

Attachment A1 – Likely Significant Effects of the Activity

Environmental Factor	Likely Effects Identified	Brief Description of Effect	Mitigation Measures proposed to control effect.
<p>Human Beings</p>	<p>The proposed changes will result in an increase in traffic from current levels. However as the facility is already authorised to accept 110,000 tonnes per annum, and this will reduce to 65,000 tonnes, the predicted traffic noise will not be greater than forecasted in the previous EIS.</p>	<p>The noise associated with the proposed changes will increase due to increased traffic movements. However the projected increase in noise levels, compared to what is already present due to the proximity of the NSL to the main road, is low and will not represent a nuisance.</p>	<p>The following mitigations measures will be implemented to reduce overall noise impacts on the noise sensitive locations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: The internal access roads should be maintained to reduce vehicular noise, especially banging from empty trucks. 2: A speed limit of 30 km/hr should apply for vehicles operating in the site. 3: Any pallet crushing activities or other mobile external processes should occur in well-screened parts of the operation to further reduce noise impacts. 4: An associated planting programme should be introduced to further screen the operation. 5: Periodic noise monitoring at the noise sensitive locations should be continued, to ensure that all national guidelines in relation to noise ELV are complied with. 7: A review of reversing sirens should take place with a view to their possible replacement with white sound technology.

For inspection purposes only. Consent of copyright owner required for any other use.

Attachment A1 – Likely Significant Effects of the Activity

Environmental Factor	Likely Effects Identified	Brief Description of Effect	Mitigation Measures proposed to control effect.
Human Beings (cont'd)	The facility is designed and will be operated in a manner that either eliminates, or minimises to the greatest practical extent the risk of environmental nuisance, (noise, litter, and odours).	It is considered that the proposed changes will have a neutral impact with imperceptible consequences for Human Beings in terms of their interaction with the environment.	The relevant mitigation measures are discussed under the separate environmental factors.
Flora and Fauna	As the proposed changes will take place entirely inside existing buildings, or on existing built surfaces, it will not result in any direct ecological impacts. Potential indirect impacts may occur within the cSAC / SPA due to the discharge of treated wastewater into the estuary, due to spillages on the proposed development site, or due to noise.	Potential impacts upon the Natura 2000 sites are described and assessed in an accompanying Natura Impact Statement, which accompanies this IE application.	As the proposed changes will not have any direct impacts, mitigation measures are not required. Potential indirect impacts could be caused by spillages of non-hazardous waste on-site, or due to construction / operational noise. Mitigation measures have been proposed in other Chapters to mitigate these impacts.
Soil	Minimal soil disturbance involved during excavation works for new Anaerobic Digestion tanks.	Potential of contamination from leaking oil from construction equipment.	Daily checks of equipment and quick clean-up of any identified spills.

Attachment A1 – Likely Significant Effects of the Activity

Environmental Factor	Likely Effects Identified	Brief Description of Effect	Mitigation Measures proposed to control effect.
<p>Water</p>	<p>Potential impact on local groundwater quality resulting from spillages during the construction phase.</p>	<p>Negative, direct, slight, low probability impact on groundwater quality.</p>	<p>The existing site is completely overlain in hardstanding comprised of reinforced concrete. All construction work will take place on the existing hardstanding areas, and there will be minimal exposure of the underlying soil. The site is completely kerbed and there will be no fugitive runoff from the site. Fuels or chemicals required during the construction phase will be banded, therefore preventing leakages into hardstanding areas.</p>
	<p>Runoff from hardstanding areas to surface water bodies during the construction phase.</p>	<p>Direct, negative, moderate, short term, low probability impact.</p>	<p>All runoff from the site is currently directed to the stormwater attenuation tank and hydrocarbon interceptor prior to discharge from the site. During construction additional inspections of the drainage system will be carried out. Any fuels or chemicals that are required during the construction phase will be placed over plastic spill trays, therefore preventing leakages into the stormwater system.</p>
	<p>Potential impact on the quality of the Blackwater Estuary and Youghal harbour.</p>	<p>Negative, moderate, direct, medium probability impact on surface water.</p>	<p>It is proposed that there will be no amendments to the current emission limits as set by the waste Licence.</p>

Attachment A1 – Likely Significant Effects of the Activity

Environmental Factor	Likely Effects Identified	Brief Description of Effect	Mitigation Measures proposed to control effect.
Water (Cont'd)	Contamination of groundwater underlying the site due to leakages from bunded areas and surface water drainage systems.	Negative, moderate, direct, low probability impact on groundwater.	The site is located in an area with a groundwater vulnerability rating of low to moderate. Stiff clayey tills were noted to be up to 11.8m in thickness beneath infill. This layer in turn is then covered by infill and concrete. Therefore, the site in its current condition means the risk to groundwater is low.
	Potential of flooding down-stream of site due to run-off from hardstanding areas.	Negative, slight, direct, low impact on surface water.	The proposed development will be constructed on the existing hardstanding area. There will be no increase in site hardstanding area.

For inspection purposes only.
Consent of copyright owner required for any other use.

Attachment A1 – Likely Significant Effects of the Activity

Environmental Factor	Likely Effects Identified	Brief Description of Effect	Mitigation Measures proposed to control effect.
<p>Air</p>	<p>Emissions will include oxides of nitrogen, oxides of sulphur, carbon monoxide, particulates, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen fluoride and volatile organic compounds.</p>	<p>The modelling confirms that all the emissions from the site, including the existing and proposed emission points will comply with the applicable air quality standards (oxides of nitrogen, oxides of sulphur, carbon monoxide, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen fluoride, benzene and particulates) and odour limits. The proposed changes will have a neutral impact.</p>	<p>The current air quality and odour management controls and procedures will continue to be implemented. A new odour control unit (OCU) comprising an air extraction system and carbon filter will be provided to treat odours from the mixed MSW processing area in the Building 1.</p> <p>The OCU will have a treatment capacity of 30,000 Nm³/hour. The total treatment capacity required for the mixed MSW processing area is 15,000 Nm³/hour. The additional 15,000 Nm³/hour capacity is provided to treat odorous air from the AD plant and the sludge drying area, if this is considered necessary. The proposed design and method of operation will be approved by the EPA before the unit is installed and commissioned.</p> <p>The OMS will be revised to include the routine inspection and maintenance of the OCU to ensure it operates at optimum efficiency.</p>

Attachment A1 – Likely Significant Effects of the Activity

Environmental Factor	Likely Effects Identified	Brief Description of Effect	Mitigation Measures proposed to control effect.
Climate	The proposed changes to operations will not result in any impacts on the climate or microclimate at the site. The reduction in reliance on non renewable sources of electricity due to on-site generation using the biogas will have a positive impact in reducing the facility's overall carbon footprint.		
Landscape	The site is already developed and includes two large warehouse type structures and an administration building. The proposed changes will involve the provision of above ground digester tanks, which will be located adjacent to a larger buildings. There will be no changes to the site boundary or the existing buildings.	As the additional activities being proposed are not going to dramatically alter the landscape of the site, the impact of such changes will be neutral.	The existing development is visible but not conspicuous in the overall landscape. The proposed works will be constructed and located in a manner that places least impact on the surrounding views of the scenic area of Youghal. This can be achieved by the careful placement of structures, also continue with similar character, colour and height as existing structures. The present landscaping and mitigation measures above are adequate for both the existing and proposed measures.

Attachment A1 – Likely Significant Effects of the Activity

Environmental Factor	Likely Effects Identified	Brief Description of Effect	Mitigation Measures proposed to control effect.
Material Assets	The facility is in an area zoned for industrial and related development. Neither the facility nor its immediate environs have a significant leisure or amenity potential.	It is considered, based on the existing land use and the nature of the proposed changes, that the potential for diminution of amenities and leisure land use is negligible.	No mitigation measures required.
	The site already has its own waste water treatment plant. Therefore, there are no additional impacts on the existing sewage infrastructure in the area.	There is no negative impact expected to other infrastructure in the area, which is zoned for industrial use.	No mitigation measures required.
Cultural Heritage	There is no record of any archaeological feature on the site. The proposed changes require minimum ground disturbance and only in areas that are already covered in reinforced concrete.	The changes will not have any impact.	No mitigation measures are required.