



# MEMO

Office of  
Environmental  
Sustainability

<b>To:</b> Director	<b>Date:</b> 01/02/2018
<b>From:</b> Niamh Connolly	
<b>Subject:</b> Request for information to be held as confidential.	
<b>Approved for Board by:</b> David Flynn	
<b>Cross Office Implications:</b> No	

## Confidential information request

The licence application from North Cork Co-Op Creameries Limited, Reg. No. P1051-01, for a class activity 7.2.1: *The treatment and processing of milk, the quantity of milk received being greater than 200 tonnes per day (average value on a yearly basis)*, was submitted to the Agency on 10/01/2017. The site is also occupied by a company named Bioatlantis Ltd., a biotechnology company, who are involved in extracting nutrients from seaweed. The seaweed nutrient extracts are produced primarily for the plant and animal markets.

A Regulation 10(2)(b)(ii) Notification under *the EPA (Industrial Emissions) (Licensing) Regulations 2013*, was issued to the applicant on 07/03/2017 and a second notification on 27/07/2017. A Regulation 13 (1) Notification was issued on 06/10/2017 requiring the applicant to update the EIS in accordance with the requirements of the 2014 EIA Directive. Responses to the information sought were received by the Agency on 02/6/2017 (Reg 10 Response), 01/09/2017 (Reg 10 Response), 21/09/2017 (Reg 10 Response) and 03/11/2017 (Reg 13 Response). As part of the response the applicant submitted information that they requested to be treated as confidential.

## Inspector's assessment

The following responses received in confidential format are:

- 1) Provide details of the ownership of the Bioatlantis operation, including (where applicable) a certified copy of the Certificate of Incorporation for Bioatlantis under the Companies Act, The Company's Registration Number from the Companies Registration Office and particulars of the Registered Office of the company (Regulation 9 (2)(a)(i));
- 2) Provide details on the seaweed used in the Bioatlantis operation, including how and from where it is sourced (Regulation 9 (2)(f));

- 3) Clarify how the building in which Bioatlantis carry out their processing operations is to be maintained under negative pressure such as to prevent the uncontrolled release of odourous air emissions to atmosphere;
- 4) Outline the reporting arrangements in relation to incidents that may arise in the Bioatlantis operation;
- 5) Describe the nature and quantity of the effluent arising from the Bioatlantis operation. Describe the nature and quantity of the effluent arising from the creamery operation. Confirm whether the effluent streams can be isolated;
- 6) Provide a detailed process flow diagram and a detailed process description for the Bioatlantis operation (Regulation 9 (2)(g));
- 7) Provide an assessment of the applicability of BAT to the Bioatlantis operation. This assessment should be accompanied by a detailed process flow diagram and a detailed process description for the odour abatement utilised at the Bioatlantis operation (Regulation 9 (2)(k)).
- 8) Confirm whether the Associated Emission Levels in the relevant National BAT Guidance Note(s) will be complied with.
- 9) Provide a copy of the maintenance schedule/programme for the air/odour abatement systems and include details of what measures are in place to prevent and identify abatement failure;
- 10) Provide details of the types of quantities of liquid ingredients added to the seaweed during the production process (Regulation 9(2)(k)).

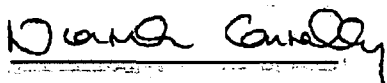
I have assessed all of the information provided by the licensee in confidential format on 14/12/2017 and I am satisfied that item 6 and item 10 only, referred to above, can be considered as confidential as it can be deemed commercially sensitive. Consequently, this information will be retained and dealt with accordingly. The remaining information provided is not considered to be confidential but necessary to the assessment of the application. This information is to be returned to the applicant advising that it is not considered to be confidential and that it should be resubmitted to the Agency in a format that will facilitate its placing on public files.

### **Recommendation**

I recommend the following:

- a) Item 6 and item 10 only, of the confidential information received is to be deemed as "confidential and necessary". Consequently the information will be retained and dealt with accordingly.
- b) Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9 of the confidential information received is to be deemed as "not confidential but necessary". The information is to be returned to the applicant advising that it is not considered to be confidential and that it should be resubmitted to the Agency in a format that will facilitate its placing on public files.

Signed,



Niamh Connolly  
Office of Environmental Sustainability