

This memo was approved to go to the Director by Brian Meaney, Senior Inspector.

Signed Marie Fay Date: 14/07/16



OFFICE OF CLIMATE, LICENSING & RESOURCE USE

Environmental Licensing Programme Memorandum

TO:	Dara Lynott
FROM:	Marie Fay
DATE:	14 th July 2016
RE:	Proposed Amendment to W0270-01, Miltown Composting Systems, Miltownmore, Fethard, County Tipperary.

In December 2013 the EPA published "Guidance on Fire Safety at Non-Hazardous Waste Transfer Stations" in response to concerns about outbreaks of fire at several waste transfer stations (WTS). Substantial work was progressed in the area of waste storage and fire safety and prevention at waste transfer stations by the Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE) in 2015 through liaison with the National Directorate of Fire and Emergency Management.

The Office of Environmental Sustainability (OES) has begun to routinely add conditions to waste sector licences to deal with the storage of waste and the risk of fire. Engagement with OEE has occurred in this regard.

OEE identified 24 licences and requested Technical Amendment (TA) of these licences to insert Waste Storage Plan Conditions (to be inclusive of fire risk assessment requirements) in order to bring the licences in line with the Agency's current *modus operandi* for addressing the storage of waste at facilities.

Miltown Composting Systems Limited, Miltownmore, Fethard, County Tipperary, Reg No: W0270-01, was identified by OEE as requiring amendment. The facility accepts a broad range of compostable materials including source segregated household kitchen waste; catering waste; non-hazardous industrial and municipal waste water sludges and organic fines generated in the treatment of mixed municipal solid waste. An examination has been made of the licence and a recommended amendment has been drafted.

In compliance with Section 42B(2) of the WMA 1996 as amended, the Agency consulted with the affected licensee prior to exercising its power, enacted under Section 42B(1) of the WMA 1996 as amended to carry out the proposed amendment.

The licensee made a submission on the proposal, received by the Agency on 8th July 2016, stating that the risk of fire and fire spread at the site is generally low due to:

- the types of materials stored and processed on site;
- the moisture content (30-70%) of the materials stored and processed on site;

- the distances and separation barriers between the buildings and the construction materials of the buildings; and
- control measures implemented by the Accident Prevention Procedure.

OEE were consulted and stated that in fact this licence amendment should be made in order to primarily deal with waste storage issues that have arisen in the past. The fire risk issues are less important at this facility, for the reasons outlined by the licensee; but the requirement to produce and implement a waste storage plan is viewed as a useful addition to the licence.

Recommendation

I recommend that the condition changes as outlined herein are completed and that the proposed licence amendment for the above named licence is issued.

Signed



Marie Fay
Inspector, ELP