclusively for the treatment of the mixed waste from the domestic and commercial & industrial collections.

3. Use of Resources

Diesel and gas oil are the two primary fuels used on site and account for 96% of the site energy consumption. They are used to run the fleet of road trucks and yard machinery and the volumes consumed are expected to increase with the proposed increases in waste acceptance and treatment.

The site used 782 MW/hr of electricity in 2006 and this too is expected to rise when the waste quantities increase.

The applicant intends to use roof water from one of the process buildings in its dust suppression system and the office and sanitary facilities will use water from the mains.

4. Emissions

4.1 Air:

The biofilter is the only actual or proposed point source emission to atmosphere from this facility, with the main emissions being fugitive dust and odours. The primary sources of dust emissions are vehicle movement during dry periods and the timber shredding operation, which is conducted outdoors at present. Dust monitoring is carried out at four different locations around the site (D1 – D4). Monitoring results from 2005 and 2006 indicate that dust emissions at D1, D2 & D4 are not above the emission limit values set out in Schedule B.4 of the existing licence. Monitoring at D3 has shown that dust deposition levels at that point regularly breach the emission limit value and the applicant wishes to relocate the monitoring point to the southern boundary of the site. At present D3 is not located at the boundary of the site and is close to Building 1. It is also only 30 metres from the timber shredding operations and the applicant believes it is not representative of dust deposition levels beyond the site boundary. The proposal to relocate the dust monitoring point is granted by the Agency under condition 6.15.1 of the RD, however it shall be relocated to the eastern boundary of the site in order to remain upwind of any dust generated in the main yard. The basis for moving the dust monitoring location to the site boundary is taken from the rationale articulated in a judgement made in the *Environmental Protection Agency v Greenstar Recycling (Munster) Limited* case in 2006 in relation to odours from a facility. In that case the judge concluded that compliance with a condition requiring that 'odours do not give rise to nuisance at the facility' is impossible and a licensee should only be required to ensure that nuisance does not arise beyond the site boundary as a result of their operations. In relation to the Panda Waste facility the nuisance may be caused by dust rather than odour but the principle remains the same and thus the dust monitoring point shall be moved to the site boundary to ensure compliance.

Condition 8.6 of the RD requires the applicant to conduct all timber shredding operations indoors and this will greatly reduce the dust generated on site, particularly

in close proximity to D3. This requirement was also contained within their existing licence and the applicant has so far failed to move the timber shredding operations indoors. As the site boundary is to be extended to the south, the Recommended Decision (RD) also requires the provision of an additional dust monitoring point (D5) to be located at the new southern boundary under condition 6.15.2 of the RD.

Dust abatement measures currently being employed at the site include damping down the hardstanding areas around the site and the timber shredding area. This will continue under condition 6.13.2 however the requirement to dampen dust should be reduced once the timber shredding operations are housed indoors.

4.2 Emissions to Sewer

There will be no emissions to sewer from this facility.

4.3 Process Wastewater

Condition 3.13 of the existing licence requires all process wastewater (floor washdown and vehicle wash water) to be directed to a bunded storage tank for holding prior to disposal off-site in a Local Authority WWTP. This protocol is maintained in the RD and the requirement to collect all process waste water and treat it off-site is retained as condition 3.14 of the RD. The existing 13m³ wastewater holding tank will be sufficient to handle all waste water arising on site as the proposed development works at the site are expected to result in a reduction in the generation of process wastewater.

4.4 Storm Water Runoff

At present all surface water arising on site is diverted through a silt trap and interceptor before discharging to a small stream at the southern boundary of the site. Schedule C.2.2 of the existing licence provides for the regular monitoring of this discharge by the licensee. The licensee proposes to build a constructed wetland (reed bed) system on the site to provide additional treatment to the storm water before it discharges at SW1. All surface water falling on the site will be diverted via silt traps and an oil interceptor to the constructed wetland upon its completion, with the exception of roof water from the proposed new waste processing building (Building 3). All roof water from Building 3 will be diverted to an underground storage tank for reuse as a dust suppressant in the processing buildings and in the waste handling yard. Until Building 3 and the constructed wetland are completed, all surface water will continue to discharge to the stream at SW1. Once the constructed wetland is completed and commissioned it shall discharge to the same stream as the existing surface water discharge point (SW1). The location of the SW1 monitoring point will have to be moved at this time. The applicant has confirmed that no process wastewater will be diverted to the wetland system at any time.

4.5 Emissions to ground/groundwater:

All sanitary waste discharges via a Biocycle Unit and percolation area. The RD requires the maintenance and monitoring of this unit, as well as regular desludging.

4.6 Wastes Generated:

Wastes produced on site will include general office and canteen waste and sludge from interceptors. The quantities produced are not expected to rise substantially after the proposed expansion of operations.

4.7 Noise:

The primary sources of noise at the facility arise from the traffic on site and the operation of plant and machinery. Annex 1 to this report contains a map showing the proximity of the site to local residences. The applicant proposed to enclose the timber shredder by the end of 2007, which will mean that all site plant will be housed indoors, thus reducing the potential for noise emissions beyond the site boundary. However, as of April 2008, this had not yet been enclosed and is included as a requirement under condition 6.17.3 of the RD.

A number of complaints have been received by the Agency regarding noise associated with activities at the facility. The majority of these relate to a service garage operated by the licensee, however this is adjacent to the site and is not inside the licensed facility boundary. Noise monitoring at the facility is conducted quarterly at four boundary locations and the results of the monitoring for 2006 showed that the ELVs for noise were not exceeded at the facility. As the site is located beside the N2 national road the monitoring results are dominated by background noise from the road traffic. The RD retains the noise monitoring programme required under the existing licence.

As can be seen in the map in Annex 1, all of the nearest noise sensitive receptors are located to the north of the facility. The boundary extension to the south of the facility and the location of the new waste processing building in that southern extension, should also reduce the potential for nuisance from noise, dust and odours to local residents as the site is to be extended away from all sensitive receptors.

4.8 Nuisance:

The organic fraction of the waste accepted at the facility would be attractive to both birds and vermin, however the fact that all waste is handled indoors means that neither are attracted to the site. An external contractor is employed to control vermin at the site.

The RD includes standard conditions for the control and management of vermin, litter, odour and dust nuisance. The boundary extension to the south of the facility should also reduce the potential for nuisance from dust, odours and noise to local residents as the site is to be extended away from all sensitive receptors.

5. Restoration

The site has been licensed since 2002 and has expanded its operations continuously since then. The decommissioning and restoration of the site is not expected to occur in the near future. Standard conditions regarding closure of the facility have been included in Condition 10 of the RD.

6. Cultural Heritage, Habitats & Protected Species

There are no protected habitats, areas or species affected by the proposed expansion in activities at this site.

7. Waste Management, Air Quality and Water Quality Management Plans

In the North East Region Waste Management Plan, endorsed by Meath County Council in 2006, it is stated that additional capacity will be required in the region to accommodate increased quantities of source-separated waste, with particular reference to material recovery facilities and waste transfer stations. It also states that *'there remains a lack of development [in the North East Region] in treating key waste fractions such as biodegradable waste and construction and demolition waste, which needs to be addressed if the Regional target is to be achieved'*.

8. Environmental Impact Statement

The Agency received a letter from the local authority confirming that an EIS was not required as part of the planning process. The Agency received an EIS in 2005 as part of the previous licence review (W0140-02). This EIS documentation was included in consideration for this current review application.

9. Best Available Techniques (BAT)

I have examined and assessed the application documentation and I am satisfied that the site, technologies and techniques specified in the application and as confirmed, modified or specified in the attached Recommended Decision comply with the requirements and principles of BAT. I consider the technologies and techniques as described in the application, in this report, and in the RD, to be the most effective in achieving a high general level of protection of the environment having regard - as may be relevant - to the way the facility is located, designed, built, managed, maintained, operated and decommissioned.

10. Compliance with Directives/Regulations

The proposed operation is compliant with all relevant EU waste and environmental laws.

11. Compliance Record

The OEE officer assigned to this facility has received several complaints from residents in the vicinity of the facility since 2005. The majority of these relate to noise and dust from the site and vehicular movement to/from the site outside of its licensed hours of operation. The opinions of the OEE officer have been included in consideration of this application.

12. Fit & Proper Person Assessment

The legal, technical and financial standing of the applicant qualifies them to be considered Fit and Proper Persons.

13. Recommended Decision

The RD sets increased limits for waste acceptance at the facility however it prohibits the applicant from accepting the increased quantities of waste until such time as all appropriate infrastructure has been installed, which will allow for the processing of all waste indoors. I am satisfied that the conditions set out in the RD will adequately address all emissions from the facility and will ensure that the carrying on of the activities in accordance with the conditions will not cause environmental pollution.

14. Submissions

There were four submission made in relation to this application.

14.1 Submission from Mr Sean Wall, Dublin Rd., Rathdrinagh, Beauparc, Navan, Co. Meath:

Mr. Wall makes his objection to the granting of a revised waste licence on behalf of nine local residents. The residents previously objected to Meath County Council during the planning application phase of the project and are objecting to the Agency on the same grounds. They state that *'further development of this facility causes huge concern to the local residents...,we believe a facility of this nature should be positioned in a non-residential area with amenities and services to enable secure and rigorous processing of such material'*. They also state that the following issues will arise as a result of expansion at the facility:

1. Increased odour emissions
2. Increased numbers of vermin and insects
3. Increased volumes of traffic
4. Increased noise levels – traffic and plant operations
5. Environmental impact
6. Impact on wildlife
7. Impact on local dairy animals
8. Proximity to shop
9. Unknown health risks to local residents
10. Negative effect on the value of local residential properties.

Comment:

In relation to the issues raised by the applicant, a number of these concerns are addressed by conditions in the Recommended Decision while the remaining concerns are beyond the remit of the Agency and should be directed to the relevant local authority.

1. **Increased odour emissions:** the only potential source of emissions onsite is from the mixed waste handled in Building 1 and the biofilter. The odour control measures in the building are considered BAT and the biofilter, if operated in accordance with Schedule C.1.1, should not cause any odours beyond the site boundary.

2. **Increased numbers of vermin and insects:** Condition 5.8 requires the applicant to control all vermin and insects that may be attracted to the site. A vermin control procedure is currently in place at the site and although the waste acceptance limit will increase, all waste will still be handled in vermin controlled buildings.
3. **Increased volumes of traffic:** This is a matter for the Planning Authority and would have been addressed during consideration of the application for planning permission.
4. **Increased noise levels – traffic and plant operations:** Again the Planning Authority is responsible for controlling the volume of road traffic associated with works at the facility. The Agency can only enforce noise emanating from within the site boundary and Schedule B.4 of the RD sets emission limit values for noise levels at the nearest sensitive receptor.
5. **Environmental impact, impact on wildlife, impact on local dairy animals:** If the facility is operated under the conditions of the RD it will have no significant impact on the surrounding environment, including any wild-life or domestic animals.
6. **Proximity to shop, negative effect on the value of local residential properties:** These are both issues for the Planning Authority and are beyond the remit of the Agency.
7. **Unknown health risks to local residents:** Ms. Ciara O'Murcú, an Environmental Health Officer with the Health Service Executive made a submission on this application (see below) and stated that she had no objections to the proposed development subject to a number of conditions, which are dealt with below.

14.2 Submissions were received from Mr. Terry Kearns and Mr. Gerard Lynch.

Both of their objections raised the same concerns and these concerns shall be outlined individually below:

1. **Hours of operation** – both submissions claim that plant and machinery are operating at the facility outside of their licensed hours of operation.
2. **Odours emanating from the facility** – if the facility is operated in accordance with the conditions of its existing licence then odours should not be detectable outside the site boundary.
3. **Large volumes of dust being deposited outside the site boundary** – Mr. Lynch claims that the levels of dust being produced at the site is having a detrimental effect on the health of his dairy cows.

All of these concerns have been forwarded to the Office of Environmental Enforcement as they relate to the existing licence, W0140-02. The provisions of the RD addresses these concerns and should help to minimise these issues in the future.

14.3 Submission from Ms. Ciara O'Murcú, an Environmental Health Officer with the Health Service Executive.

Ms. O'Murcú stated that she, on behalf of the Health Service Executive, had no objections to the licence review subject to a number of conditions. The thirteen conditions she cited are all covered under conditions of the RD.

15. Charges

The Agency charge for the facility in 2008 was €14,760. No changes have been made to the manner in which charges are levied in 2008 so the RD requests the licensee pay an annual charge of €14,760 to the Agency.

16. Recommendation

I have considered all the documentation submitted in relation to this application and recommend that the Agency grant a licence subject to the conditions set out in the attached PD and for the reasons as drafted.

Signed

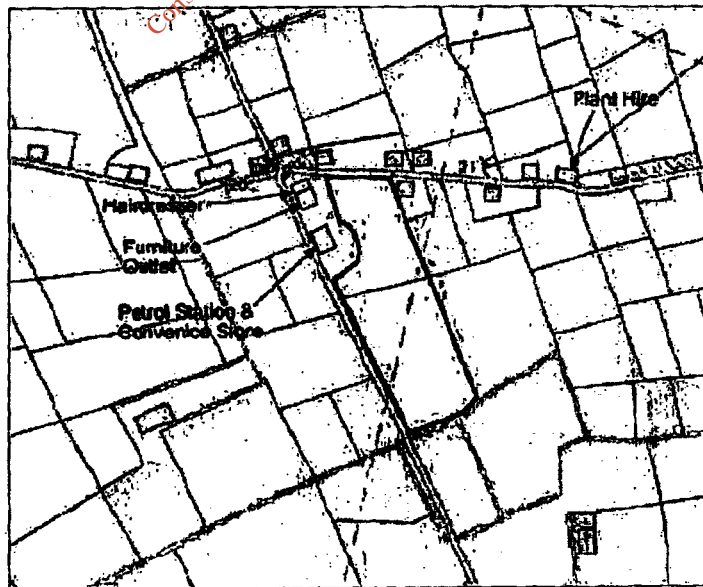


Donal Grant, Inspector

Procedural Note

In the event that no objections are received to the Proposed Decision on the application, a licence will be granted in accordance with Section 43(1) of the Waste Management Acts 1996-2008.

Annex 1: Location of site (outlined in red) in proximity to local residents



Annex 2: Site location map (Scale 1:50,000)

