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Programme Manager, Frank Clinton
Signed: Joe Sean Kearey Date: 04/01/13.



OFFICE OF CLIMATE, LICENSING
& RESOURCE USE

**ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSING PROGRAMME
MEMORANDUM**

TO: DARA LYNOTT, DIRECTOR

C.C: Frank Clinton, Programme Manager

FROM: Brian Meaney, Senior Inspector

DATE: 4 January 2013

RE: Request for a Technical Amendment to Waste Licence Register Number **W0058-01**, held by **Greenstar Ltd** in relation to a transfer station at **Deepwater Quay, Sligo**.

Greenstar Limited operates a waste transfer station located adjacent to the Finisklin Industrial Estate some 1.5km from the centre of Sligo town. It is authorised to accept up to 100,000 tonnes per annum of household, commercial, C&D and industrial non-hazardous waste for recovery and disposal. Since 2003, no more than 37,000 tonnes of waste have been accepted in any one year. In 2011, 23,862 tonnes were accepted for processing and transfer.

A licence was granted on 5 July 2001 to Waste Disposal (Sligo) Limited. The licence was technically amended on 6 April 2005. The licence was transferred to Greenstar Limited on 13 June 2006.

According to the annual environmental report, the following processes take place at the facility:

- segregation and baling of recyclable paper, cardboard, plastic, wood and aluminium cans;
- sorting and segregation of C&D waste;
- bulking up of municipal solid waste; and
- transfer of recovered and residual waste to licensed outlets.

Details of request for technical amendment

The licensee has requested amendment under Section 42B of the Waste Management Acts 1996 to 2012. The technical amendment relates to consolidation in the licence of a new sewer discharge for which permission was obtained from Sligo County Council. Up until 2010, there were two discharges from the facility to the Garavogue River:

- SE-1 comprising foul water generated by floor run-off (in the waste transfer building) and sanitary discharges; and
- SE-2 serving roofed and open yard areas. This discharge will continue and is preceded by a silt trap and petrol/oil interceptor.

In mid-2010, the SE-1 discharge to the river ceased and the wastewater was discharged instead into a sewer for treatment at the recently commissioned Sligo and environs waste water treatment plant. This was agreed by the Agency and Sligo County Council and is now to be formalised in the licence.

A section 52 request was sent to Sligo County Council and the Council's requested conditions and monitoring frequency for the discharge are to be inserted into the licence. All of these requirements are set out in the technical amendment proposed for issue. The Council has also agreed that the emission limit values for the sewer discharge proposed by the licensee are acceptable and these are to be inserted into the licence.

The 2001 inspector's report for the waste licence states that the applicant proposed at that time to utilise a sewer discharge for foul water once it became available. At the time of licensing, there was no schedule for completion of the waste water treatment plant. The plant has since been built and commissioned. Given that use of a sewer discharge was always the licensee's intention and was so acknowledged in the inspector's report, this technical amendment is proposed to be done under section 42B(1)(b) of the Waste Management Acts 1996 to 2012.

A licence was granted by the Agency in March 2010 for the Sligo agglomeration waste water discharge. According to the inspector's report for that licence (register number D0014-01), the waste water treatment plant was commissioned in January 2009, eliminating the discharge of untreated water into Sligo Estuary. The new plant has a design loading for a population equivalent of 50,000 and can accommodate future expansion up to 80,000. At the time the licence was granted, the loading was running at some 28,000 population equivalent. The receiving water for the treated effluent is a shellfish area designated as a class B (oysters and clams) bivalve mollusc production area. Condition 1.7 of licence register number D0014-01 requires Sligo County Council to annually assess the available organic and hydraulic loading capacities at the treatment plant and to ensure that capacity is maintained such that there is no environmental risk posed to the receiving water environment as a result of the discharge. Sligo County Council is obliged under condition 4.10 of the licence to investigate and identify the source of any elevated discharges of dangerous substances and take the necessary measures to comply with the Dangerous Substances Regulations.

There is currently no evidence to suggest that the discharge from the Greenstar Limited facility is having a detrimental impact on the discharge from the waste water treatment plant.

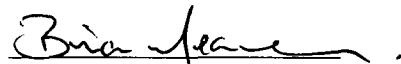
A number of new and amended conditions are recommended to ensure that the licence is compliant with the requirements of the IPPC Directive. An assessment carried out by the Agency indicated that the following amendments are appropriate:

- definition of BAT in the glossary/interpretation section;
- insertion of energy efficiency condition as condition 9.13;
- accident prevention procedure – condition 10.8.

Recommendation

On the basis that the proposed amendment to the licence will not result in the requirements of section 40(4) of the Waste Management Acts 1996 to 2012 ceasing to be met, I recommend that the Agency make a technical amendment of licence register number W0058-01 under Section 42B(1)(b) of the Waste Management Acts 1996 to 2012.

Signed:



Brian Meaney
Senior Inspector
Environmental Licensing Programme

