



John McEntagart
Environmental Licensing Programme
Regional Inspectorate
McCumiskey House
Richview
Clonskeagh Road
Dublin 14

8th August 2014

Re: W0167-03 Meath Waste to Energy

Dear Mr. McEntagart,

We would like to address the concerns outlined by Mr. Patrick Boyle (email 18 July 2014) concerning the short, medium and long-term affects as perceived of landfilling bottom ash from waste to energy plants. We assume these concerns largely relate to previous submissions around exothermic reactions of bottom ash in monofill landfills and the impact of this on the integrity of landfill liners. While Indaver does not share these concerns in connection with our ash management based on 25 years of experience in handling bottom ash please find below ash management steps we carry out in line with best practice.

Bottom ash management on site

The combustion of waste on the grate furnace produces both gases and solid residues. One solid residue is bottom ash, which is discharged at the end of the grate into a water bath or “wet de-slagger”. The bottom ash and grate siftings are passed over a sieve to separate out oversized ash particles. Ferrous metals and nonferrous metals are separated out for recycling. The remaining ash is stored in an ash hall, from there is its sent to appropriate licensed facilities.

Since the start up of operations the recovery of metals from the bottom ash has been optimised at the Meath waste-to-energy facility. Ferrous metal recovery has increased with the installation of two new magnets and a non ferrous recovery system has been installed with an eddy current stripping non ferrous metals over two size fractions. By removing these metals any potential for exothermic reactions is significantly reduced. Nevertheless, the optimisation of metal recovery was carried out for commercial and market reasons to further develop the bottom ash treatment and not because of any associated concerns.



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Bottom ash management off site

Bottom ash generated by the facility has been classified non-hazardous and consists mostly of inert materials such as glass, sand, metal pieces and stones. In the absence of an alternative recovery outlet, bottom ash is currently being sent to nearby non-hazardous landfills. The initial monofill of residual bottom ash in landfills has progressed to the residual bottom ash being used as landfill cover and it is deposited in layers with municipal waste in all landfills where it is received.

We hope the ash management as outlined allay any concerns. We are committed to further explore options for the future treatment and reuse of bottom ash.

Kind regards,

Jane Hennessy
Project Development & Communications Manager

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