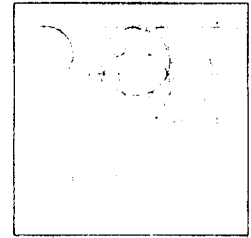


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Our Ref: PA0026

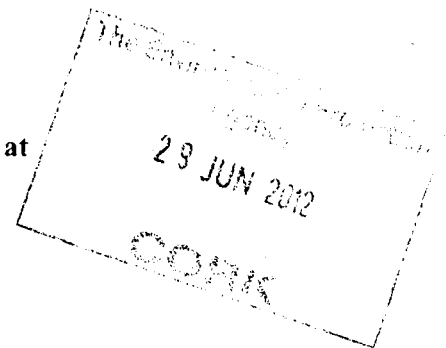
An Bord Pleanála



Maire Buckley  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Regional Inspectorate Cork  
Inniscarra  
County Cork

28<sup>th</sup> June, 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 proposed development which has been submitted to the Board under Section 37F of the Planning and Development 2000, as amended, as a strategic infrastructure application. The proposed development relates to proposed amendments to existing permissions for a waste to energy plant at Carranstown, Duleek, County Meath. This application is accompanied by an Environment Impact Statement (EIS). The Board understands that the proposed amendments will be, or/are the subject of an application for a revision of the existing waste licence for the facility (EPA W0167-02), specifically in respect of increased annual tonnage of waste accepted and the addition of new waste types for incineration.

It is understood the copies of the relevant application documentation, including a copy of the Environmental Impact Statement prepared in respect of the application, have already been circulated to the Agency.

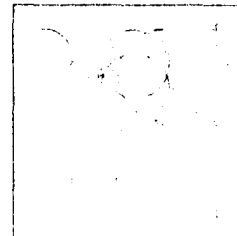
Under the provisions of Section 37F (5) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, the Board may, before making a decision in respect of a proposed development comprising for the purposes of an activity for which an IPPC or a waste license is required, request the Agency to make observations in relation to a proposed development. If granting permission, the Board is precluded from attaching conditions relating to the control of emissions to air or water etc., arising from the proposed development. However the Board must determine in the first instance if the development would be unacceptable on environmental grounds having regard to the

65 Seán MacDiarmáid  
Bride Ailín Ó'Carra  
Tel: 01 855 8404  
Local: 0890 275 175  
Fax: 01 872 2684  
Web: http://www.pleanala.ie  
email: board@pleanala.ie

64 Marlborough Street,  
Dublin 1

proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development is situate.

An Bord Pleanála



## **Background**

By way of background permission was granted by the Board in 2007 for 200,000 tonne throughput waste to energy facility for reasons and considerations including, amongst other things, that the proposed development would not seriously injure the environmental amenities of the area, would not be prejudicial to public health and would be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. Considerations underpinning the reasoning of the Board at that time included regard had to: -

- then prevailing National Waste Management Policy Framework and Strategy, and
- the strategic location of the proposed development in terms of the centre of gravity of waste arising of the north-east region in terms of transport and infrastructure.

The description of the development permitted in 2007 stated that the plant would accept residual municipal and industrial waste from a variety of sources, including commercial and industrial enterprises and private waste companies. Conditions attached to the permission included Condition No. 4 requiring that each and every consignment of waste would be accompanied by a waste certificate identifying certain details including the composition and nature of the waste. A subsequent grant of permission by Meath County Council (SA 901467), under the aegis of which the existing plant has been constructed, does not appear to have materially altered the terms and conditions of the Board permission PL 17.219721.

## **Request for Observations**

Having regard to the foregoing, the EPA is invited to make any observations it may have in relation to the proposed development and also to the matters as set down below.

1. Adequacy of the approach taken in the submitted EIS in relation to control of emissions from the activities in the proposed development.
2. Confirmation/clarification which the Agency may wish to make on particular sections of the EIS as listed below, insofar as the statements relate to the EPA areas of expertise:

- Chapter 5 – paragraphs 5.4.1, 5.4.2, 5.4.6, 5.6.11 and section 5.7.

64 Seán MacBriáda  
Báile Ánna Chiarraí

Tel: +353 858 8199  
E-mail: 1800 275 115  
Fax: +353 87 2684  
Web: <http://www.pleanala.ie>  
e-mail: [board@pcanala.ie](mailto:board@pcanala.ie)

64 Marlborough Street  
Dublin 1

- Chapter 6 – paragraph 6.3.1.
- Chapter 7 – paragraphs 7.3.3, 7.4.2 and 7.5.2 having regard to information contained in tables related to this chapter.

3. Any other comments the Agency may wish to make in this case.

Please note that it appears that there may be some information missing from the EIS, notably following paragraph 5.1.3 and possibly Section 5.5. The applicants have been asked to clarify this matter. In the event of further information being received by the Board in this regard, it will be a requirement that such further information is notified also to the EPA.

Finally please also note that the Board has been informed by the applicants that the EPA has been notified of an amendment to the current planning application. This amendment relates to revised proposed hours of waste acceptance and revised proposed hours of residues' exports from the site. This amendment was notified to the Board in June 2012. The EPA should have regard to the amendment to the planning application in any observations it may make to the Board.

The Board would appreciate a response from the Agency within a period of five weeks from the date of this letter (i.e. no later than 5.30p.m. on the 2nd August, 2012).

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

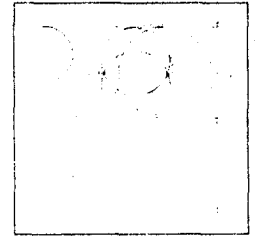
Yours faithfully,



Kieran Somers

Executive Officer

An Bord Pleanála



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64, Saint Maellough's,  
Bank, Atha Cliath 1

Tel: +353 1 858 8100  
Fax: +353 1 890 275 175  
Toll free: 1 2084  
Web: [www.pleanala.ie](http://www.pleanala.ie)  
email: [board@pleanala.ie](mailto:board@pleanala.ie)

64, Maillouagh Street,  
Dublin 1