

Attachment 5

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Section 83

(5) The Agency shall not grant a licence or revised licence for an activity—

(a) unless it is satisfied that—

(i) any emissions from the activity will not result in the contravention of any relevant air quality standard specified under section 50 of the Air Pollution Act 1987, and will comply with any relevant emission limit value specified under section 51 of the Air Pollution Act 1987,

RESPONSE: Best current practice in manure/digestate handling and spreading techniques, modern ventilation systems and air handling systems and diet management, mitigate odour generation from within the farmyard complex and on customer farms.

(ii) any emissions from the activity will comply with, or will not result in the contravention of, any relevant quality standard for waters, trade effluents and sewage effluents and standards in relation to treatment of such effluents prescribed under section 26 of the Local Government (Water Pollution) Act 1977,

RESPONSE: Organic digestate from this facility is spread on agricultural land in accordance with the Nitrates Directive SI 610 of 2010. Handling practices and adequate storage within the facility insure there are no discharges from the facility.

Monitoring will be carried out as part of the environmental management programme:

- Surface and Roof water at the facility will be diverted to an existing stream west of the site boundary via a monitoring point indicated as SW2 on the site plan. The storm water will be monitored prior to entering the existing water body at the monitoring location SW1.
- Surface water runoff from trafficked areas and internal roads will be directed to a proposed Integrated Constructed Wetland System which will constitute of 4 No ponds located within the main site for treatment prior to discharge to the adjacent surface water course. The discharge from the last pond will be diverted into the adjacent watercourse, via a monitoring point. A visual inspection of these monitoring points will be made and recorded weekly.
- Groundwater monitoring will not be carried out. However, mitigation measures have been implemented into the design of the facility in order to ensure that the proposed development does not impact on the groundwater in the area
- Each individual component of the Biogas Plant will have an independent leak detection system with an individual inspection chamber for each section.
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(iii) any emissions from the activity or any premises, plant, methods, processes, operating procedures or other factors which affect such emissions will comply with, or will not result in the contravention of, any relevant standard including any standard for an environmental medium prescribed under regulations made under the European Communities Act 1972, or under any other enactment,

RESPONSE: Combination of the good housekeeping and compliance with the sections (i) and (ii) will ensure the activity will comply with the above act.

(iv) any noise from the activity will comply with, or will not result in the contravention of, any regulations under section 106,

RESPONSE: Noise emissions from this facility will not be audible outside of the site boundary. Noise levels are generally low and typical of a quiet rural area during daytime. A noise assessment has been carried out on the Facility by Mr. John McEniry BE and the report does not indicate any projected excessive noise from the Facility outside of those within the boundary limits generally imposed on industrial facilities.

(v) any emissions from the activity will not cause significant environmental pollution,

Emissions to Surface Water:

Emissions to Surface Waters are from two sources within the facility: (i) from the roofs of the buildings and structures which are ducted through Monitoring Point SW1 NS (ii) paved yard areas which are ducted separately to an Integrated Constructed Wetlands

Emission to Atmosphere:

Emissions to Atmosphere incorporate Dust, Odours, Engine Emissions from CHP and Road Vehicles.

A number of key targets were set at the design stage for this particular project. A general target was set to ensure reduction of emissions generally from animal slurry spreading activities in the general area. One of the main objectives of this application is to aid the overall reduction of emissions from Mr. O' Donovan's Pig Farm Unit. This issue was discussed in a report prepared by Odournet UK Ltd, in 2001 titled "**Odour Impacts and Odour Emission Control Measures for Intensive Agriculture - Part A Odour annoyance assessment and criteria for intensive livestock production in Ireland**", which was commissioned by the Environmental Protection Agency, wherein *section 9.6* page 64 it states "that a reduction in odour emission is not likely to be greater than 50% and more likely to be in the order of 25-30%" by reducing crude protein levels in the diets. Emissions from open slurry storage tanks are also discussed in *section 9.9.1* page 70 wherein it states that "ammonia emission reductions of 70-80% have been reported" by covering open tanks. Removal of pig manure from this Facility at present is by tanker armoured suction hose inserted into the tank with minimal odour release.

This development proposes that all pig manure from the adjacent Pig Farm Unit will be transported via tanker to the proposed AD facility and will be utilised to produce gas via the Anaerobic Digester, and transferred to adjacent covered storage tanks, after separation of solids, from where the odourless digestate will be exported to customer farms as liquid fertiliser. Odours that can arise during land-spreading of the pig manure, belly grass, and/or dairy sludge, will be eliminated by this technology.

Gas flare will be incorporated in the facility as a precautionary measure. However, in normal practice, excess gas can be utilised by the CHP Unit and the boiler which can operate concurrently if there is excess gas available; the excess heat would be dissipated by heat exchangers.

Dust

On-site during Construction

Construction activities have the potential to generate dust emissions. The potential for dust to be emitted depends on the type of construction activity being carried out in conjunction with ambient conditions including rainfall, wind speed and wind direction.

The potential for impact from dusts depend on the distance to potentially sensitive locations and whether the wind can carry the dust to these locations. Most of the dust would be deposited close to the potential source and any impacts from dust deposition would typically be within several hundred metres or so of the construction area.

Mitigation Measures

- The site access road onto the public road will be regularly cleaned and maintained as appropriate.
- The site will be regularly dampened during dry and/or windy conditions if required.
- Vehicles delivering materials to site will be enclosed or covered with tarpaulins, where necessary.
- A wheel-wash will be provided on the construction site if needed.
- Material handling systems and stockpiling of materials on site will be arranged to minimise exposure to wind.
- During movement of soil/fill material both on and off-site, trucks will be covered with tarpaulins, where required.

The above procedures will be monitored by the Site Construction Manager. The dust minimisation plan will be reviewed at regular intervals during the construction phase by the Site Construction Manager and Timoleague Agri Gen Ltd. to ensure the effectiveness of the procedures in place and to maintain the goal of minimisation of dust nuisance through the use of best practice procedures.

On-site during Operation

The careful design and operation of an anaerobic digestion facility can prevent significant dust impacts arising. One of the principle mechanisms for reducing the generation of dust is to operate within a negative pressure building. This means that air is drawn into the building, especially into areas where the waste is handled, which minimises the risk of dust problems. Dust can also be generated by vehicles along the access roads and the impervious yards

adjoining the buildings. The following mitigation measures will be implemented to ensure that dust impacts are kept to a minimal.

Mitigation Measures

- Vehicles are to be kept in good working order and serviced regularly to minimise emissions.
- Vehicles travelling on access roads will not exceed the designated speeding limit i.e. 20km.
- The site access road onto the public road will be regularly cleaned and maintained as appropriate.
- Vehicles delivering materials to site will be enclosed or covered with tarpaulins, where necessary.
- The vehicle importing the biomass, once emptied, will be washed with an approved detergent or steam, while at the reception tank, using a high pressure washer.

(vii) having regard to Part III of the Act of 1996, production of waste in the carrying on of the activity will be prevented or minimised or, where waste is produced, it will be recovered or, where that is not technically or economically possible, disposed of in a manner which will prevent or minimise any impact on the environment,

RESPONSE: Wastes generated on the site are disposed in a manner which will minimize the impact on the environment. A Waste Management Plan has been produced by NRG E Ltd. for the Operational phase of the development. This plan contains all details of the relevant details of the Permitted contractors designated for specific waste streams. A separate Construction Management Plan has been prepared for the Construction phase.

A register of all other wastes will be maintained on site, recording the date, volume and destination. A copy of these registers will be available on site for inspection by Cork County Council, the DOAFM and the EPA, and any other regulatory officials at any reasonable time.

(viii) energy will be used efficiently in the carrying on of the activity,

RESPONSE: Energy and resource usage will be consumed efficiently. An energy audit will be carried out as required and in compliance with the conditions for High Efficiency CHP units to determine possible cost savings and energy saving measures following the granting and issuing of the licence.

(ix) Necessary measures will be taken to prevent accidents in the carrying on of the activity and, where an accident occurs, to limit its consequences for the environment and, in so far as it does have such consequences, to remedy those consequences,

An Emergency Response Procedure has been put in place to deal with which includes:

- Identification of potential hazards that may be encountered during the decommissioning phase.

- Emergency telephone numbers including, local doctor, garda station and fire brigade along with numbers for other various response services including contact details for the Environmental Directorate.
- Emergency response procedures for accidental spills, fire or injury to personnel.
- Identification of the person in charge of the site and implementation of the emergency plan.
- The emergency plan will also detail information in relation to the incident which would have to be recorded in order to prevent a similar incident occurring again.

Preventative measures taken to prevent accidents and to limit consequences are elaborated upon in Attachment J of the Licence Application made to the Environmental Protection Agency.

(x) necessary measures will be taken upon the permanent cessation of the activity (including such a cessation resulting from the abandonment of the activity) to avoid any risk of environmental pollution and return the site of the activity to a satisfactory state, and

RESPONSE: Cessation and Decommissioning proposals are included in Attachment K of this Application. However, if for economic reasons or technical reasons this does not occur decommissioning will take place, the Closure, Restoration and Aftercare Management Plan for the site will be implemented.

(xi) the applicant or licensee or transferee, as the case may be, is a fit and proper person to hold a licence, and, where appropriate, the Agency shall attach conditions relating to the matters specified in the foregoing subparagraphs to the licence or revised licence,

RESPONSE: The applicant is a fit and proper person to hold a licence as demonstrated by descriptions in the following paragraphs.

Section 84

(4) For the purpose of this Part, a person shall be regarded as a fit and proper person if—

(a) neither that person nor any other relevant person has been convicted of an offence under this Act, the Act of 1996, the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 and 1990 or the Air Pollution Act 1987 prescribed for the purposes of this subsection,

RESPONSE: The Directors of the company or the company have at no stage been convicted of an offence under the Act of 1996, the Local Government (Water Pollution) Acts 1977 and 1990 or the Air Pollution Act 1987 or The EPA Acts 1992 and 2003.

(b) in the opinion of the Agency, that person or, as appropriate, any person or persons employed by him to direct or control the carrying on of the activity to which the licence or revised licence relates or will relate has or have the requisite technical knowledge or qualifications to carry on that activity in accordance with the licence or revised licence and the other requirements of this Act, and.

RESPONSE: Timoleague Agri Gen Ltd. is a limited company with two directors, both of whom are active progressive farmers in the local community of Timoleague. These are Mr. Colin Bateman, upon whose farm the proposed development is located, and Mr. Martin O' Donovan, whose pig farm unit is located to the North of the proposed site.

(c) in the opinion of the Agency, that person is likely to be in a position to meet any financial commitments or liabilities that the Agency reasonably considers have been, or will be entered into or incurred by him in carrying on the activity to which the licence or revised licence relates or will relate, as the case may be, in accordance with the terms thereof or in consequence of ceasing to carry on that activity.

RESPONSE: The licence application is made by Timoleague Agri Gen Ltd. and a copy of the latest accounts can be viewed on-site if required.

The Applicant is satisfied that the activity is not in or near, and is not likely to have an adverse effect on the integrity of

(a) A site placed on a list in accordance with Chapter 1 of S.I. 94 of 1997 or

(b) A site where consultation has been initiated in accordance with Article 5 of the EU Habitats Directive (94/43/EEC), or

(c) A European site as defined in Article 2 of S.I. 94 of 1997

RESPONSE: The applicant is satisfied that the unit is not in or near, and is not likely to have an adverse effect on the integrity of and site referenced in (a), (b), or (c) above.

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