



**OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
SUSTAINABILITY**

**INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON AN APPLICATION  
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORISATION  
FOR A CLOSED LANDFILL**

<b>TO:</b>	Programme Manager	
<b>FROM:</b>	Ewa Babiarczyk, Inspector	Circular Economy Programme
<b>DATE:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	
<b>RE:</b>	<b>Withdrawal of Application by Galway City Council</b> for a Certificate of Authorisation for a landfill at <b>Southpark Landfill, Southpark, The Claddagh, Galway City, County Galway.</b> Certificate of Authorisation Application Register Number <b>H0171-01.</b>	

## 1. Introduction

This Inspector's Report concerns the receipt of confirmation from Galway City Council on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 of the end of operational time period for the Southpark Landfill for which a certificate of authorisation (CoA) application (Reg. No. H0171-01) was received on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

## 2. Assessment

Upon the initial assessment of the application documentation, it was noted that the Non-Technical Summary states that the landfill is understood to have been operational until the 1960s. This indicates that the landfill operated outside the time period specified in the definition for a closed landfill in the Waste Management (Certification of Historic Unlicensed Waste Disposal and Recovery Activity) Regulations 2008 (S.I. No. 524 of 2008).

The Regulations define a Closed Landfill as:

*"a landfill site operated by a local authority for the recovery or disposal of waste without a waste licence on any date between 15 July 1977 and 27 March 1997 (i.e. prior to the entry into force of the Waste Management (Licensing) Regulations, 1997 (S.I. No. 133 of 1997))"*

The end of the operational period given in the non-technical summary suggested that the site is not defined as a Closed Landfill in accordance with the Regulations and consequently, is not required to have a Certificate of Authorisation.

The Agency issued a notice to the applicant on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2023 and 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023, requesting the applicant to confirm whether the operational period for the landfill, as stated in the Application Form, was correct. The applicant's response dated 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 confirmed that Southpark landfill ceased operations in 1960.

Accordingly, it has been determined that the site is not defined as a Closed Landfill in accordance with the Regulations and that the application for a CoA should be withdrawn by the applicant. It is therefore recommended that the Agency formally advises the applicant to

withdraw their application and to request a refund of the fee of €5,000 paid in respect of the application Reg. No. H0171-01.

### **3. Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Agency advises the applicant to withdraw the application for a CoA and to request a refund of the fee submitted.

Signed:



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Ewa Babiarczyk  
Inspector