McCutcheon Halley
CHARTERED PLANNING CONSULTANTS

EIAR Screening

Proposed increase in intake of Waste Recovery Facility at Cullenagh, Fermoy, Co. Cork

205919-04/09/2020-EIAR Screening

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Prepared on behalf of
Waste Recovery Services (Fermoy) Ltd (WRS)

www.mhplanning.ie

DUBLIN
Kreston House, Arran Court
Arran Quay, Dublin 7
D07 K271
T. +353 (0) 1 804 4477
E. info@mhplanning.ie

CORK
6 Joyce House, Barrack Square
Ballincollig, Co. Cork
P31 YX97
T. +353 (0)21 420 8710
E. info@mhplanning.ie

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1 Introduction

This Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Report has been prepared by McCutcheon Halley Planning Consultants on behalf of the applicant Waste Recovery Service (Fermoy) Ltd. (WRS), who intend to apply to Cork County Council for planning permission for an increased intake of materials of the facility from 6,500 tons per annum to 16,500 tonnes per annum at their waste processing facility at Cullenagh, Fermoy. Co. Cork.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) requirements derive from EU Directives. Council Directive 2014/52/EU amended Directive 2011/92/EU and is transposed into Irish Law by the European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018.

Proposed development which falls within one of the categories of development specified in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, which equals or exceeds, a limit, quantity or threshold prescribed for that class of development must be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR). Where a project is of a specified type but does not meet, or exceed, the applicable threshold then the likelihood of the project having significant effects (adverse and beneficial) on the environment needs to be considered.

The purpose of this Screening Report is to provide supporting information to assist the competent authority, in this instance, Cork County Council to determine whether an Environmental Impact Assessment of the project is required as required under Section 120 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

2 Legislative Context

Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) requirements derive from EU Directives. The requirements of Directive 2011/92/EU and preceding directives have been transposed into Irish Legalisation. EU Directive 2014/52/EU amends EIA law in several respects by amending Directive 2011/92/EU.

The European Union (Planning and Development) (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2018 came into effect in September 2018, transposing Directive 2014/52/EU and giving further effect to Directive 2011/92/EU. This Screening Report is drafted based on the requirements of EU Directive 2014/52EU. The objective of the Directive is *"to ensure a high level of protection of the environment and human health, through the establishment of minimum requirements for environmental impact assessment (EIA), prior to development consent being given, of public and private developments that are likely to have significant effects on the environment"*[1].

EIA provisions in relation to planning consents are currently contained in the Planning and Development Act, 2000, as amended, (Part X) and in Part 10 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended, ("the 2001 Regulations").

Projects requiring EIA are listed in Schedule 5 (Parts 1 and 2) of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001. In cases where a project is mentioned in Part 2 but is classed as "sub-threshold development", planning authorities are required under article 103 of the 2001 Regulations to request an EIS where it considers that the proposed development is likely to have significant environmental effects.

[1] Guidelines for Planning Authorities and An Bord Pleanala on carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment https://www.housing.gov.ie/sites/default/files/publications/files/guidelines_for_planning_authorities_and_an_bord_pleanala_on_carrying_out_eia_-_august_2018.pdf

2.1 Requirement for EIA

The subject development does not fall within development classes set out in Part 1 of Schedule 5. The proposed project comprises an increase in the intake by the existing resource, recovery and recycling facility from 6,500 tonnes per annum to 16,500 tonnes per annum on a site of 2.85 ha. The relevant class/scale of development is set out in Schedule 5 (Part 2) of The Regulations;

> *11. All other projects;*
>
> *(b) Installations for the disposal of waste with an annual intake greater than 25,000 tonnes not included in Part 1 of this Schedule.*

The proposed development is for the increase of tonnage to increase the annual intake up to 16,500 tonnes, which is below the relevant threshold.

The proposed development can also be considered under Class 13;

> *13. Changes, extensions, development and testing*
> *(a) Any change or extension of development which would: -*
> *(ii) result in an increase in size greater than –*
> - *25 per cent or*
> - *An amount equal to 50 per cent of the appropriate threshold, whichever is greater.*

The proposed project does not require any development and will not result in an increase in floor area of greater than 25%. The appropriate threshold is 25,000 tonnes, and the increase in intake up to 10,000 tonnes is less than 50% of this threshold.

A mandatory EIA is therefore not required.

2.2 Screening for Sub-threshold EIA

In cases where a project is mentioned in Part 2 but is classed as "sub-threshold development", it is necessary for a planning authority to undertake a case-by-case examination about whether the development is likely to be associated with significant effects on the environment. In other words, screening for whether EIA is needed, must be undertaken.

While it is clearly demonstrated above that the subject proposal does not trigger mandatory EIA, it is considered prudent to establish that the proposed extension to the Waste Recovery Facility at Fermoy would not have significant effects on the environment and therefore does not require a sub-threshold EIA.

The decision as to whether a development is likely to have significant effects on the environment must be taken with reference to the criteria set out in Schedule 7 and Schedule 7A of 2001 Regulations.

In accordance with the provisions of Part X of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), an EIAR shall be carried out in respect of an application for development which is specified in Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) [the Regulations]. A mandatory EIAR is required for developments which fall within the remit of Schedule 5.

Section 120 of the Regulations sets out the obligation of the Local Authority to determine the requirements for an EIAR;

> Section 120 1 (a) *Where a local authority proposes to carry out a subthreshold development, the authority shall carry out a preliminary examination of, at the least, the nature, size or location of the development.*

(b) Where the local authority concludes, based on such preliminary examination, that—

(c) there is significant and realistic doubt in regard to the likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development, it shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, the information specified in Schedule 7A for the purposes of a screening determination,

This report satisfies the requirements of Section 120 of the Regulations by providing the information to allow Cork County Council to determine that an EIA is not required.

Schedule 7 of the Regulations, details the criteria for determining whether a development would, or would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment, and this was transposed directly from Annex III of the 2011 Directive. Schedule 7A sets out the information to be provided by the applicant for the purposes of screening sub-threshold development for EIA;

1. A description of the project, including in particular:
    a. A description of the physical characteristics of the whole project and, where relevant, of demolition works;
    b. A description of the location of the project, with particular regard to the environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected.
2. A description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the project.
3. A description of any likely significant effects, to the extent of the information available on such effects, or the project on the environment resulting from:
    a. The expected residues and emissions and the production of waste, where relevant;
    b. The use of natural resources, in particular soil, land, water and biodiversity.
4. The criteria of Annex III shall be taken into account, where relevant, when compiling the information in accordance with points 1 to 3.

The Directive also amends Annex III "Selection Criteria referred to in Article 4(3)". The details to be considered in the new Annex III are as follows:

1. Characteristics of proposed development

The characteristics of project, with particular regard to:
– the size and design of the whole project,
– cumulation with other existing and / or approved development,
– the use of natural resources, in particular land, soil, water and biodiversity;
– the production of waste,
– pollution and nuisances,
– the risk of major accidents and / or disasters which are relevant to the project concerned, including those caused by climate changes, in accordance with scientific knowledge
- the risk to human health (for example due to water contamination or air pollution).

2. Location of proposed development

The environmental sensitivity of geographical areas likely to be affected by projects must be considered, with particular regard to
- the existing and approved land use,
- the relative abundance, availability, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources (including soil, land, water and biodiversity) in the area and its underground,
- the absorption capacity of the natural environment, paying particular attention to the following areas:
(a) wetlands, riparian areas, river mouths;
(b) coastal zones and the marine environment;

(c) mountain and forest areas,
(d) nature reserves and parks,
(e) areas classified or protected under national legislation, including Natura 2000 areas designated by Member States pursuant to Directives 92/43/EEC and 2009/147/EC,
(f) areas in which there has already been a failure to meet the environmental quality standards, laid down in Union legislation and relevant to the project, or in which it is considered that there is such a failure,
(g) densely populated areas,
(h) landscapes and sites of historical, cultural or archaeological significance.

3. Type and Characteristics of potential impacts

The likely significant effects on the environment proposed development in relation to criteria set out under paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Annex, with regard to the impact of the project on the factors specified in Article 3(1), taking into account:
- the magnitude and spatial extent of the impact (for example geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected),
- the nature of the impact;
- the transboundary nature of the impact,
- the intensity and complexity of the impact,
- the probability of the impact,
- the expected onset, duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact.
- the cumulation of the impact with the impact of other existing and / or approved projects;
- the possibility of effectively reducing the impact.

In compliance with the requirements of the 2014 Directive, this Screening Report provides details of the information specified in Annex IIA, taking account of the criteria in Annex III.

3 Information required by Annex II(A)

3.1 Physical Characteristics of the Whole Project and Demolition Works

The resource, recovery and recycling facility (RRF) is located within a 2.85-hectare site in the townland of Cullenagh approximately 4km south west of the town of Fermoy (Fig 1). The site is accessible via the local road which runs along the western boundary of the site. The site is situated in an area where the surrounding land uses are a mix of one-off rural dwellings, forestry, agricultural and amenity. The Fermoy Golf Club is situated to the south and south east of the site. The lands to the west of the public road are forested and those immediately to the east and north are agricultural in use. The dwellings immediately adjacent to the site's southwest boundary are owned and occupied by the Dunlea family.

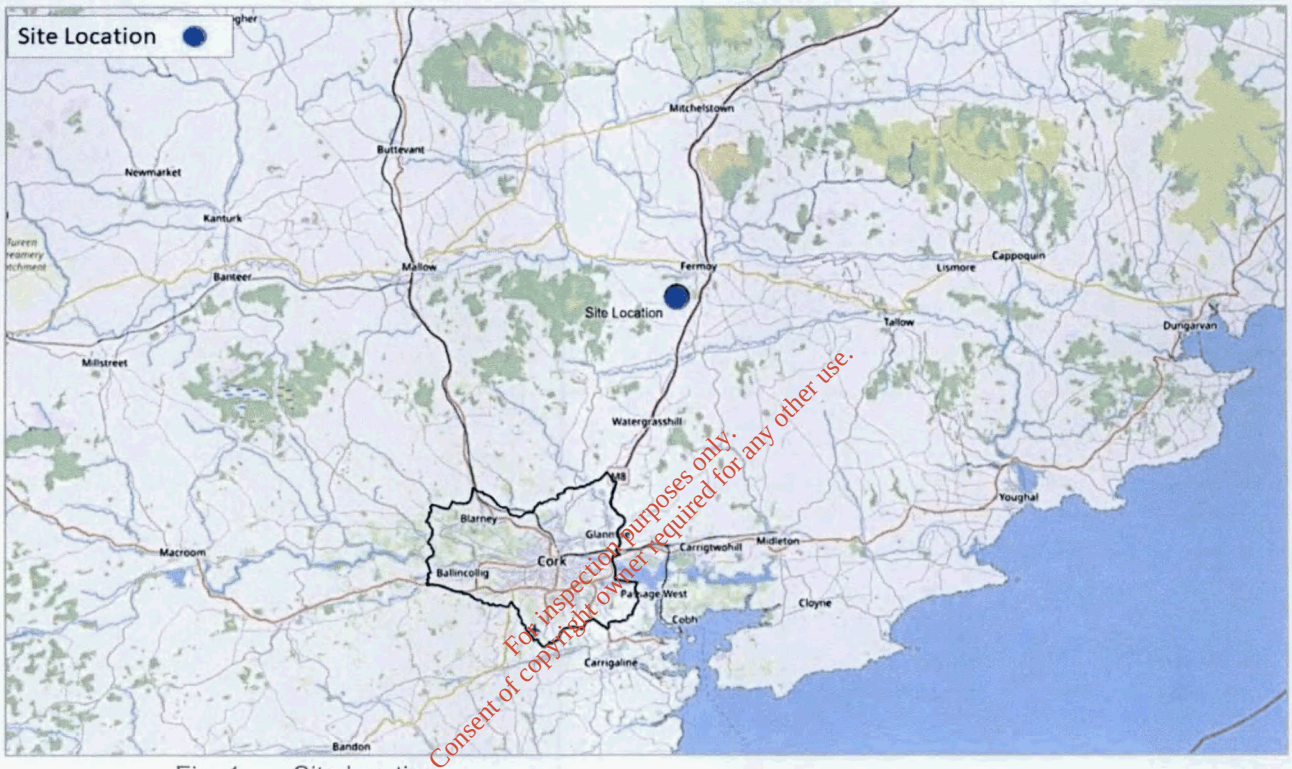

Fig. 1 Site location

3.1.1 Size and Design

The proposed project comprises an increase in the annual tonnage of waste accepted from 6,500 tonnes per annum to 16,500 tonnes per annum. No additional buildings, or extension to the existing facility is required. The existing facility operates under a waste licence from the EPA, and is described as "*a non-hazardous waste transfer station located in the townland of Cullenagh approximately 4km south-west of Fermoy. The facility is licensed to accept up to 6,500 tonnes per-annum of non-hazardous waste (commercial, industrial and construction and demolition waste). Hazardous or liquid waste will not be accepted at the facility*".

The waste is processed and stored internally and externally as authorised by the EPA licence and transferred off-site for further RECYCLING, recovery or disposal. In 2019 approximately 70% of the waste accepted was recycled and recovered.

The infrastructure at the existing facility includes the following;

- waste sorting building,
- office and utility buildings,
- weighbridge,

- paved waste handling area and storage areas,
- foul and surface water tanks,
- vehicle wash area

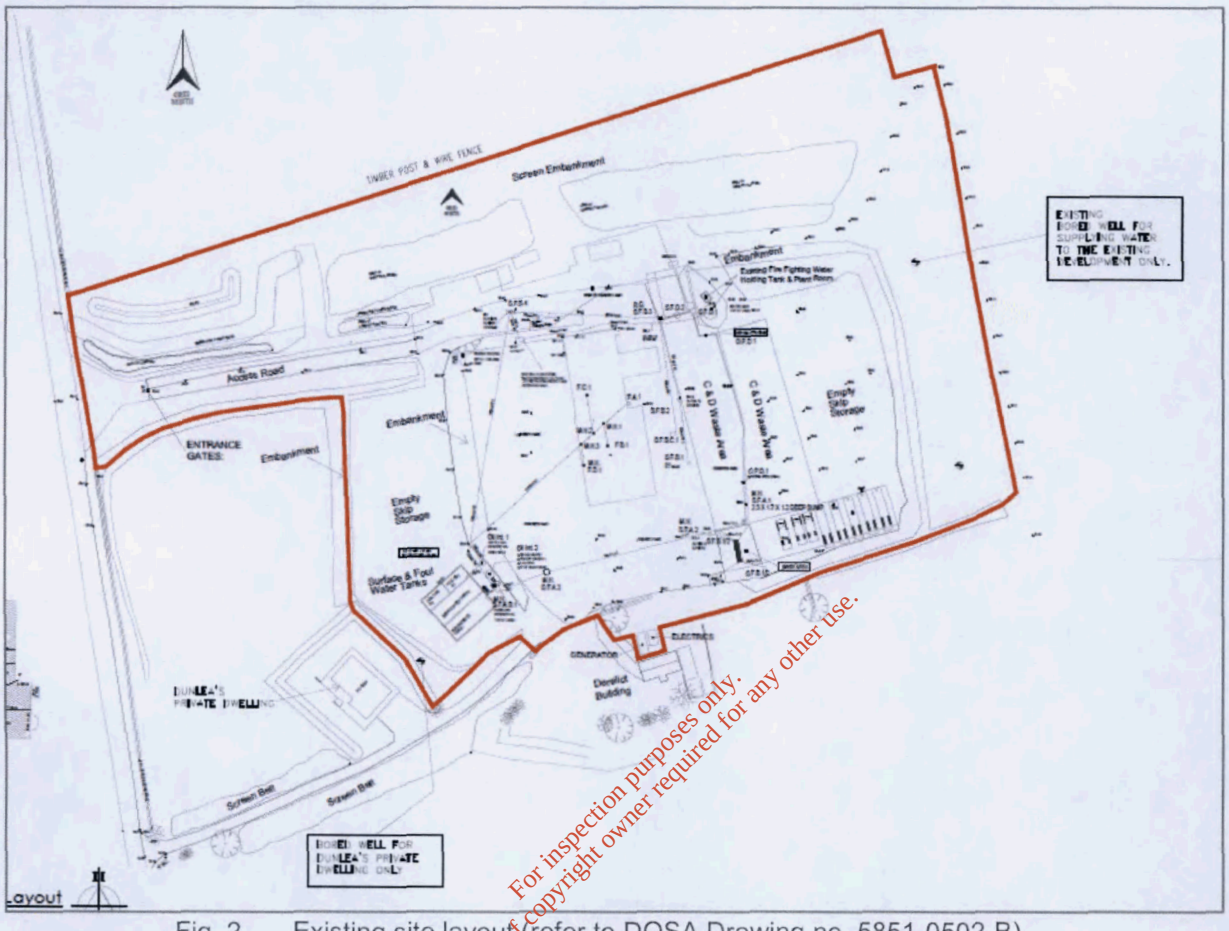

Fig. 2 Existing site layout (refer to DOSA Drawing no. 5851-0502-B).

3.1.2 Cumulation with other Existing &/or Approved Plans and Projects

The RRF is located within a predominately rural area, and has been in operation at this location in excess of 30 years when it was established in the Dunlea's family's existing agriculture buildings to the rear of their home. This facility is the only facility existing within approximately 25 km radius with the next closest waste facility located in Mallow town at the Civic Amenity site. The day to day operations continue to be managed by the Dunlea family and the site currently operates under a waste license from the EPA (107-1). Details of the licence are available on the EPA website[2].

A search of the Cork County Council planning database does not indicate any recent planning applications of significance in proximity to the Facility. In general planning applications in the vicinity relate to development or extensions to one-off houses. A Transport Assessment (TA) has been prepared by Hegsons Design Consultancy Limited to support this application. The assessment considers the amount of traffic, in particular HGVs that will be generated by the proposed expansion of the site. This assessment is dealt with under Section 3.1.6 of this report.

[2] http://www.epa.ie/licensing/

It is not likely that the proposed extension of the facility will lead to significant environmental impacts in cumulation with other existing and/or approved plans and projects.

3.1.3 Natura of any demolition works

No construction works are proposed and no demolition works will be required.

3.1.4 The use of natural resources

The project comprises the increase in tonnage of intake of waste materials. The facility will continue operate under the EPA licencing regime. No increased usage of natural resources such as water, or electricity is anticipated.

3.1.5 The production of waste

The project does not require any construction or demolition. During operation the facility will continue to operate under the conditions of the EPA licencing. Processed waste and recoverable and recyclable commodities and materials is transferred off-site for further recycling and recovery or disposal at suitably licenced facilities. In 2019 approximately 70% of the waste accepted was recovered and recycled.

3.1.6 Pollution and nuisances

The RRF operates under a waste licence issued by the EPA. WRS has a documented procedure to record and respond to all complaints regarding site operations received either directly or via the EPA. Since the waste licence was granted in 2002 WRS have not received any complaints from members of the public relating to facility operations.

Environmental monitoring is ongoing at the site as per the conditions of the EPA licence. Details of the environmental monitoring programme are included in the Environmental Report prepared by O'Callaghan Moran and Associates consulting engineers.

The environmental monitoring programme at the site includes;

- Groundwater quality monitoring in on and off-site wells (quarterly at 6 locations);
- Noise Monitoring (annually at two locations); the results of the most recent monitoring for 2019 were in compliance with the limits set out in the licence;
- Dust Deposition Monitoring (three times annually at three onsite locations); the monitoring results for 2020 were in compliance with the licence.
- Monitoring of Foul Water and Surface Water Quality (annually at 1 location and quarterly at one location respectively). The results were in compliance with the ELVs set out in the EPA licence.

The results of the groundwater monitoring for 2019 showed some elevated values for ammonia within the site which are attributed to proximity to a septic tank.

The RRF will continue to operate according to the parameters and limits set out in the EPA licence.

Water and services.

The operation of the RRF will not result in emissions to surface water. All rainwater run-off from the operational yards and building roofs is directed to holding tanks and subsequently sent for treatment in the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) at Fermoy, Co. Cork. The wash water from the power washer is also collected and sent to the WWTP for treatment. The drainage system includes grit trap, oil interceptor and inspection chamber with sump. The surface water drainage system also serves as the firewater retention system. Should a fire

occur the retained surface water will be used for firefighting, and any contaminated water directed back into the surface water holding tanks.

Potable water is obtained from an on-site well. There is no connection to the municipal foul sewer and the toilets in the offices are served by an on-site septic tank. Sanitary wastewater is collected in 2 No. tanks located to the west of the weighbridge and to the south of the paved concrete area. These tanks are sealed and are emptied as required with the contents sent off-site for treatment in the Irish Water wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) in Fermoy.

No additional wastewater will be generated as a result of the proposed increase intake of waste materials, and there will be no additional loading to the Fermoy WWTP beyond what is currently permitted under the EPA licence.

Traffic

A Transport Assessment (TA) has been prepared by Hegsons Design Consultancy Limited and accompanies this application. The TA identifies the amount of traffic that will be generated by the proposed expansion of the site and the impacts on the existing and future road networks. For the purpose of the assessment, it has been assumed that the proposed expansion of the site, if granted planning permission, would be operational in late 2020. Private car use to and from the site will remain the same, while HGV movements are anticipated to increase to a maximum of 55 extra HGV trips across the full day, including the additional 13 to 16 vehicle movements anticipated during peak hours of operation.

The main access to the subject site is to be located off the L-1510. There is currently one priority-controlled access point and is approximately 25m wide, to cater for HGVs vehicles entering and egressing the site. It is proposed to direct a significant amount of the additional HGV traffic to and from the R639 and onto the M8 Motorway, via the L-5770 road. The proposed project includes contributing to the upgrade of the L-5570 to accommodate any extra traffic.

The TA concluded that any transport implications of the proposed expansion of the site to handle up to 16,500 tonnes of waste for recycling and resource recovery would be minimal and any implication on the adjoining road network would be mitigated by the proposed contribution towards the road improvement along the L-5770.

No significant impacts as a result of pollution or nuisance are anticipated.

Air Quality

The proposed project will require an increase in HGV trips to and from the site, which may result in a reduction in air quality during operational hours which may be perceived by receptors located along the route (L-5570, L-1510 and R639). Any effects are unlikely, neutral and not significant. Any effects would be brief as they will only occur during the operational hours of the plant, and only during when vehicles are arriving and leaving.

Noise

The proposed project will require an increase in HGV trips to and from the site, which may result in an increase in noise which would be perceived by receptors located along the access route. Effects are unlikely, neutral and not significant. Any effects would be brief as they will only occur during the operational hours of the plant, and only during those times that vehicles are travelling to and from the M8.

3.1.7 The risk of major accidents, having regard to substances or technologies used.

The RRF is not regulated under The Chemicals Act (Control of Major Accident Hazards Involving Dangerous Substances) Regulations 2015, which transpose the Seveso III Directive (2012/18/EU) into Irish Law. It is not in proximity to any such facilities. The proposed project comprises an increased intake of materials to an

existing RRF, which is licenced under the EPA waste licencing system and is subject to regular inspection. The facility does not process or except hazardous materials as a condition of the Waste Licence.

The facility was damaged by fire in 2013 and rebuilt. Condition 9.2 of WRS's Waste Licence requires the preparation of an Emergency Response Procedure (ERP) that addresses any emergency situations which may originate on the facility and makes provision for minimising the effects of any emergency on the environment. The ERP includes a risk assessment to determine the requirements at the facility for fire-fighting and fire water retention facilities.

In 2017 the EPA requested WRS to prepare a firewater retention assessment. The assessment was prepared by O'Callaghan Moran and Associates, and submitted to the EPA. The assessment determined that the volume of firewater generated would be 486m^3 which is less that the available surface water retention capacity of 540m^3 therefore all firefighting water can be contained within the site.

It is not likely that the proposed increase in intake of materials will result in an increased risk of major accidents.

3.1.8 Risk to Human Health

The existing facility operates under an EPA licence, and is subject to regular inspections. Health and safety and environmental training is provided to all The facility will continue to operate as permitted and in accordance with the licence. No risks to human health are anticipated, subject to adherence to the conditions of the EPA licencing, and the

3.2 Location of the Project, with regard to Environmental Sensitivities of Geographical Area likely to be affected

3.2.1 The existing and approved land use

The proposed development is located at Cullenagh, Fermoy, Co. Cork. The surrounding land uses are a mix of one-off rural dwellings, forestry, agricultural and amenity. The Fermoy Golf Club is situated to the south and south east of the site. The lands to the west of the public road are forested and those immediately to the east and north are agricultural in use.

The RRF has been operating in situ for approximately 30 years and is a fully licenced facility. The project will not require any additional buildings or structures, as additional materials will be processed within the existing facility.

3.2.2 The relative abundance, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area.

The proposed project comprises the increase in output of the existing resource, recovery and recycling facility, which is located on site of low ecological value in terms of habitat.

The RRF is not located within a Flood Zone and there are no records of any flood events at the site. The most environmentally sensitive aspect of the geographical area is the amenity of existing residential units surrounding the site and the sites location along a scenic route.

3.2.3 The absorption capacity of the natural environment, paying particular attention to the following areas:

a) wetlands,
b) coastal zones,
c) mountain and forest areas,
d) nature reserves and parks,
e) areas classified or protected under legislation, including special protection areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC,
f) areas in which the environmental quality standards laid down in legislation of the EU have already been exceeded,

g) densely populated areas,
h) landscapes of historical, cultural or archaeological significance.

The site is approximately 2.1 km to the south of the boundary of the Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SAC and 4.7 km to the south-west of the Blackwater Callows SPA when measured at the closest point (Fig 3).

There are no watercourses at the site, however there are a number of streams in proximity which discharge to the Blackwater River (Cork/Waterford) SPA. The Deerpark stream rises approximately 610 m to the north-west of the facility. The Deerpark Stream is joined by the Avondhu, which rises approximately 1 km to the north-east of the RRF, before discharging to the Blackwater River approximately 2.2 km to the north.

The Shanowen Stream rises c. 750m to the south-west of the site and flows south-east to enter the River Bride approximately 5.5 km to the south-east, 1.5km south east of Rathcormac. The River Bride is also a tributary of the Blackwater, and forms part of the Blackwater (Cork/Waterford) SAC.

An Appropriate Assessment Screening has been carried out by McCutcheon Halley Planning Consultants, which concludes that the proposed development will not have a significant impact on the qualifying interests and conservation objectives for Natura 2000 sites, and that the integrity of these sites will not be adversely affected.

Fig. 3 Natura 2000 sites and watercourses in proximity to the location of the waste recovery facility.

There are a number of proposed Natural Heritage Areas within a 5 km radius of the proposed development (Fig 3);

- Blackwater Valley (Killathy Wood) pNHA, approximately 4.5 km to the north-west;
- Cregg Castle pNHA, approximately 3.5 km to the north-west;
- Blackwater Valley pNHA (Cregg), approximately 2.9 km to the north-west;
- Blackwater Valley (The Beech Wood) pNHA, approximately 2.1 km to the north;
- Blackwater River Callows pNHA, approximately 3.9 km to the north-east.

Fig. 4 Proposed natural heritage areas within 5km of the RRF at Cullenagh, Fermoy.

The pNHAs will not be impacted on as a result of the proposed extension to the facility. The sites are too distant for any direct impacts to occur as a result in the increase in operation. There are no known water features at the site which can provide a hydrological link between the site and the pNHAs. Surface water and wastewater are collected in tanks and taken to Fermoy WWTP for treatment. Water is not discharged to the ground. A programme of environmental monitoring is in place as per the conditions of the EPA waste licence, including dust, noise, and groundwater monitoring.

It is not likely that the proposed increase in intake of waste materials and processing at the facility will result in negative impacts to the pNHAs identified in proximity to the facility.

The site does not fall within an Architectural Conservation Area. There are no recorded archaeological sites within the red line boundary. There are three archaeological sites within 1 km of the proposed development site (Fig 4). However, as there are no construction related activities associated with the project there will be no impacts on any recorded or unrecorded sub-surface archaeological remains in proximity to the site.

Fig. 5 Recorded archaeological sites within 1km of the Facility.

A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) was prepared by Cathal O'Meara Landscape Architects and submitted with the previous application (Cork County Council Ref: 18/6673). Mitigation measures were proposed as part of the landscaping plan, which included a screening plan consisting of planting a secondary shelterbelt of native deciduous vegetation, outside the existing envelope of screening vegetation. The new screening planting would mature and establish over time to sufficiently minimize views into the site.

Overall, the LVIA concluded that the development of the existing facility would have only a minor physical impact on landscape as the site is contained within the existing dense screening vegetation.

As there are no changes proposed to the existing facility and no construction activities, there will be no additional visual impacts beyond those considered as part of the original application.

The site is not in close proximity to densely populated areas. It is within a rural area, approximately 4 km to the south-west of the town of Fermoy, and 36 km to the north-east of Cork City. Additional HGV traffic generated by the increase in operations will be routed to the M8 and will not pass through any towns. There will be no impacts to densely populated areas as a result of the proposed project.

4 Screening Determination

The potential for impacts arising during the construction and operational phases have been considered above and the characteristics of the likely effects arising from the proposed development are rated using the descriptive terminology presented in the EPA (2017) *Guidelines on the Information to be contained in Environmental Impact Assessment Reports – Draft.*

4.1.1 Characteristics of Potential Impacts

We note the criteria of paragraph 3 of Schedule 7, *Characteristics of Potential Impacts*;

The potential significant effects of proposed development in relation to criteria set out under paragraphs 1 and 2 above, and having regard in particular to:

- *the extent of the impact (geographical area and size of the affected population),*
- *the transfrontier nature of the impact*
- *the magnitude and complexity of the impact,*
- *the probability of the impact,*
- *the duration, frequency and reversibility of the impact.*

These criteria are dealt with in the report above. An upgrade to the local road will be required to facilitate additional HGV traffic, and with this exception and based on the information on the project provided by the client and the design team no new mitigation measures are required other than those already in place under the existing EPA licence.

It should be noted that given the location, nature and scale of the proposed development, there is no likelihood of transfrontier impacts arising from the continued operation of the RRF.

Table 1 Potential Effects: **C = Construction O = Operation**

Aspect	Phase	Potential Effect	Extent	Probability	Significance of Effect	Quality of Effect	Duration
Landscape	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	O	None predicted	-	-	-	-	-

Aspect	Phase	Potential Effect	Extent	Probability	Significance of Effect	Quality of Effect	Duration
Visual	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	O	None predicted	-	-	-	-	-
Biodiversity	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	O	None predicted	-	-	-	-	-
Land & Soil	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	C	None predicted	-	-	-	-	-
Human Health	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	O	None predicted	-	-	-	-	-
Water	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	O	None predicted	-	-	-	-	-
Air	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	O	Reduction in air quality as a result of increase in HGV traffic.	Local	Likely	Imperceptible	Neutral	Long term
Noise	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	O	Increase in noise as a result of increase in HGV traffic.	Local	Likely	Imperceptible	Neutral	Long term
Cultural Heritage	C	N/A	-	-	-	-	-
	O	None predicted	-	-	-	-	-

4.1.2 Cumulative Impacts

Additional traffic and activities during the operational phase may result in some negative impacts on local traffic. It is proposed to direct a significant amount of the additional HGV traffic to and from the R639 and onto the M8 Motorway, via the L-5770 road. The proposed project includes contributing to the upgrade of the L-5570 to accommodate any extra traffic.

4.1.3 Residual Impacts

The additional HGV traffic may result in a brief reduction in local air quality and an increase in local noise levels, however the effects will not be significant.

5 Conclusion

The proposed project does not involve any construction or demolition element, therefore any potential impacts are limited to the operation of the facility.

The following negative effects may occur, however they will be restricted to the hours of operation of the facility and are not likely to be significant;

- Increase in local HGV traffic resulting in increased noise and reduction in air quality.

The most significant positive effects on the environment will be the provision of a resource, recovery and recycling facility which will contribute to the achievement of national waste recovery and recycling targets.

Based on the information provided in accordance with Annex IIA and Annex III of the 2014 Directive, it is considered that a sub-threshold EIAR is not required for the proposed development, as the operational phase of the overall development will have a significant negative impact on the environment.