



ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT
GREENSTAR
MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY
FORGE HILL
LICENCE NO. W0173-01
JANUARY 2013 – DECEMBER 2013

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1. INTRODUCTION

This is the 2013 Annual Environmental Report (AER) for the Greenstar, Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) at Forge Hill, Kinsale Road, Cork (W0173-01) and covers the reporting period January 2013 to December 2013.

For commercial reasons Greenstar decided to temporarily suspend waste activities at the facility in August 2011. The Agency was notified of this decision on the 24th August 2011. Greenstar stopped accepting waste on the 26th August 2011, but continued operating until the 16th September 2011 during which all the waste that was on site at that time had been consigned from the facility. In September 2011, Greenstar submitted a Residuals Management Plan and the proposed scope for an Independent Closure Audit to the Agency. Both the scope for the Independent Closure Audit and Residual Management Plan were approved in October 2011. A temporary closure audit report was submitted to the Agency in June 2012 and the Agency completed a closure audit in October 2012.

During the reporting period, Greenstar was in receivership but ownership of the company and transfer of the licence to Starrus Eco Holdings Ltd (trading as Greenstar) was completed in March 2014.

There were no waste activities on site in 2013.

The content of the AER is based on Schedule F of the Waste Licence (W0116-02) and the report format follows guidelines set in the “*Guidance Note for Annual Environmental Report*” issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (Agency)¹. Cognisance was also taken of the AER Draft Guidance Document issued in January 2012².

¹ EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) 1999 Waste Licensing – Draft Guidance on Environmental Management Systems and Reporting to the Agency

² EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) 2012 Draft AER Guidance Document

2. SITE DESCRIPTION

2.1 Site Location & Layout

The facility is accessed from Forge Hill Road, which forms the western site boundary. The eastern boundary is marked by the old Kinsale road, which is now a cul de sac. Further east is agricultural land. The site is bounded to the north and south by industrial units.

The site encompasses approximately 10,300 m². There are four buildings, two of which are adjoining steel portal frame (Units 1 and 2) with concrete wall where waste activities were carried out. There is an Office building in the south west of the site and a small building that houses power washing equipment in the north east corner. Units 1 and 2 occupy ca 1,250m² and 1,390 m² respectively. The Office occupies an area of 313m². There is an ESB substation near the western site boundary.

With the exception of a 1m verge gravelled area surrounding the Offices, the open areas are paved with either tarmacadam, or concrete. There is a weighbridge located to the south of Unit 1 and another weighbridge in the north western section of the yard. The open area (1,400m²) to the front of the Units 1 and 2 is paved with tarmacadam and is used as a car park. There is a 1,700m² concrete covered yard to the south and east of Unit 2, which extends to the eastern boundary fence and which is used to store empty skips and wheelie bins.

2.2 Waste Management Activities

There were no waste activities on site in the reporting period.

3. EMISSION MONITORING

The monitoring required by Schedule D of the licence includes surface water, wastewater, dust and noise monitoring. The monitoring locations are shown on Figure 3.1. In July 2012, the Agency agreed with an OCM proposal, on behalf of Greenstar, to suspend the requirement for further noise, dust, surface water or waste water monitoring pending a re-activation of licensed activity at the facility. The Agency requested that annual groundwater monitoring be undertaken so that any trend in quality could be monitored. An overview of the results of the monitoring is presented in this Section.

3.1 Groundwater Monitoring

Groundwater sampling was undertaken annually at the one on-site groundwater well (GW-1), which is in the east of the site. The location of the well is shown on Figure 3.1 and the results summarised in Table 3.1.

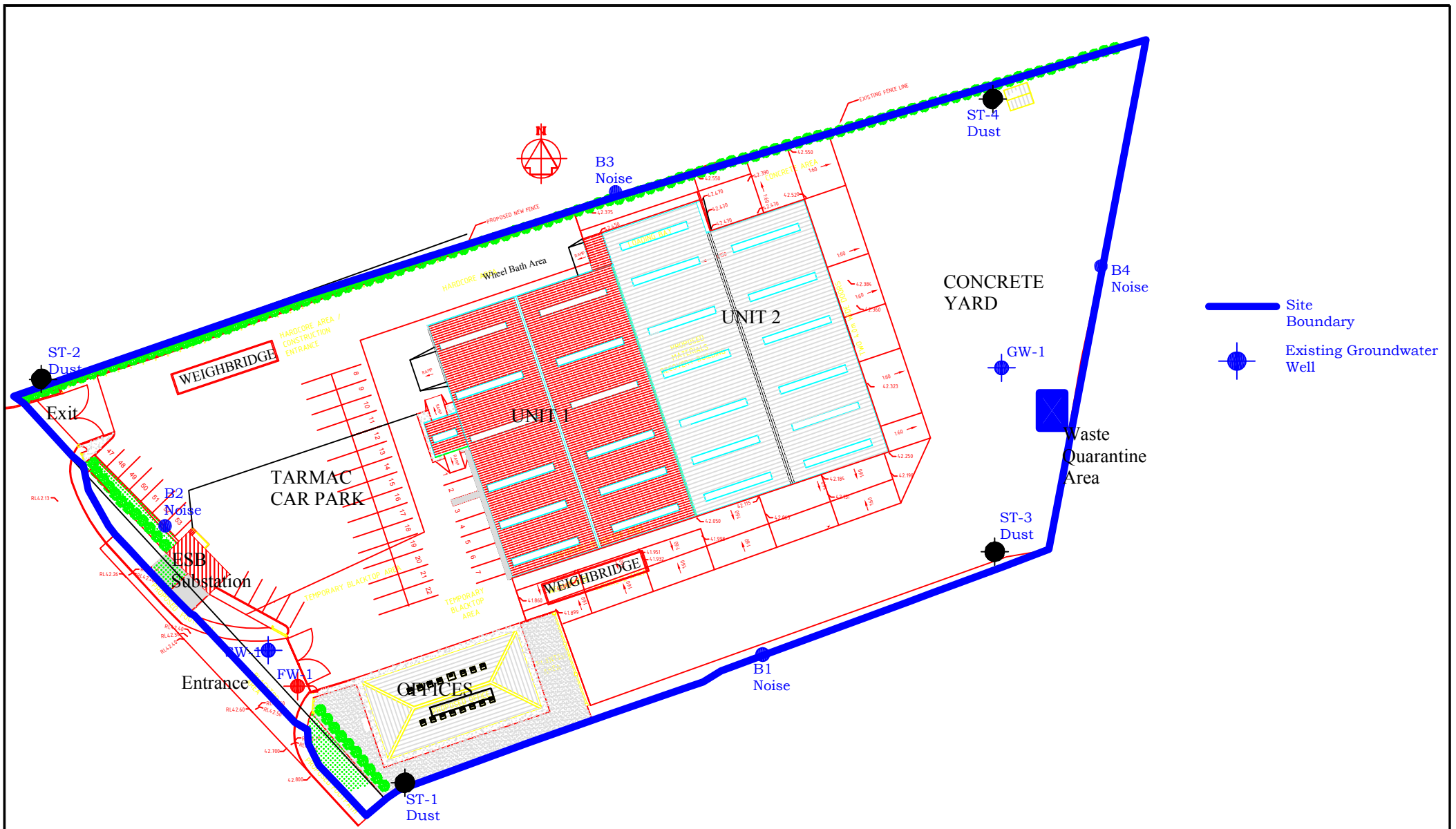
The sampling and analysis was carried out in accordance with recognised quality assurance and control procedures. The range of analysis was ammoniacal nitrogen, heavy metals and TPH. There are no trigger limits set in the Licence and the results are compared to the Interim Guideline Values (IGV) on groundwater quality published by the Agency. The Table also includes the Groundwater Regulations Threshold Value (GTV), which were introduced in 2010 (S.I. 9 of 2010).

The IGV represent typical background or unpolluted conditions; however levels higher than the IGV may occur naturally depending on the local geological and hydrogeological conditions. While the GTV are more appropriate for large scale abstraction wells used for potable supply, they can be used to assess the significance of contamination where present in non potable groundwater supplies. Because GTVs have not been established for all of the parameters monitored, the relevant IGV was used for comparative purposes.

The groundwater quality is good with all results below their respective IGV or GTV, where established. The water quality is consistent with previous monitoring events.

Table 3.3 Groundwater Monitoring Results 2013

Parameter	Units	GW 1	IGV	GTV
Arsenic	mg/l	<0.0025	0.01	0.0075
Boron	mg/l	0.043	1	0.750
Cadmium	mg/l	<0.0005	0.005	0.00375
Chromium	mg/l	<0.0015	0.03	0.0375
Copper	mg/l	<0.007	0.03	1.5
Mercury	mg/l	<0.001	0.001	0.00075
Nickel	mg/l	0.004	0.02	0.015
Lead	mg/l	<0.005	0.01	0.01875
Selenium	mg/l	<0.003	-	-
Zinc	mg/l	<0.003	0.1	-
Heavy Metals (Total)	mg/l	0.047	-	-
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	mg/l	0.03	0.12	0.175
EPH	mg/l	<0.01	0.01	-




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CLIENT **GES Forge Hill**
W0173-01

FIGURE No.
 2.1

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TITLE **Monitoring Locations**

SCALE	REV.
NTS	A

4. SITE DEVELOPMENT WORKS

4.1 Specified Engineering Works

There were no Specified Engineering Works carried out in 2013. As the facility has temporarily closed, there are no engineering works planned for 2014.

5. WASTE RECEIVED AND CONSIGNED FROM THE FACILITY

There were no waste activities on site in the reporting period.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS AND COMPLAINTS

6.1 Incidents

There were no incidents on site in the reporting period.

6.2 Register of Complaints

Greenstar maintains a register of complaints received in accordance with Condition 10.4 of the waste licence. No complaints were received during the reporting period.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT & CONTROL

7.1 Environmental Management Programme Report

The site was not operational during the reporting period.

7.2 Report Financial Provision

A Decommissioning Management Plan (DMP) and Environmental Liabilities Risk Assessment (ELRA) including Financial Provision (FP) were submitted to the Agency in 2013 as part of the transfer of the licence which occurred in Q1 2014. Both the DMP and ELRA have been approved by the Agency.

7.3 Nuisance Controls

GES contracted a vermin control company during the reporting period, Prevent a Pest Ltd, to carry out nuisance control at the facility. Prevent a Pest carried out site inspections twelve times per annum to maintain internal and external bait boxes. Spraying was carried out for fly control four times per annum when the facility was operational.

7.4 European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register Regulation

Not Applicable as there was no emission monitoring or waste on or off site in 2013.

7.5 Wastewater Volumes

There were no activities on site in the reporting period which would have generated waste water.

8. OTHER REPORTS

There were no other reports submitted in the reporting period.