

Ref: 201_016-ORS-XX-XX-CO-EN-001

27th October 2020

Licensing Section,
Environmental Protection Agency,
Johnstown Castle,
Wexford,
Y35 W821.

Re: Section 49 Extension of Waste Licence W0285-01

To whom it may concern,

Bio Agrigas Limited (Waste Licence W0285-01) received its licence on 12th November 2015. The Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility has not been constructed and Bio Agrigas Limited is applying to the EPA for an extension of the licence in order to commence construction and operation of the AD facility in 2021.

Preliminary works were completed towards the end of 2019, however due to issues in relation to the planning permission for the facility these works were stopped. Following consultation with the Planning Section of Westmeath County Council a new planning application was lodged on 23rd April 2020. Construction of the facility would have commenced in 2019 had it not been for the issue with the planning permission.

Bio Agrigas Limited re-applied for planning permission (20/6101) for exactly the same facility as detailed in the original planning permission and W0285-01 waste Licence applications. Notification of grant of permission was received on 18th September 2020 with final grant due on 21st October 2020. The issuing of the Final Grant had been delayed due to the impact of Covid 19.

The application for planning permission represents a significant further investment, approximately €30,000, in the project and demonstrates the continued commitment of Bio Agrigas to getting the facility constructed and operational.

ORS have been instructed by Bio Agrigas to provide Environmental, Civil, Structural, Fire, Assigned Certifier and Health and Safety Consultancy on the project and a Mechanical and Electrical contractor from Portugal has been engaged to provide the technology for the AD facility.

The AD facility is still supported by REFIT 3 with grant funding available for the facility to export renewable electricity to the grid. This funding is another reason why Bio Agrigas are committed to the development of the AD facility.

The publishing of Ireland's National Waste Policy - Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy 2020-2025 reinforces the national commitment to anaerobic digestion as a preferred disposal route for food waste through the Food Waste Hierarchy stating:

ORS c/o WeWork | 2 Dublin Landings | North Wall Quay | Dublin 1 | D01 V4A3

Block A | Marlinstown Office Park | Mullingar | Co. Westmeath | N91 W5NN

Office 2 | Donegal Town Enterprise Centre | Lurganboy | Donegal Town | Co. Donegal | F94 KT35

26 York Street | London | W1U 6PZ | UK

“We want to realise the Anaerobic Digestion (AD) and composting potential of the food waste resource. AD and composting provide opportunities for regional development with benefits for communities through sales of locally generated energy and compost.”

As part of the planning application submitted on 23rd April 2020 an Appropriate Assessment Screening was carried out and has been included with this letter.

If you require further clarification in relation to the information outlined, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alan Kiernan'.

Alan Kiernan MCIWEM C.WEM
Senior Environmental Engineer

For and on behalf of ORS

e: a.kiernan@ors.ie

CC'd: Mr. Kealan Reynolds, Environmental Protection Agency, John Moore Street, Castlebar, Co Mayo.

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