

Extract from the Minutes of the 1148th Licensing Meeting of the Agency was held on 13 February 2024, in EPA Headquarters, Johnstown Castle Estate, County Wexford.

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Directors Present: L Burke (Chair);
G O' Leary (via Video Conference), M Lehane, E Cotter,
T Ryan, & D Flynn.

4. Representation on draft Certificates of Authorisation issued for closed landfills
Certificate of Authorisation Holder: Galway County Council

Location: **Tuam Historic Landfill
Rinkippeen
Tuam
County Galway**

Cert. of Authorisation No: **H0192-01**

The Directors considered the following documentation: Recommended Certificate of Authorisation; and the Inspector's Report dated 22 January 2024.

A copy of the Recommended Certificate of Authorisation was available electronically.

Ewa Babiarczyk, Anne Lucey and Warren Phelan gave verbal presentations.

Inspector's Report

The Directors noted the Inspector's Report.

Recommended Certificate of Authorisation

The Directors approved the Recommended Certificate of Authorisation with the following amendments:

Glossary of Terms

Amend the definition of Civic amenity facility as follows:

Civic Amenity facility ~~shall include a civic amenity site and a recycling centre and means~~ a facility operated by or on behalf of a local authority or a private sector operator which is provided for the efficient reception and temporary storage of recyclable and non-recyclable waste materials, including segregated waste. ~~and which is appropriately licensed, permitted or registered under Regulations made pursuant to Section 39 of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended.~~

Reason for decision:

To provide clarity to the definition.

Amend the definition for Code of Practice

Code of Practice ~~As defined in the Waste Management (Certification of Historic unlicensed Waste Disposal and Recovery Activity) Regulations 2008. Code of Practice - Environmental Risk Assessment for Unregulated Waste Disposal Sites, EPA 2007.~~

Reason for decision:

To provide clarity to the definition.

Conditions

Condition 3 Management and Monitoring

3.1 (a) (i) Remove condition 3.1 (a) (i) as follows: ~~waste stored in the civic amenity facility located on the site, within 4 months of the date of grant of this Certificate of Authorisation, unless an appropriate waste authorisation is applied for within this timeframe; and~~

Reason for Decision:

In the interest of providing clarity.

All subsequent conditions in the Recommended Certificate of Authorisation should be renumbered to reflect the conditions removed.

3.1 (c) Amend the wording to read as follows: ~~Repair the~~ *Install a low permeability landfill cap over the entire waste body, minimum 1m with 1mm thick low permeability geomembrane, or equivalent, so that it achieves a hydraulic conductivity of less than or equal to $1 \times 10^{-9} \text{m/s}$ across the entire waste body;*

~~The landfill cap shall incorporate the following elements installed in accordance with the EPA Landfill Manuals - Landfill Site Design and its design shall be submitted to the Agency for approval prior to installation:~~

- ~~(i) Gas drainage layer.~~
- ~~(ii) Water drainage layer. Uncontaminated surface water drained from the water drainage layer shall discharge to the adjacent drain.~~
- ~~(iii) Reprofiled gradients to provide for rainwater run-off from the surface of the landfill.~~

The cap gradients shall provide for rainwater run-off from the surface of the landfill.

Reason for Decision:

In the interest of providing clarity.

3.1 (f) Amend the Condition to read as follows: ~~Install,~~ *Install, operate and maintain a cut-off barrier system, if required following the assessment as per Condition 3.1 (e).*

Reason for Decision:

To correct the typographical error.

3.5 Amend the wording in Condition 3.5 to read as follows: The local authority shall compile a validation report in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice. Unless otherwise agreed, the validation report shall be submitted to the Agency within ~~30~~ 36 months of the date of grant of this Certificate of Authorisation. Additional measures shall be implemented, as approved by the Agency, in the event remediation has not been successful.

Reason for decision:

To provide adequate time for validation for remediation measures.

3.11 Amend the wording in Condition 3.11 to read as follows: The local authority shall, on a quarterly basis, beginning immediately after ~~the installation~~ *completion of the repair* of the landfill cap required under Condition 3.1(c) and the gas management system required under Condition 3.1(d), for a period of one year and thereafter if required by the Agency, complete indoor and outdoor air monitoring for Methane and Carbon Dioxide in all relevant buildings, including domestic dwellings adjacent to the landfill, subject to owner's permission. The assessment of the monitoring results shall identify the impact, if any, from the migration of gas within the site and off-site. ~~The local authority shall submit a report on the monitoring undertaken for the period of one year to the Agency with recommendations, within three months of completion of this monitoring.~~

Reason for Decision:

In the interest of providing clarity.

3.19 Remove Conditions 3.19.2 and 3.19.3. Condition 3.19.1 becomes Condition 3.19 and the wording amended to read as follows:

The Certificate of Authorisation holder shall establish, maintain and implement a Communications Programme to ensure that members of the public *are informed of the closed landfill and* can obtain information from the local authority concerning the closed landfill *including landfill gas, landfill leachate, groundwater and surface water monitoring data.*

~~3.19.2 The Communications Programme shall inform members of the public what they can and should do to protect their property and health.~~

~~3.19.3 The local authority shall, as part of the Communications Programme, publish landfill gas, landfill leachate, groundwater and surface water monitoring data biannually in a manner accessible by the public.~~

Reason for Decision:

In the interest of providing clarity.

Following discussion, the Directors approved the recommendation to grant a draft Certificate of Authorisation, as modified, to Galway County Council for the closed

landfill at Rinkippeen, Tuam, County Galway, Register No H0192-01, subject to the conditions as set out in the authorisation.