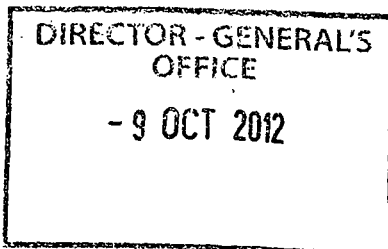


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Roadstone
WOOD
The Right Choice

Ms. Laura Burke
Director General
Environmental Protection Agency
Johnstown Castle Estate,
Wexford

W0280-01

Your Ref : W0272-01

05th October 2012

Dear Ms. Burke

RE: APPLICATION FOR WASTE LICENCE FOR PROPOSED INERT WASTE RECOVERY FACILITY, BROWNSOOD QUARRY, ENNISCORTHY, CO. WEXFORD

Roadstone Wood Ltd. (hereinafter 'the Company') operates a quarry at Brownswood, south of Enniscorthy, immediately east of the N11 National Primary Road between Dublin and Wexford.

In 2009, the Company identified an opportunity to restore and backfill a worked out quarry void at Brownswood using significant volumes of excess soil and stone (>500,000 tonnes) which are likely to be generated by the construction of the proposed M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Motorway PPP Scheme. The Company duly prepared a quarry backfilling and restoration scheme and in August 2011 submitted an application for planning permission for same to Wexford County Council. The planning application was accompanied by an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), prepared on our behalf by SLR Consulting Ireland.

As you no doubt appreciate, the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration Regulations) 2007 (S.I. No. 821 of 2007, as amended) requires waste facilities which accept and recover large volumes of inert soil and stone waste (in excess of 100,000 tonnes) to apply for a waste licence from the Environmental Protection Agency (hereinafter 'the Agency'). The Company therefore prepared and submitted a waste licence application (accompanied by an EIS) to the Agency in August 2011. The application was assigned reference number W0272-01.

Final planning permission for the quarry backfilling scheme was issued by Wexford County Council in recent days (Planning Ref. 20110746; Order signed 6th September 2012). To date however, almost 12 months later, the Company has yet to receive anything other than a routine acknowledgement from the Agency that it has received its waste licence application.

You will be aware that the Government, in an announcement on 17 July 2012, indicated that it intended to proceed with the tender and construction of the M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Motorway PPP Scheme as part of its proposed national economic stimulus package.

We are concerned that the waste licence application for the Brownswood waste recovery facility has not been processed or progressed by the Agency over the past 12-13 months and that the application is not being given the priority necessary to ensure that the proposed facility has all necessary infrastructure, plans and approvals in place in good time to accept soil and stone waste generated by the construction of the M11 Gorey to Enniscorthy Motorway.

As of the time of writing, the tender process for the motorway scheme is expected to be re-activated in 2013. We require regulatory certainty in respect of the waste licence in order to open negotiations with tender consortia about the importation and re-use of the soil and stone waste generated by the

motorway construction works. In view of these timescales, we need to have our waste licence issued within 4 to 6 months.

It is our contention that the proposed backfilling and restoration scheme at Brownswood Quarry provides an environmentally sustainable solution for managing significant volumes of inert soil waste generated by the proposed motorway construction. Any prolonged delay on the part of the Agency to issue the waste licence may result in the inert construction waste stream being diverted to multiple smaller, less well regulated (and possibly unauthorised) waste facilities.

To that end, we are writing to urge you and senior management colleagues in the Agency to review the current licensing backlog and give the necessary priority to our waste licence application for an inert waste recovery facility at Brownswood (Ref. No. W0272-01). As noted previously, an early determination is essential to provide time to install engineering and monitoring infrastructure in advance of the proposed motorway construction works and ensure that the recovery facility is operational at the outset.

An early acknowledgement and response to this letter, ideally with a commitment to determine and issue the waste licence within a 4 to 6 month period, would be much appreciated.

If you have any queries in respect of any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely
For Roadstone Wood Ltd.



Ronan Griffin
Property Manager

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