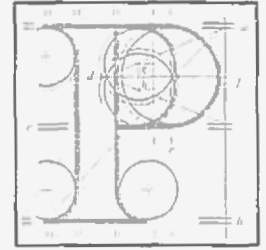


Our Ref: 01.JA0032

(0)

Your Ref:

An Bord Pleanála



Environmental Lic. Programme
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Climate, Licensing &
Resource Use, Regional Inspectorate
Inniscarra
Co. Cork

9th May 2012

Re: Continued operation of landfilling activities and an increase in
waste acceptance
at Powerstown Landfill, Powerstown, Co. Carlow.

Dear Sir/Madam,

An Bord Pleanála has received your recent letter in relation to the above mentioned case.
The contents of your letter have been noted.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of
the Board.

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any
correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,

Sinead McInerney
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737295

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

ch08.ltr



64 Sraid Maoilbhríde,
Baile Átha Cliath 1.

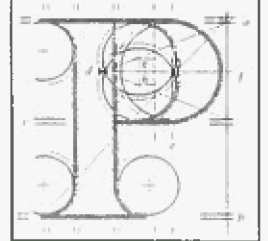
Tel: (01) 858 8100
LoCall: 1890 275 175
Fax: (01) 872 2684
Web: <http://www.pleanala.ie>
email: board@pleanala.ie

64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

Our Ref: 01.JA0032

Your Ref: ENV/Waste/Powerstown/EIS2012

An Bord Pleanála



John Carley
Carlow County Council
Water & Environmental Service
County Buildings
Athy Road
Carlow

9th May 2012

Re: Continued operation of landfilling activities and an increase in waste acceptance at Powerstown Landfill, Powerstown, Co. Carlow.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed for your information are two copies of a submission received by the Board in relation to the above-mentioned proposed development.

Please ensure that one copy of this submission is kept available for inspection by the public.

If you have any queries in relation to the matter please contact the undersigned officer of the Board.

Please quote the above-mentioned An Bord Pleanála reference number in any correspondence or telephone contact with the Board.

Yours faithfully,



Sinead McInerney
Executive Officer
Direct Line: 01-8737295

Encls.

e105.ltr

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64 Marlborough Street,
Dublin 1.

STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT/
LOCAL AUTHORITY PROJECT

CORRESPONDENCE FORM

Case No: JAC032

File With C Mc Grath

M s Bannon

Please treat correspondence received on _____ as follows:

Update database with new agent/contact/address for Notice Party/Observer: _____

<u>VALID</u>	<u>INVALID</u>
1. Acknowledge with <u>CHOS</u>	1. Return to SENDER with _____
2. Return to E.O. for Signature <input type="checkbox"/>	2. Keep Envelope <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Make 3 copies of submission <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3. Keep copy of Board's letter <input type="checkbox"/>
4. Issue 2 copies to Local Authority with <u>ELOS</u>	4. Return to E.O. for Signature <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Keep copy of Board's Letters <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
6. Place copy on Public File <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Comments/Amendment to Letter:
* Enclose a copy of Board's letter to EPA requesting comments (dated 10/4/12)

Attach to File:	Return To E.O. <input type="checkbox"/>
(a) R/S <input type="checkbox"/>	(d) Fur. Processing <input type="checkbox"/>
(b) Screening <input type="checkbox"/>	(e) Board <input type="checkbox"/>
(c) Inspector <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

E.O: M. Inerney A.A: S/O Bannon
Date: 8/5/12 Date: 9/5/12

Sinead Mcinerney

From: Brian Meaney <B.Meaney@epa.ie>
Sent: 08 May 2012 14:44
To: Sinead Mcinerney
Subject: Powerstown landfill 01JA0032
Attachments: ABP Powerstown May 2012.pdf

Sinead, submission attached as discussed.
Thanks,
Brian.

Brian Meaney
Environmental Licensing Programme
Environmental Protection Agency
PO Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
Co. Wexford

Tel. 053 9160600
www.epa.ie



.....

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The opinions contained within are personal to the sender and do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Environmental Protection Agency.

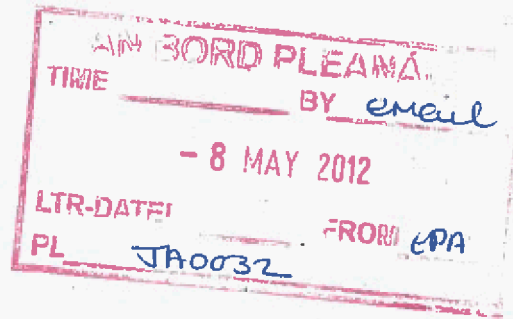
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Environmental Protection Agency
An Gníomhaireacht um Chaomhú Comhshaoil

An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough St
Dublin 1



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W: www.epa.ie

LoCall: 1890 33 55 99

8 May 2012

Your ref.: 01.JA0032

Re: Continued operation of landfilling activities and an increase in waste acceptance at Powerstown Landfill, Powerstown, Co. Carlow

For the attention of Sinead McInerney

Dear Ms McInerney

I refer to your letter dated 10 April 2012 seeking the views of the Agency regarding a number of issues in relation to the Powerstown Landfill, licence register number W0025-03. It should be noted that the Agency has not received an application for a licence revision in respect of the increased tonnage in waste acceptance, and therefore the Agency has not carried out a detailed examination of all the information which would be required to make a full assessment for the purposes of waste licensing.

The Agency has examined the EIS attached to your letter and insofar as the project is at the planning permission stage it appears to identify, describe and assess, in a manner appropriate to this stage of the process, the direct and indirect effects of the project on the factors identified in Article 3 of the EIA Directive (85/337/EEC as amended) including the interaction of those factors. The impact of the activity on the receiving environment has been addressed in the EIS. On the basis of the information contained in the EIS, and having regard to the mitigation measures as proposed, the Agency notes that the EIS indicates that the relevant parameters are met.

The existing planning permission for the facility requires that landfilling activities cease by January 2012. The landfill is not full and Carlow County Council is seeking permission to operate the landfill until it is full. The waste licence for the facility does not specify a date for cessation of landfilling activities. If landfilling does not recommence, the landfill licence will regulate and control the closure and aftercare management of the landfill without recourse to a licence review.

Carlow County Council is also seeking to increase the authorised waste acceptance at the facility from 40,000 tonnes per annum to 50,000 tonnes per annum. The licence currently restricts waste acceptance to 40,000 tonnes per annum. As noted in the EIS, an increase of the scale sought will require a licence review.

The landfill is already regulated and controlled in accordance with the requirements of Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste. In granting the existing waste licence, the



Agency addressed the potential environmental impacts of the landfill cells. In addressing environmental pollution, one of the potential long-term threats to the environment from a landfill is posed by leachate. Groundwater and surface water environments can be contaminated should leachate escape from the landfill and the existing licence controls those aspects of the development concerning the generation, containment and management of leachate. The licence contains all regulation and control necessary for the existing scale of activity. Any changes necessary to accommodate an increase in waste acceptance up to 50,000 tonnes per annum will be assessed by the Agency.

Overall, the EIS addresses the key points in relation to the environmental aspects of the landfill. The processing by the Agency of a licence application would evaluate these issues in greater detail and any licence as may be granted would fully implement the requirements of the Landfill Directive. A licence may not be granted in respect of a landfill unless the Agency is satisfied that it will not cause environmental pollution.

Odour control is an important feature of licences and the prevention of odour emissions from the landfill is an important issue for the Agency. The incidence of odour complaints to the Agency has reduced from 7 in 2008 to 2 in 2009 to none in 2010 and 2011. According to the EIS, a greater number of complaints were logged directly by the licensee and a decreasing trend is noted (with no complaints received in 2011).

With regard to the reference in section 13.3.6 of the EIS (p.128) to investigations in to the nature, source and cause of elevated levels of conductivity, ammonia and chloride in groundwater, the Agency carried out a further audit of the facility on 14/2/2012. The Q4 2011 monitoring report which contains results from February 2009 to November 2011 was reviewed. There was elevated conductivity, ammonia and chloride levels and breaches in the threshold limit values (S.I. No. 9 of 2010) and trigger levels at GW1 and GW2 during this period and elevated ammonia levels and breaches of threshold limit values for aluminium at GW2, GW6, GW7, RCAII and RCAI in March 2011. The licensee has appointed a consultant, at the Agency's request of 20/7/2011, to carry out an investigation into these elevated levels. The Agency has requested that the licensee submit a report on the findings of the investigations as soon as possible. Carlow County Council has not submitted a report to date.

The Agency recently (December 2011) published a *Final Draft BAT Guidance Note on Best Available Techniques for the Waste Sector: Landfill Activities*. The document is available at <http://www.epa.ie/downloads/advice/bat/>.

The commentary in this letter is made without prejudice to any future decision of the Agency relating to the proposed development.

Yours sincerely,



Brian Meaney
Senior Inspector
Environmental Licensing Programme



An Bord Pleanála
64 Marlborough St
Dublin 1



Headquarters, PO Box 3000
Johnstown Castle Estate
County Wexford, Ireland

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