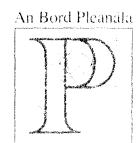
Our Ref: 17.PA0026

Your Ref:

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

9 - AUG 2012

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ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSING UNIT



Aoife Loughnane E.P.A.- Regional Inspectorate McCumiskey House Richview Clonskeagh Road Dublin 14

8th August 2012

Re: Amendments to existing Permissions for Waste to Energy Plant at Carranstown, Duleek. County Meath.

Dear Madam,

I have been asked by An Bord Pleanála to refer to the above mentioned case.

Please find enclosed a copy of a request for further information which has been issued by the Board to the Applicant, which is being forwarded to you for information purposes only

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Kieran Somers Executive Officer

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Our Ref: 17.PA0026

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

9 - AUG 2012

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ENVIRONMENTAL EIGENSING UNIT

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Conor Jones Indaver Ireland Limited Unit 11 South Ring Business Park Kinsale Road Cork

7th August 2012

Re: Amendments to existing Permissions for Waste to Energy Plant at Carranstown, Duleek, County Meath.

Dear Sir.

Dear sir,

I have been asked by An Bord Pleanala to refer further to the above mentioned proposed development which is before the Board for consideration.

Please be advised that the Board, in accordance with section 37(F)(1) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, hereby requires you to furnish the following further information in relation to the effects on the environment of the proposed development. Arising in the first instance from a review of the records of the formal pre-application consultation undertaken in this case (reference number 17.PC0130 refers), and having regard to the information contained in, and supporting the current planning application, please submit your observations and details as appropriate in respect of the matters set to the below:

1.1

In the submitted planning application, and supporting EIS, there appears to be considerable emphasis placed on the classification of the Meath facility as a 'recovery facility', and its implied consequential fit with evolving international/regional waste management policies. Section 4.2.2 of the EIS refers to revised national waste policy under review. Accordingly, having regard to the recent publication by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government entitled A Resource Opportunity - Waste Management Policy in Ireland (July 2012), please indicate whether this latest policy intervention has any implications for the role of the proposed development vis-á-vis official policy. You are requested, in particular, to address any issues raised in respect of Planning for the Future (Section 3 of the Resource Opportunity document including references to regional waste management configurations and hazardous waste management planning): Recovery (Section 9 of that document); and Disposal (Section 10 of that document).

1.2

Please clarify how the proposal for up to 15,000 tpa of hazardous waste, in an overall 220,000 tpa throughput, equates to 5% maximum 'bulk of waste' described in Section 4.2.3 of the EIS, and whether the stated estimate of 5% maximum takes account of incidental hazardous materials contained within the accepted mainstream residual municipal waste. Please also state your current estimates of the amount of incidental hazardous waste content in currently accepted waste at Carranstown.

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2.0

At pre-application stage the list of prescribed bodies to be notified of any planning application was discussed at meetings, and confirmed as amended to the applicant at the closure of the pre-application consultation process. The list included local authorities from whom waste is proposed to be collected. However, the planning application documentation states only that the lead authorities in each waste management region have been consulted. You are requested to clarify the rationale applied in your interpretation of the Board's advice in this matter.

2.1

Please also state whether it is anticipated that hazardous waste may be accepted from local authority areas in Northern Ireland, which includes areas more proximate to the application site than certain areas within consulted regional waste authorities.

3.0

At pre-application stage, it was indicated by the Board's representatives that the health implications of the proposed development would be a material consideration in the assessment of any submitted planning application. It appears that the now submitted EIS gives limited direct attention to any potential health implications raised by the proposed development, including the outcomes of any consultations undertaken with the relevant official bodies in respect of this consideration. Please clarify the extent and outcomes of any consultations undertaken in this regard prior to the making of the current planning application.

Arising from submissions received by An Bord Pleanála in response to the current planning application, comprising approximately 15 no. submissions up to and including the Meath County Manager's Report and related County Council meeting minutes of July 2012, you are invited to submit any observations you may have on these submissions at this time, and, in particular, any observations you may have in respect of the following matters:

4.0

Meath County Manager's Report

4.1

Regarding the proposed increase in tonnage of waste to be accepted, and the consequential projected increase in bottom ash residue, the Report notes the limited lifespan of the currently-used landfill facility at Whiteriver Dunleer, County Louth and queries where the bottom ash will be disposed when the Whiteriver facility ceases to be operational. Please submit your observations to An Bord Pleanála as appropriate.

4.2

The Report queries also the applicants' ash strategy, which it is considered should address possible removal of certain non-ash residues from bottom ash and resultant reduction of ash to landfill. Please submit any observations.

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4.3

Regarding the acceptance of some additional EWC waste types, the Report signals some concern that any public perception of hazardous waste being incinerated, as proposed, could undermine public interest efforts to encourage the separation of wastes by SME producers and households. Please submit your observations on this consideration, and the recommendation in the Report that the applicant should be required to make financial contributions towards the promotion of public waste management awareness.

4.4

The concern expressed in the Meath County Manager's Report is echoed in the submission of Louth County Council Environment Department. In this regard you are invited to comment, as appropriate, on this issue in the context of the query raised in Paragraph 2.1 above of this letter.

4.5

The Report refers to the reasonable application of the 'proximity' principle' in waste management planning and operation, and goes on to query specifically the volumes of each type of waste listed in Table 5.2 of the EIS and the regions from which they would come. Please provide information, as appropriate, in response to this query. and the related query raised of the long-term strategy of hazardous waste use in the Carranstown facility. Comprehensive information on the types/sources/quantities of hazardous waste materials should be provided to facilitate consideration of the proposed developments of the proposed development of the proposed developments of the proposed developments of the proposed developments of the proposed development of the proposed developmen

Please also comment on the matter of disposal method for hazardous bottom ash, should this occur.

4.7

Regarding the proposed modular building in the currently proposed development, the Report notes that the site characterisation report relating to the associated new on-site effluent treatment plant, has not taken account of the relevant 2009 EPA Code of Practice. The Report states the imperative of applying the relevant 2009 criteria. You are invited to submit revised information or otherwise comment, as appropriate, to address this issue as raised in the County Manager's Report.

Regarding the matter of air quality vis-á-vis any impact on the Bru na Boinne World Heritage Site, as raised on Page 26 of the County Manager's Report, please comment as appropriate.

4.9

Regarding the matter of Appropriate Assessment (AA), the Report notes that screening assessment undertaken does not appear to form part of the documentation submitted in support of the planning application. Please comment, as appropriate, and/or submit a copy of the relevant screening assessment or assessments. In this regard vour attention is drawn to prevailing official advice given to planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála, that the findings and conclusions of any AA screening process should be documented, complete with supporting evidence and objective criteria.

Arising from consideration of other submissions made to An Bord Pleanála, please comment, in particular, in time come type 27 m Lot. respect of the matters set down below

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5.0

Roads and Traffic

5.1

Submitted that traffic generation predictions are flawed for reasons including the likelihood of a greater overall number of commercial vehicular movements associated with the delivery of hazardous waste; and traffic generation associated with the centralisation of spare parts for the Company's business nationwide, at Carranstown.

5.2

Submitted that further heavy traffic generating development would be premature pending the construction and opening of the Duleek bypass.

5.3

Submitted that there has not been effective compliance with the terms and conditions of the existing planning permission(s) relating to the existing development.

5.4

Implications of the proposed development for route selection planning options for the Leinster Orbital Route.

6

On-site Infrastructure

6.1

Contention that existing and planned on-site infrastructure would be inadequate having regard to the need for such as additional inspection and holding areas and facilities associated with the new waste streams proposed.

Please note that the request for your observations at this time is made without prejudice to consideration being given by An Bord Pleanala to the need for such further information, as may be required, in the assessment of the current planning application, whether by way of written correspondence or at any oral hearing which may be convened.

The further information referred to above should be received by the Board no later than 5.30 p.m. on the 30th August, 2012.

Please note that following its examination of any information lodged in response to this request for additional information, the Board will then decide whether to invoke its powers under section 37(F)(2) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, requiring you to publish notice of the furnishing of any additional information and to allow for inspection or purchase of same and the making of further written submissions in relation to same to the Board.

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If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above mentioned An Bord Pleanala reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Kieran Somers
Executive Officer

Consent of copyright owner required for any other use.

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