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V.A.T No. 97507781

Ms. Caroline Murphy,
Inspector,
Environmental Licensing Programme,
Office of Climate, Licensing and Resource Use,
Environmental Protection Agency,
PO Box 3000, Johnstown Castle Estate
Wexford.

23rd October 2014

RE: O'Toole Composting Ltd – Ref W0284-01 Notice for the purposes of Section 76 A (3) of the Waste Management Act, as amended.

Dear Ms. Murphy,

I refer to your letter of 6th March 2014 and reminder letter of 30th September 2014 from your colleague Ms. Noeleen Keavey regarding the above.

In order to formulate a suitable response that would enable the Agency to proceed with this application it was necessary for the client to address some planning issues. This has taken a considerable amount of time but a planning application is now under consideration by Carlow County Council and the licence application response can now be submitted.

Your original letter states that 'a valid application for a licence must now contain the information prescribed in Regulation 9 of the EPA (Industrial Emissions)(Licensing) Regulations, 2013 and that the applicant is required to furnish such information as is necessary to comply with these regulations.

Please find below response on behalf of O'Toole Composting Ltd. in compliance with Environmental Protection Agency (Industrial Emissions) (Licensing) Regulations 2013 S.I. No. 137 of 2013.

9. (2) (a) This information has already been provided in the original application.

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(b)(i) This is an established activity and the number of employees working or engaged in connection with the activity on the date after which a licence is required and during normal levels of operation is 14.

(c) The relevant classes in the First Schedule to the Act of 1992 to which the industrial emissions directive activity relate are:

11.1 'The recovery or disposal of waste in a facility within the meaning of the Act of 1996 which facility is connected or associated with another activity specified in this Schedule in respect of which a licence or revised licence under Part V is in force or in respect of which a licence under the said Part is or will be required.' And

11.4(b) 'Recovery, or a mix of recovery and disposal of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 75 tonnes per day involving one or more of the following activities. (other than activities to which the Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations (S.I. No. 254 of 2001) apply).'

(i) biological treatment.

(d) Letter confirming that a planning application is currently under consideration by the planning authority (Carlow County Council) is attached as Appendix 1 to this document.

Two hard copies and two electronic copies of the environmental impact statement are included with this submission. Please note that this EIS has been amended from the one previously submitted to the Agency to reflect the reduced activity of the proposed development (i.e. removal of Anaerobic Digestion from the application)

(e) Not applicable

(f) The raw and ancillary materials, substances, preparations fuels and energy that will be produced by or utilised in the activity are described in Attachment G of the original application. Please note that the Anaerobic Digester is no longer part of this proposal.

(g) The plant, methods, processes ancillary processes, abatement, recovery and treatment systems and operating procedures for the activity are detailed in the original application in

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Attachments C and D which detail the management systems infrastructure (including details of all plant and machinery) and operation respectively. These are further described in Section 1.3 and 1.4 of the EIS.

(h) Best available technique (BAT) conclusions relevant to this application are attached in Appendix 2 of this document. The Bat Reference Documents (BREFs) deemed relevant to this application are:

- Waste Treatment
- Energy Efficiency
- Monitoring
- Storage
- BAT Draft Indoor Composting.

(i) Details of potential emissions are given in Attachment E of the original application and the potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures where appropriate are addressed in the EIS as follows:

- Odour – EIS Section 3.4
- Surface Water – EIS Section 3.2
- Groundwater – EIS Section 3.2
- Noise – EIS Section 3.6

(j) Proposals for control and monitoring are addressed in Appendix F of the original application. In addition further information provided to the Agency on 24th August 2013 proposed the Emission Limit Values for Surface Water be set as follows:

Parameter	Emission Limit Value
pH	≥6.5 and ≤9.5
Ammonia	0.15 mg/l No
Conductivity	1000 µs/cm
BOD	
COD	
Suspended Solids	35

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These figures are suggested based upon the Interim Guideline Values recommended by the EPA's report Towards Setting Guideline Values for the Protection of Groundwater in Ireland – 1993.

Revised drawings showing both on-site and offsite monitoring locations are attached in Appendix 3 of this document.

(k)(i) Details and an assessment of the impacts of any existing or proposed emissions on the environment as a whole, including on an environmental medium other than that or those into which the emissions are or are to be made, and

(ii) details of the proposed measures to prevent or eliminate, or where that is not possible to limit, reduce or abate emissions,

Both (i) and (ii) above are addressed in detail in the EIS Volume 2 Section 3.

(l) The need for the development and the main alternatives considered by the applicant are addressed in the EIS Volume 2 Section 1.2.1 and 1.2.2.

As the existing processes use Best Available Technology there is no further need to look at alternative processes.

(m) The site condition is described in the original application. The only change since that application was submitted is that the extension to the recycling and transfer facility (skip shed) that was proposed (planning permission having been granted) has now been completed. A revised site layout plan showing this is attached as Appendix 3 of this document.

(n) Provide when requested by the Agency, in the case of an activity that involves the use production or release of relevant hazardous substances (as defined in Section 3 of the Act of 1992) and having regard to the possibility of soil and groundwater contamination at the site of installation, a baseline report in accordance with section 86B of the Act of 1992.

The material stored on the site that falls into the above category is diesel fuel which is stored in an appropriately bunded tank with integrity certificates retained in the site office.

There has not been any groundwater or soil monitoring carried out other than analysis of the well water which is deemed suitable for drinking purposes.

The O'Toole Composting Ltd facility was originally agricultural land and as such the baseline conditions are that of a greenfield site.

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(o) Specify the measures to be taken to comply with an environmental quality standard where such a standard requires stricter conditions to be attached to a licence than would be determined by reference to best available techniques. This is addressed in the Air Dispersion Model Report which is provided. The parameters used in this report are above the minimum requirements for BAT and details on how they will be achieved are provided in the document. Please note the Air Dispersion Model has been amended from the one originally submitted due to the removal of the proposed Anaerobic Digestion plant from the application.

(p) As this processing facility will not give rise to pollution over long distances or in the territory of other states this section does not apply.

(q) Describe the measures to be taken under abnormal operating conditions, including start-up, shutdown, leaks, malfunctions, breakdowns and momentary stoppages. This is addressed in Attachment Q of the original application. In addition Fire Safety has been addressed in Section 3.3.6 of the EIS. Fire water tanks have been installed at the facility which will act as a fire fighting water source in the event of a fire. At present there are six 5,000 gallon tanks on-site.

(r) In the event of permanent cessation of the activity or part of the activity the decommissioning plan (CRAMP) will be implemented. This CRAMP was submitted to the Agency in September 2013 and has been reviewed as part of this response. The measures and criteria for a successful and clean closure detailed in that document are deemed sufficient based on current and proposed activities and if implemented will return the site to a satisfactory state.

In addition the Environmental Liabilities Risk Assessment that was carried out and submitted to the Agency in September 2013 has been reviewed and is deemed sufficient.

(s) Arrangements for prevention of waste in accordance with Part III of the Act of 1996 is not applicable to this facility. The activities of the facility contribute to national waste management policy and in particular the implementation of the Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) which requires member states to engage in the progressive diversion of biodegradable municipal waste from landfill. This is addressed in detail in Section 1.6 of the

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EIS Volume 2 Section 1. The composting activity carried out on site (as indeed are the other activities) is in the third tier of the Waste Hierarchy namely recycling/composting.

(t) A revised Attachment H detailing the quantities of waste proposed and the EWC Codes proposed to be accepted at the facility. This is Appendix 4 of this document. Please note that the proposal for an Anaerobic Digestion plant which was submitted as part of the original application will not now go ahead. Accordingly the relevant sections of the original EIS have been amended and the total tonnage is now 60,000 tonnes per annum.

(u) The European Communities (Control of Major Accident Hazards involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations 2006 (S.I. No. 74 of 2006) do not apply to this activity.

(v) The risk of an emission containing a hazardous substance which is discharged to an aquifer via groundwater is assessed as part of the EIS and is deemed that there is no risk due to a combination of limited quantities of hazardous substances being stored on site, appropriate storage, spill procedures and low to moderate risk groundwater vulnerability.

(w) A revised non-technical summary of information provided in relation to the matters specified in subparagraphs (c) to (x) of this paragraph is provided in Appendix 5 of this document.

(x) Other information is included in the EIS.

3. This does not apply as this is not a review application.

4. (a) A copy of the newspaper notice is attached
(b) A copy of the site notice is attached.

Two paper and two electronic copies of the EIS and two paper and two electronic copies of this response document are provided.

I trust that this information will allow the application to progress and if you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Dowdall', is written over a horizontal dashed line.

Jim Dowdall

Enviroguide Consulting

(on behalf of O'Toole Composting Ltd)

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