This Report has been cleared for submission to the Director by Programme Manager, Warren Phelan

Signed: ***Date: 12/12/2024***

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

INSPECTOR'S REPORT ON A WASTE LICENCE REVIEW, LICENCE REGISTER NUMBER W0240-02

TO: MICHEAL LEHANE

FROM: JENNIFER COPE	**DATE: 12 DECEMBER 2024**

Applicant:	Bord Na Móna Recycling Limited
CRO number:	224173
Location/address:	Solsborough, Springfort Cross, Nenagh, County Tipperary
Application date:	24 October 2018

Classes of Activity (under Waste Management Act 1996 as amended):	D13 Blending or mixing prior to submission to any of the operations numbered D1 to D12 (if there is no other D code appropriate, this can include preliminary operations prior to disposal including pre-processing such as, amongst others, sorting, crushing, compacting, pelletising, drying, shredding, conditioning or separating prior to submission to any of the operations numbered D1 to D12) D14 Repackaging prior to submission to any of the operations numbered D1 to D13 D15 Storage pending any of the operations numbered D1 to D14 (excluding temporary storage (being preliminary storage according to the definition of 'collection' in section 5(1)), pending collection, on the site where the waste is produced).

	R12 Exchange of waste for submission to any of the operations numbered R1 to R11 (if there is no other R code appropriate, this can include preliminary operations prior to recovery including pre-processing such as, amongst others, dismantling, sorting, crushing, compacting, pelletising, drying, shredding, conditioning, repackaging, separating, blending or mixing prior to submission to any of the operations numbered R1 to R11) R13 Storage of waste pending any of the operations numbered R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage (being preliminary storage according to the definition of 'collection' in section 5(1)), pending collection, on the site where the waste is produced)
Main BAT Note:	BAT Guidance Note on Best Available Techniques for the Waste Sector: Waste Transfer and Materials Recovery (2011) All relevant National BAT notes are listed in the appendix of this report.
Activity description/background: Waste transfer station, to include sorting and recovery of non-hazardous household, commercial and construction and demolition waste, and a civic amenity area.	
Additional information received:	Yes (16/03/2023, 17/4/2023, 03/10/2024)
No. of submissions received:	0
Environmental Impact Assessment required: Yes	Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment required: No
Environmental Impact Assessment Report submitted (EIAR): Yes	
Site visit: 13/04/2022 and 30/09/2024	Site notice check: 20/12/2018

1. Introduction

Bord na Móna Recycling Limited operates a non-hazardous waste acceptance and materials recovery and waste transfer facility located at Solsborough, Springfort Cross, Nenagh, Tipperary. The licensee accepts, for the temporary storage, treatment and recovery of, non-hazardous household, commercial and construction & demolition (C&D) waste. The licensee also operates a civic amenity site in a dedicated set down area northwest of the site which will accept non-hazardous and hazardous household waste. The current licence (W0240-01) was issued to Advanced Environmental Solutions (Ireland) Limited (AES) on 29 July 2009. AES, by a Special Resolution of the Company, and with the approval of the Registrar of Companies, changed its name to Bord na Móna Recycling Limited.

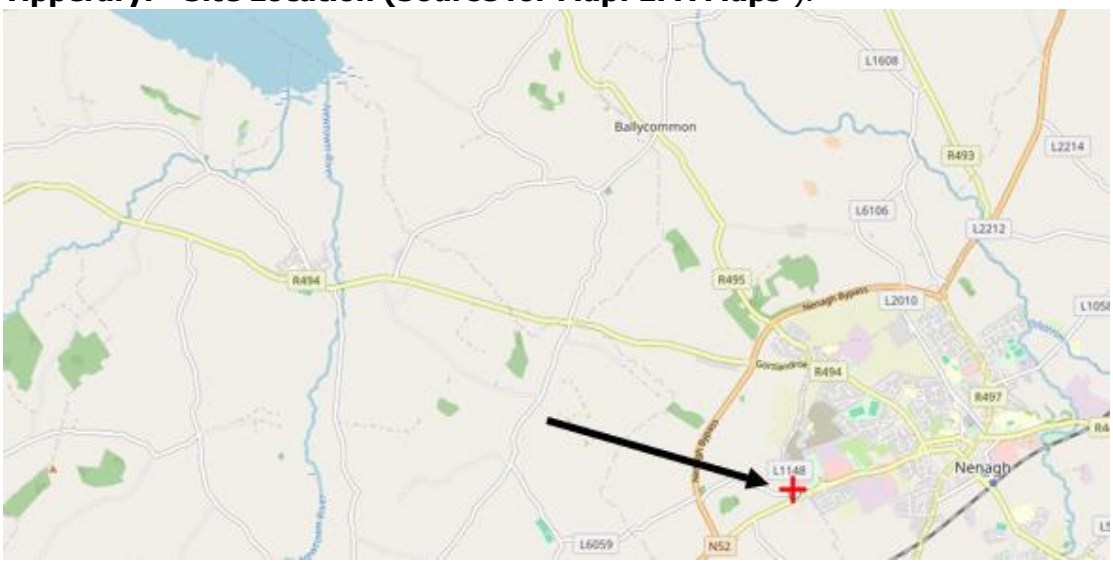
The current licence allows up to 24,750 tonnes per annum (tpa) of non-hazardous waste to be processed at the facility. The site encompasses 6,855 m^2 and there are approximately 12 employees based at the facility.

Bord na Móna Recycling Limited has applied to the Agency for a waste licence review for the purpose of increasing the amount of waste it accepts and processes from 24,750 tpa to 30,000 tpa.

2. Description of activity

The facility is located on the southwestern outskirts of Nenagh (see Figure 2.1). The lands to the north and west are used for agricultural purposes and to the east is a partially developed commercial park. A local access road forms the southern site boundary and south of this is a service garage and private residences. The nearest private dwelling is 30m from the southwestern boundary on the opposite side of the public road. With the exception of emergencies, or as approved by the Agency, waste must only be accepted at, or dispatched from, the facility between the hours of 07:30 and 19:30 Monday to Saturday inclusive. The operational hours are 07:00 to 20:00 hours Monday to Saturday. The facility does not normally open on Sundays or Public Holidays but can do so subject to EPA approval.

Figure 2.1, Bord na Móna Recycling Ltd, Springfort Cross, Nenagh, Tipperary. - Site Location (Source for Map: EPA Maps[1]).



Operation Description

The licence boundary comprises of a main processing building, garage, administration buildings, quarantine area, fuelling station, vehicle/bin wash area, and weighbridge (see Appendix 1).

There are two entrances on the southern site boundary. The western one is for waste collection and transport vehicles, while the eastern one is for the civic amenity area and customer access to the service support offices.

The facility accepts and processes household, commercial and construction and demolition waste. Waste accepted at the civic amenity area includes mixed municipal waste, paper, cardboard, plastic, wood, metals, glass, clothes, textiles, organic bin waste, hazardous and non-hazardous WEEE, fluorescent tubes, batteries garden waste and bulky waste.

The key processes carried out at the facility are: -

[1] EPA Maps

- segregation of recyclable materials (paper, cardboards, plastic, wood, metals, glass);
- segregation of construction and demolition waste;
- bulking of municipal solid waste (MSW);
- bulking up of biological waste (bio-waste, food waste and garden waste);
- transfer of recovered and residual materials to appropriately licensed recycling, recovery and disposal outlets.

Unsuitable materials, for example batteries, are removed to a waste quarantine area, located at the northern side of the garage where they are stored pending consignment to an authorised treatment/disposal facility.

In the main processing building, potential recyclables are mechanically segregated into individual waste groups such as dry recyclables, metals, inert (C&D waste) and biodegradable waste. These materials are stored inside the building pending consignment for further treatment/disposal. The mixed municipal solid wastes are bulked up for onward transfer.

Household hazardous waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) is accepted at the Civic Amenity Area (CAA). The acceptance of household hazardous waste WEEE can be accommodated under R13 Storage of waste pending any of the operations numbered R 1 to R 12 (excluding temporary storage (being preliminary storage according to the definition of 'collection' in section 5(1)), pending collection, on the site where the waste is produced). The licensee confirmed that capacity of the facility:

a) does not exceed 10 tonnes per day for the disposal or recovery of hazardous waste involving one or more of the activities specified in Class 11.2 of the First Schedule of the EPA Act 1992. as amended, and
b) does not exceed 50 tonnes for the temporary storage of hazardous waste as specified in class 11.6 if the EPA Act 1992 as amended.

In 2022 the licensee accepted 26 tonnes of household hazardous WEEE. The licensee confirmed that the total amount of hazardous waste stored at any one time in the CAA is less than 1 tonne. Accordingly, Condition 3 of the recommended decision (RD) requires that infrastructure capacity for the storage of hazardous household waste must not exceed 50 tonnes.

Scope of Review

Bord na Móna Recycling Limited has applied to the Agency for a waste licence review for the purpose of increasing the amount of waste it accepts and processes from 24,750 tonnes per annum (tpa) to 30,000 tpa.

There are no physical interventions, alterations or changes to the operational processes proposed. The licensee has not proposed any increase in emission limit values to emissions to air, water or noise.

It is noted that the licensee has requested the retention of R03, R04 and R05 recovery operations at the facility. R03, R04 and R05 recovery operations are recommended to be refused in the RD for the following reason:
R12 and R13 recovery operations refer to pre-treatment operations which are carried out at the facility. The R12 and R13 recovery operations must be followed by one of the other recovery operations, which are deemed to be final treatment. The recovery

operations R03, R04 and R05 are deemed to be final treatment. As there is no biological treatment, recycling/reclamation of metals and compounds or recycling/ reclamation of other inorganic materials carried out at the facility R03, R04, R05 recovery operations are deemed to be not necessary for the operation of the facility.

3. Planning Status

A number of planning applications have been made by the licensee for the area within the facility boundary. Details of these relevant planning applications and permissions have been provided in the application form. Tipperary County Council granted permission to increase the capacity at Bord na Móna Limited from 24,750 tonnes to 30,000 tonnes per annum on 07/08/2018.

The licensee has submitted the EIAR associated with planning permission reference number 18600607.

The Agency has had regard to the reasoned conclusions reached by the planning authority in undertaking its environmental impact assessment of the activity.

4. EIA Screening

In accordance with Section 40(2A) of the Waste Management Act 1996, as amended (hereafter referred to as the Waste Management Act), the Agency must ensure that before a licence or revised licence is granted, that the application is made subject to an environmental impact assessment (EIA), where the activity meets the criteria outlined in Section 40(2A)(b) and 40(2A)(c).

In accordance with the EIA Screening Determination, the Agency has determined that the activity is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, and accordingly is carrying out an assessment for the purposes of EIA.

This determination has been made having regard to the following:

The activity exceeds the following threshold in Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended.

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

An EIAR was submitted to the Agency as part of the application on 26 October 2018. This is dealt with in the EIA Section later in this report.

5. Best Available Techniques

I consider that the applicable BAT requirements are addressed through the technologies and techniques as described in the application, as well as the conditions and limits specified in the RD.

6. Emissions

6.1 Emissions to Air

This section addresses emissions to air from the facility and the environmental impact of those emissions.

6.1.1 Channelled Emissions to Air

There are no main channelled to air emissions at the facility.

6.1.2 Dust

All waste treatment processes with the potential to cause dust nuisance will continue to be carried out in enclosed buildings. Dust generation is associated mainly with vehicle movements within the facility during dry weather, the unloading and movement of waste, and dust escaping through open shutter doors on the waste building.

Dust monitoring at the facility was undertaken by the licensee for periods 01/03/2023 to 06/04/2023, 05/05/2023 to 07/06/2023, 13/07/2023 to 16/08/2023 and 23/11/2023 to 16/08/2023. The dust monitoring report submitted to the EPA on 24/07/2024 states that "*There were 5 exceedances out of the 16 samples collected during the year. Four of these likely resulted from the presence of algae in the dust containers with one of these also located adjacent to hedge cutting on the public road.*" The report proposes *"that future monitoring during these periods will use algal inhibitors to suppress algal growth."* There have been no history of dust complaints in 2024 at the facility.

The RD includes the following to control the potential impact of additional waste acceptance on dust emissions to air:

- All waste processing and storage is to take place inside buildings.
- Dust curtains (or equivalent approved by the Agency) shall be maintained on the entry/exit points and all doors in units shall be kept closed when not in use for vehicle movement.
- Fast action roller shutter doors installed on all entry/exit points used by waste vehicles.
- All vehicles delivering waste to and removing waste and materials from the facility are appropriately covered.
- In dry weather, site roads and other areas used by vehicles to be sprayed with water to minimise dust emissions.
- Condition 6 of the RD requires the licensee to prepare, maintain and implement a programme for the identification and reduction of diffuse emissions using an appropriate combination of best available techniques.
- The RD includes a limit for dust deposition (*Schedule B.5*) and requires dust deposition monitoring to be carried out on a quarterly basis.

6.1.3 Odour

The main sources of odour are from the acceptance and storage of mixed dry recyclable waste that contains odorous materials, municipal solid waste and the bulking up of biological waste (bio-waste, food waste and garden waste) at the facility for onward movement to other authorised waste facilities/installations. The storage of this waste takes place indoors in the main processing building or in covered bins in the

civic amenity area. There have been no history of odour complaints in recent years at the facility.

Odour management systems currently in place at the facility include:

- Fast action roller shutter doors installed on all entry/exit points used by waste vehicles.
- Regular inspection and cleaning of waste handling areas.
- Fast turnaround times for wastes to prevent the accumulation of large volumes of odour generating waste at the facility.
- All putrescible waste for disposal is removed from the facility within forty-eight hours of its arrival.

The RD specifies the following odour control conditions:

- Condition 3 of the RD requires the licensee to provide adequate measures for the control of odours from the facility, including fast action roller shutter doors.
- Condition 5 of the RD prohibits the licensee from allowing a nuisance to be caused by odour emissions from the facility.
- Condition 6 of the RD requires:
    - All residual, food and other odour-forming waste, other than baled and wrapped waste, to be removed from the facility within 48 hours of its arrival or generation on site, except at Public Holiday weekends. At Public Holiday weekends, this waste shall be removed within 72 hours of its arrival or generation on site.
    - The floors of the waste transfer station and treatment buildings to be cleaned on a weekly basis and on a daily basis where residual, food and other odour-forming waste is handled.
    - An odour survey of the site operations as required by the Agency in accordance with EPA Air Guidance Note 5.
    - The licensee to prepare, maintain and implement, to the satisfaction of the Agency, an Odour Management Plan.
    - Unless otherwise approved by the Agency, all buildings for the storage or treatment of residual, food and odour-forming waste must be maintained at negative air pressure with ventilated gases being subject to treatment as necessary or as specified by the Agency.
- Condition 8 requires that:
    - All waste reception, storage and processing shall be carried out inside a building. Waste must not be stored or handled outdoors, with the exception of the civic amenity area.
    - Bio-waste shall be stored or held only in designated areas at the facility.
    - Maintenance and implementation of a waste and materials storage plan which limits the quantity of waste stored at the facility.

6.2 Emissions to Water/Ground/Sewer

6.2.1 **Emissions to Surface Waters**

There are no direct process discharges to surface water from the facility.

6.2.2 **Emissions to ground/groundwater**

There are no emissions to ground/ground water from the facility.

6.2.3 **Emissions to Sewer**

The wastewater drainage system was upgraded in 2010 to connect to a new municipal sewer running outside the southern site boundary. Sanitary wastewater connects to the outfall from the central wastewater silt trap/oil interceptor and enters the pump sump from where it is pumped via a rising main to the Uisce Éireann foul sewer.

The table below gives details on the facility's emissions at the sewer, the processes which contribute to the emissions, the type of on-site treatment, off-site treatment and the proposed maximum daily flows.

On-site treatment				
Emission Reference	Proposed / Existing	Process Description	Abatement	Proposed max. flow (m^3/day)
SE-1	Existing	All areas with potentially contaminated storm water, central drain in the main processing building, vehicle/bin wash area.	Oil separator, silt trap	5
Off-site treatment				
Name of sewer network/agglomeration: Nenagh, WWDL Register No. D0027-01				
Daily flow rate in network (m^3/day) (2023 AER): Peak hydraulic loading plant capacity as constructed is 12,960 m^3/day. Average hydraulic loading is 7,248.31 m^3/day. Current hydraulic loading (annual max) is 18,250 m^3/day.				
Population equivalent: 11,000 p.e.				
Responsible authority for network/agglomeration: Uisce Éireann (UE)				
Type of treatment: Preliminary (screening), primary (second aeration), secondary (clarification) and tertiary treatment (phosphorus removal).				
Receiving water name (and waterbody type): Nenagh River, Water Framework Directive (WFD) code: IE_SH_25N010700. The WFD status for 2016-2021 is 'moderate' and the WFD risk rating is 'at risk'.				

The Nenagh WWTP discharge was not complaint with the ELV's set in its WWDL for fats, oils and greases in 2022 (AER 2023). The volume of effluent discharged from the facility to the Nenagh WWTP will represent less than 0.07% of the average daily capacity of the plant and therefore, will represent a negligible load on the existing network.

There were four exceedances of ELV's (pH, suspended solids, BOD and COD) in 2024 for discharge to sewer at the facility. These exceedances were reported as incidents to the Office of Environment Enforcement (OEE). These exceedances are currently under investigation by the licensee and OEE.

Uisce Éireann, under Section 52 of the Waste Management Act, gave its consent for the discharges from the facility, specifying certain ELVs, as well as certain other

conditions and monitoring requirements. These ELVs have been incorporated into the RD.

In considering the combination of emission limits proposed for the on-site treatment, and for the Uisce Éireann discharge, it can be considered that the level of treatment of the facility's discharges is equivalent to BAT. Uisce Éireann are required to comply with its Waste Water Discharge Authorisation (D0027-01).

Given the above, it is considered that the recommended ELVs for this discharge to sewer are considered to satisfy the requirements of the WFD, and the Waste Management Act.

6.3 Storm water discharges

The storm water drainage system was upgraded in 2010, with the installation of an oil interceptor and manual shut off valve at the outfall point, which is in the northeast of the site.

The table below gives details on the facility's storm water discharges to waters; the sources of potential contamination of these discharges, the type of on-site abatement as well as details of the receiving water.

Stormwater discharge point details					
Emission Reference	Monitored parameters (monitoring frequency)	Abatement	Drainage areas	Discharging to	Trigger levels established (Y/N)
SW-1	Visual (daily); pH, suspended solids, conductivity (weekly), COD (monthly), total ammonia, mineral oils (quarterly)	Silt trap and Class I oil interceptor (in place)	Non-waste processing areas, weighbridge and building roofs	Drainage ditch which flows to an unnamed tributary of the Ardgregane Stream	No-required by the RD
Automatic diversion in place:	Yes – shut off valve.				

In May 2024, there were elevated levels of total ammonia in the stormwater discharge which was reported to the Agency as an incident. This incident is currently under investigation to identify the reason for the elevated levels of ammonia.

The RD requires the licensee to maintain the storm water management infrastructure. The RD also requires that the storm water discharge is monitored for a range of parameters, in accordance with *Schedule B.6 Storm Water Discharge Monitoring.* Condition 6 of the RD requires the licensee to establish trigger values in storm water discharges in accordance with EPA guidance. The licensee must establish, maintain

and implement a response programme to address any exceedance of the trigger values such that storm waters exceeding these levels will be diverted for retention and suitable disposal.

The RD contains standard conditions in relation to the storage and management of materials and wastes. The RD also requires that accident and emergency response procedures are put in place. The controls pertaining to accidents and emergencies are addressed in Prevention of Accidents section later in this report.

6.4 Noise

The facility is located on the outskirts of Nenagh Town. Dark Road forms the eastern boundary and to the east of this is a partially developed commercial park. The lands to the north and west, are used for agricultural purposes. A local access road forms the southern site boundary and south of this is a service garage and private residences. The nearest private dwelling is 30 m from the south-western boundary, on the opposite side of the public access road.

The main sources of noise are waste transport vehicles (waste offloading, waste handling and vehicle loading) and mobile plant. Noise only occurs during the waste acceptance and operational periods. The building is enclosed with all the waste activities taking place inside the building. The proposed increase in waste to be accepted at the facility will not result in any additional noise sources or changes to noise emissions from the facility.

As part of the existing licence, a noise monitoring survey is carried out annually at four individual facility boundary locations, as well as at two noise sensitive locations outside the boundary. Historical data from these surveys indicate that the facility is consistently compliant with the licence limits. There is no history of noise complaints in recent years at the facility. The requirement to carry out an annual noise survey has been maintained in the RD. The licensee is required to prepare, maintain and implement a noise management plan.

Noise conditions and emission limit values have been included in the RD.

7. Waste generation

Waste generated on site mainly comprises of office waste, canteen waste and paper and packaging. Waste generated from the treatment of waste will be managed as set out in the conditions of the RD.

All hazardous waste received from the civic amenity area will be sent-off-site for treatment to appropriate waste licenced facilities.

8. Energy Efficiency and Resource Use

The operation of the facility involves the consumption of fuel and electricity. The estimated quantities used are given below.

Resource	Quantity per annum
Electricity	50 MWh
Diesel	364,811 litres

Resource	Quantity per annum
Water	1,000 m^3

In the application of BAT, Condition 7 of the licence provides for the efficient use of resources and energy in all site operations. It requires an energy audit to be carried out and repeated at intervals as required by the Agency and the recommendations of the audit to be incorporated into the Schedule of Environmental Objectives and Targets as outlined in Condition 2 of the licence.

9. Prevention of Accidents

A certain amount of accident risk is associated with the licensable activity.

Potential accidents & measures for prevention/limitation of consequences	
Potential for an accident or hazardous/ emergency situation to arise from activities at the facility.	• Potential for fire due to large quantities of waste stored at the facility. • Potential for the release of contaminated firewater, diesel/oil, spillages of materials to the environment. • Malfunction of plant/equipment leading to spills or emissions to air/water.
Preventative/Mitigation measures to reduce the likelihood of accidents and mitigate the effects of the consequences of an accident at the facility.	• The licensee has procedures in place to deal with accidents and emergency situations and prevent and mitigate the associated environmental impacts. • Diesel and oil stored in a fully bunded area. • All storm water drainage from the yards passes through an oil interceptor. • Shut off valve on the storm water discharge. • Maintenance of equipment. • Small quantities of hazardous waste such as batteries, gas canisters, unidentified chemicals are removed from the main waste building and transferred to the quarantine area. • Fire extinguishers and hose reels on-site.
Additional measures provided for in the RD	• Limit on the waste types and quantities accepted at the facility. (Schedule A). • Waste and material storage plan (Condition 8). • Accident prevention and emergency response requirements (Condition 9). • Fire risk assessment (Condition 9) • Integrity of tanks to be assessed every 3 years and maintenance carried out as required (Condition 6). • Storm water discharges to be visually examined (Condition 6). • Firewater retention risk assessment (Condition 3).

Condition 9 of the RD requires procedures to be put in place to prevent accidents with a possible impact on the environment and to respond to emergencies so as to minimise the impact on the environment.

10. Cessation of Activity

A certain amount of environmental risk is associated with the cessation of any licensable activity (site closure). For this facility the licensee has provided a list of measures to be taken in the event of site closure/cessation of activity including:

- Removal of wastes,
- Cleaning and removal of plant and equipment,
- Cleaning of oil storage tanks,
- Clean-out of buildings,
- Empty and clean wastewater storage tank,
- Soil and groundwater assessment, and
- Disconnecting services.

Condition 10 of the RD requires the proper closure of the activity with the aim of protecting the environment.

11. Fit & Proper Person

Technical Ability

The licensee has provided details of the qualifications, technical knowledge and experience of key personnel. The licence application also includes information on the on-site management structure. It is considered that the licensee has demonstrated the technical knowledge required.

Legal Standing

Neither the licensee nor any relevant person has relevant convictions under the EPA Act / the Waste Management Act, or under any other relevant environmental legislation.

The proposed facility was assessed for the requirements of Environmental Liabilities Risk Assessment (ELRA), Closure, Restoration and Aftercare Management Plan (CRAMP) and Financial Provision (FP), in accordance with Agency guidance. Under this assessment it has been determined that ELRA, CRAMP and FP are not required.

Fit & Proper Conclusion

It is my view that the licensee can be deemed a Fit & Proper Person for the purpose of this review.

12. Submissions

There were no submissions made on this application.

13. Consultations

13.1 Cross Office Consultation

OEE Inspectors, Anne Bateman and Aisling Carroll were consulted in relation to this site, and Ann Lyng in relation to financial charges. In general, the OEE have no significant concerns regarding the proposed changes to the licensable activity.

13.2 Transboundary Consultations

There were no transboundary consultations undertaken as there were no transboundary impacts identified.

14. Appropriate Assessment

Appendix 2 lists the European Sites assessed, their associated qualifying interests and conservation objectives.

A screening for Appropriate Assessment was undertaken to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of the site, if the activities, individually or in combination with other plans or projects are likely to have a significant effect on any European Site. In this context, particular attention was paid to the European Site(s) at Silvermines Mountains West SAC (Site Code: 002258), Silvermine Mountains SAC (Site Code: 000939), Bolingbrook Hill SAC (Site Code: 002124), Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC (Site Code: 002241), Lower River Shannon SAC (Site Code: 002165), Keeper Hill SAC (Site Code: 001197), Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA (Site Code: 004058), Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA (Site Code: 004165) and Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA (Site Code: 004168).

The activities are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European Site and the Agency considered, for the reasons set out below, that it can be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the activities, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on any European Site and accordingly determined that an Appropriate Assessment of the activities was not required.

The determination is based on the following:

- This determination was made in light of the scale and nature of emissions to the environment and the distance from the facility to European Sites and their qualifying interests.
- The facility is not located within a European Site.
- European sites and their qualifying interests are determined to be outside of the zone of influence of diffuse dust or noise emissions due to the distance from the facility.
- There are no process emissions to surface water or groundwater from the facility.

15. Environmental Impact Assessment

15.1 EIA Introduction

This assessment is being undertaken in accordance with the requirements of Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment. The application was accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) (see section EIA screening of this report for details.

As part of this environmental impact assessment, I have carried out an examination, analysis and evaluation of all the information provided by the licensee (including the EIAR), the existing licence, Register Number: W0240-01, information received through consultation, the documents associated with the assessments carried out by Tipperary County Council and its reasoned conclusion, and the issues that interact with the

matters that were considered by that authority and which relate to the activity, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. All of the documentation received was examined and I consider that the EIAR complies with the provisions of Article 5 of the 2014 EIA Directive when considered in conjunction with the additional material submitted with the application.

I am satisfied that the information contained in the EIAR has been prepared by competent experts and that the environmental effects arising as a consequence of the activity have been satisfactorily identified, described and assessed.

Having specific regard to EIA, this Inspector's report as a whole is intended to identify, describe and assess for the Agency the likely significant direct and indirect effects of the activity on the environment, as respects the matters that come within the functions of the Agency, for each of the following environmental factors: population and human health, biodiversity, land, soil, water, air and climate, the landscape, material assets and cultural heritage.

This Inspector's report addresses the interaction between those effects and the related development forming part of the wider project. The cumulative effects, with other developments in the vicinity of the activities have also been considered, as regards the combined effects of emissions. In addition, the vulnerability of the activity to risks of major accidents and/or disasters has been considered. The mitigation measures proposed to address the range of predicted significant effects arising from the activity have been outlined. This Inspector's report provides conclusions to the Agency in relation to such effects.

There were no submissions made on this application.

I am satisfied that the public have been given early and effective opportunity to participate in the environmental decision-making process.

15.2 Consultation with Planning Authorities in relation to EIA

Consultation was carried out between Tipperary County Council and the Agency under the relevant section of the EPA Act/Waste Management Act.

Tipperary County Council did not provide any observations to the Agency on the licence application and EIAR.

15.3 Alternatives

The matter of alternatives is addressed in Chapter 3 of the EIAR. Bord na Móna Limited is an existing development and has the capacity to accept and process the increase in waste quantities within the current specification of its current design. The EIAR assesses alternative location and the do nothing alternative. In this regard I consider that the matter of the examination of alternatives has been satisfactorily addressed.

15.4 Likely Significant Direct and Indirect Effects

The likely significant direct and indirect effects of the activities on the following factors as set out in Article 3 of the EIA Directive are considered in this section:

(a) population and human health;

(b) biodiversity, with particular attention to species and habitats protected under Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 2009/147/EC;

(c) land, soil, water, air and climate;
(d) material assets, cultural heritage and the landscape;
(e) the interaction between the factors referred to in points (a) to (d).

15.4.1 **Population & Human Health**

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
Population and human health are addressed in Chapter 13 of the EIAR. The potential direct and indirect effects on population and human health are associated with dust, odour, noise emissions, and accidental emissions. Should emissions cause an exceedance of environmental quality standards this could have implications for population and human health. The effects identified and described above have been assessed in the following section of this report: Emissions to Air, Emissions to Water/Ground/Sewer, Noise, Waste generation, Prevention of Accidents, Cessation and Environmental Impact Assessment.

There is also the potential for accidental emissions to the environment, due to fire, explosion, or spillages. Accidental emissions to air/water/ground could occur if fire, spillages, or leaks, causing deterioration to air and /or water quality in the vicinity of the facility. This is addressed in Prevention of Accidents section of this report.

Cumulative effects of the activity in relation to population and human health have been assessed and is considered that there is not likely to be a significant cumulative effect from the activity and other activities/developments. There are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring
Mitigation measures and monitoring in relation to population and human health are detailed in the following sections of this report: Emissions to Air, Emissions to Water/Ground/Sewer, Noise, Waste Generation, Prevention of Accidents.

Conclusions
I have examined all the information on population and human health, provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects in terms of population and human health.

15.4.2 **Biodiversity**

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
Biodiversity is addressed in Chapter 9 of the EIAR. The EIAR describes the habitats and species at and in the vicinity of the facility. Bord na Móna is an existing development and the entire facility, including the floors of the buildings and the open yard areas, is paved with concrete. According to the EIAR "*These are classified as BL3 Buildings and artificial surfaces. There is a mature treeline which is a mix of coniferous and deciduous species along the eastern, northern and western boundaries and although the stretches are less than 5 m in height are classified as WL2 Treelines*". The land to the north and west is used for animal grazing and is classified as GA 1 Improved agricultural grassland. The land to the east and south is occupied by local roads, private residences and a commercial park and are classified as BL3 Buildings

and artificial surfaces. The licensee also submitted an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report (Refer to the Appropriate Assessment section of this report). Section 9.3.2 states that although the flow in the drainage ditch at the north-east corner of the site is rainfall dependent and at the time of the site inspection was dry, with no evidence of wetland vegetation, it is assumed that it will support such flora further downstream and on this basis is classified as FW4 Drainage ditch.

The potential direct and indirect effects on biodiversity are related to effects on aquatic flora and fauna and their habitats due to effects on water quality, disturbance to fauna due to noise emissions, and effects due to air emissions. The effects identified and described above have been assessed in the following sections of this report: Emissions to Water/Ground/Sewer, Emissions to Air, Noise and Appropriate Assessment.

There is also the potential for accidental emissions to the environment, due to fire, explosion, or spillages which may impact biodiversity. Accidental emissions to air/water/ground/sewer could occur if fire, spillages, or leaks, causing deterioration to air and /or water quality in the vicinity of the facility. This is addressed in Prevention of Accidents section of this report.

Cumulative effects of the activity in relation to biodiversity have been assessed and it is considered that there is not likely to be a significant cumulative effect from the activity and other activities/developments. There are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring
Mitigation measures and monitoring in relation to biodiversity are detailed in the following sections of this report: Emissions to Air, Emissions to Water/Sewer/Ground, Noise, Waste Generation, Prevention of Accidents.

Conclusions
I have examined all the information on biodiversity, provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects in terms of biodiversity.

15.4.3 **Land and Soil**

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
Land and soil are addressed in Chapter 7 of the EIAR. The facility is located on the outskirts of Nenagh Town. Dark road forms the eastern boundary and to the east of this is a partially developed commercial park. The lands to the north and west, are used for agricultural purposes. A local access road forms the southern site boundary and south of this is a service garage and private residences. The nearest private dwelling is 30 m from the south-western boundary, on the opposite side of the public access road. The subsoil beneath the site is limestone till. The bedrock beneath the site comprises massive unbedded lime-mudstone of the Waulsortian Formation.

The potential direct and indirect effects on land and soil are associated with emissions to air, emissions to water, accidental emissions. Should emissions cause an

exceedance of environmental quality standards this could have implications for land and soil. The effects identified and described above have been assessed in the following section of this report: Emissions to Air, Emissions to Water/Ground/Sewer, Prevention of Accidents.

There is also the potential for accidental emissions to the environment. Accidental emissions to water/ground could occur if fire, spillages, or leaks, causing deterioration to air and /or water quality in the vicinity of the facility. This is addressed in Prevention of Accidents section of this report.

Cumulative effects of the activity in relation to land and soil have been assessed and is considered that there is not likely to be a significant cumulative effect from the activity and other activities/developments. There are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring
Mitigation measures and monitoring in relation to land and soil are detailed in the following sections of this report: Emissions to Air, Emissions to Water/Sewer/Ground, Prevention of Accidents.

Conclusion
I have examined all the information on land and soil, provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects on land and soil.

15.4.4 Water (including Waste Water, Emissions to Sewer, Storm Water, Emissions to Ground)

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
Water is addressed in Chapter 8 of the EIAR. There are no direct process discharges to surface water from the facility. Floor washdown water, drainage from waste storage and the vehicle/bin wash area is discharged to sewer. The potential direct and indirect effects on water relate to emission to sewer, storm water emissions/discharges. Should the emissions cause an exceedance of Water Quality Standards in the receiving water, this could have potential effects on water quality, aquatic biodiversity and human health. The effects identified and described above have been assessed in the following section of this report: Emissions to Water/Ground/Sewer.

There is also the potential for accidental emissions to water or groundwater, which could occur if oils/fuels spilled, release of contaminated firewater, bunds failed and damaged hardstanding created a pathway to surface water or ground, potentially affecting soil and groundwater quality as well as aquatic habitats. However, the likelihood of accidental emissions to water is considered low in light of the measures outlined in the "Prevention of Accidents" section above and in light of the conditions in the RD. This is addressed in Prevention of Accidents section of this report.

Cumulative effects of the activity in relation to water have been assessed and is considered that there is not likely to be a significant cumulative effect from the activity

and other activities/developments. There are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring

Mitigation measures and monitoring in relation to water are detailed in the following sections of this report: Emissions to Water/Sewer/Ground and Prevention of Accidents.

Conclusions

I have examined all the information on water (including Emissions to Sewer and storm water) provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects on water.

15.4.5 **Noise**

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects

Noise is addressed in Chapter 11 of the EIAR. The facility is located on the outskirts of Nenagh Town. Dark road forms the eastern boundary and to the east of this is a partially developed commercial park. The lands to the north and west, are used for agricultural purposes. A local access road forms the southern site boundary and south of this is a service garage and private residences. The nearest private dwelling is 30 m from the south-western boundary, on the opposite side of the public access road. The potential direct and indirect effects of noise associated with the operation of the activity are waste transport vehicles (waste offloading, waste handling and vehicle loading) and mobile plant.

Noise arising from the facility could have the potential to cause nuisance for those living near the activity or to affect noise sensitive species. The effects have been assessed in the noise section of this report.

There is also the potential for accidental noise emissions due to a fire, causing nuisance in the surrounding area. This is addressed in Prevention of Accidents section of this report.

Cumulative effects of the activity in relation to noise has been assessed and is considered that there is not likely to be a significant cumulative effect from the activity and other activities/developments. There are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring

Mitigation measures and monitoring in relation to noise is detailed in the following section of this report: Noise.

Conclusions

I have examined all the information on noise provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation

of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects in terms of noise.

15.4.6 **Air (including Dust and Odour)**

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
Air is addressed in Chapter 10 of the EIAR. The potential direct and indirect effects on air, including dust and odour are associated with emissions from the acceptance, processing and storage of household, commercial and C&D waste and vehicular movement. Should emissions cause an exceedance of Air Quality Standards this could have implications for air quality, population and human health and biodiversity within and beyond the facility boundary. General site dust and odour emissions have the potential to impact human health and cause nuisance. The effects identified and described above have been assessed in the following section of this report: Emissions to Air and Prevention of Accidents.

There is also the potential for accidental emissions to the environment, due to incorrect storage of waste, waste deliveries, fire or explosion causing the release of pollutants including dust and odour causing significant impact or nuisance to the environment beyond the site boundary on sensitive receptors. This is addressed in Prevention of Accidents section of this report.

Cumulative effects of the activity in relation to air have been assessed and is considered that there is not likely to be a significant cumulative effect from the activity and other activities/developments. There are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring
Mitigation measures and monitoring in relation to air are detailed in the following sections of this report: Emissions to Air and Prevention of accidents.

Conclusions
I have examined all the information on Air (including Dust and Odour) provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects in terms of Air (including Dust and Odour).

15.4.7 **Climate**

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
Chapter 5 of the EIAR addresses Climatic Factors. Climate change is a significant global issue which affects weather and environmental conditions (air, water and soil) which consequently affects population and human health, material assets, cultural heritage, the landscape and biodiversity. Climate change is caused by warming of the climate system by enhanced levels of atmospheric greenhouse gases (GHG) due to human activities. GHG's are carbon dioxide (CO_2), methane (CH_4), nitrous oxide (N_2O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), nitrogen trifluoride (NF_3) and sulphur hexafluoride (SF_6).

The Irish Government published "*Ireland's Climate Action Plan 2024* (Climate Action Plan 2024) on 2 December 2023 (updated on 15 August 2024), under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, which will support Ireland's transition to Net Zero, and achieve a climate neutral economy by no later than 2050. Enhanced food waste segregation including separate collection of bio-waste from all households required from the start of 2024, collection and treatment (anaerobic digestion and composting) and implementation of waste policy measures will guide our transition to a circular economy are identified in the Climate Action Plan.

The granting of a revised licence to Bord na Móna to increase the annual waste acceptance threshold from 24,750 to 30,000 tonnes per annum will result in the bulking up of wastes to transport to other authorised facilities/installations for further treatment including biodegradable waste (garden waste, food waste and brown bin waste). The biodegradable waste is sent to composting or anerobic digestion plants for further treatment. Anaerobic digestion is specifically mentioned in the Climate Act Plan 2024, with the aim to increasing heat recovery from agri-food residues through a network of anaerobic digestion/biomethane production plants as set out in the National Biomethane Strategy published on 28 May 2024.

The potential direct and indirect effects on climate are from the following sources, electricity consumption and diesel fuel for use in waste vehicles and mobile plant on-site.

The facility does not operate under a GHG Emissions Permit in accordance with the European Communities (Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading) Regulations 2012, (S.I. 490 of 2012 and amendments). Therefore, this site is not subject to the European Communities (Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trading) Regulations 2012, (S.I. 490 of 2012 and amendments). It is therefore a requirement of the IED to investigate how direct emissions of CO_2 might be minimised.

Indirect emissions of CO_2 may arise due to the use of electricity from the national grid. These emissions are covered under the EU ETS at the generating plant but the licensee is also required to address electricity usage as part of energy efficiency management.

In relation to cumulative effects, any combustion process will inevitably produce quantities of gases, including greenhouse gases (GHG), which have the potential to impact on climate. However, it is usually the other combustion gases that negatively impact air quality as opposed to the greenhouse gases. In this assessment, it has already been determined that the emissions from the facility will not significantly affect local air quality, individually or cumulatively.

However, any discussion of GHG emissions must be extended to national and global climate impact. Given the small quantity of climate altering substances that could be released from the activity, in a national context, I consider that the impact of any emissions from the facility on climatic considerations should be minimal.

As part of the non-ETS sector the GHG emissions from this site are covered by Ireland's commitments under the Effort Sharing Decision (Decision No 406/2009/EC) and the Effort Sharing Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2018/842) from 2021. Condition 2 and condition 7 of the RD deal with energy efficiency matters at the facility.

It is considered that the likelihood of accidental emissions occurring which could affect climate is low in light of the measures outlined in the "Prevention of Accidents" section above and the proposed conditions in the RD.

Therefore, there are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring
Mitigation measures and monitoring in relation to climate are detailed in the following sections of the licence assessment part of this report: Emissions to Air, Prevention of Accidents, Energy Efficiency and Resource Use.

Conclusions
I have examined all the information on climatic factors provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable effects in terms of climatic factors.

15.4.8 Material Assets, Cultural Heritage and the Landscape

15.4.8.1 Material Assets (including resource use and waste generation)

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
Chapter 15 of the EIAR addresses Material Assets and Resource Consumption. The potential direct and indirect effects on material assets are the use of natural resources. The activity will require the consumption of diesel and electricity. The amounts used are listed in section 8 of this report. The activity will lead to the generation of office waste, canteen waste and paper and packaging. The use of natural resources by the activity and generation of wastes will not have significant effects in terms of material assets. The increase in waste acceptance will result in an increase in the consumption of diesel and electricity associated with transport and additional waste processing. The effects identified and described above have been assessed in the following section of this report: Waste generation, energy efficiency and resource use and prevention of accidents.

No significant cumulative effects on material assets have been identified.

Material assets such as roads and traffic and built services are dealt with in the decision of the Planning Authority/An Bord Pleanála to grant permission for the development. The Planning Authority/An Bord Pleanála has considered the effect to be acceptable.

Therefore, there are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring
Mitigation measures and monitoring in relation to material assets are detailed in the following sections of the licence assessment part of this report: Waste Generation, Energy Efficiency and Resource Use, Prevention of Accidents.

Material Assets Conclusions
I have examined all the information on Material Assets provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation

of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects in terms of Material Assets.

The planning authority has also identified, described and assessed the likely significant direct and indirect effects of the development on material assets concluding that "*Section 15 of the EIS states that the current operation is not a source of adverse environmental nuisance and impairment of amenities outside the site boundary and has not adversely affected the existing economic activities in the surrounding area. The local road network has the capacity to deal with the additional traffic associated with the development. It will have a slight negative impact in relation to the consumption of fossil fuels. It will have an ongoing slight positive socio-economic and economic benefit associated with increasing recyling rates and maintaining local employment".*

15.4.8.2 Cultural Heritage

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
The potential direct and indirect effects on cultural heritage are addressed in Chapter 14 of the EIAR. Any loss of archaeological or architectural heritage could impact negatively on human beings. These matters are dealt with in the decision of the planning authority to grant planning permission for the developments on site and the planning authority has considered the effect to be acceptable.

There is no evidence that the site is of any archaeological or cultural significance and there are no recorded monuments or buildings or sites of cultural heritage on site. There are 42 listed monuments within 1.5 km of the site. The site is not in or adjacent to any Zone of Archaeological Potential listed in the County Development Plan. It is very difficult to envisage any pathway by which emissions from the operation of the activity could impact any feature which might be present.

No significant cumulative effects on the cultural heritage have been identified. Therefore, there are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring
There are no specific mitigation measures or monitoring proposed in the RD.

Cultural Heritage Conclusions
The planning authority has identified, described and assessed the likely significant direct and indirect effects of the development on cultural heritage concluding that "*In terms of the impact on these it is considered that as there is no record of any archaeological feature, protected structure, or cultural heritage feature within the site boundary and it is not in a designated Architectural Conservation Area there will be no impact on same."*

The Recommended Decision does not propose to include any additional mitigation measures in relation to cultural heritage.

15.4.8.3 The Landscape

Identification, Description and Assessment of Effects
The potential direct and indirect effects on the landscape are addressed in Chapter 12 of the EIAR. Any disturbance of the landscape has the potential to impact on human beings and their enjoyment of the surrounding area due to visual impacts. These matters are dealt with in the decision of the planning authority to grant planning

permission for the developments on site and it has considered the effects to be acceptable.

The facility is located on the outskirts of Nenagh Town. Dark road forms the eastern boundary and to the east of this is a partially developed commercial park. The lands to the north and west, are used for agricultural purposes. A local access road forms the southern site boundary and south of this is a service garage and private residences. The nearest private dwelling is 30 m from the south-western boundary, on the opposite side of the public access road. Emissions from the operation of the activity will not affect the landscape of the area.

No significant cumulative effects on the landscape have been identified

Therefore, there are no likely significant direct, indirect or cumulative effects identified.

Mitigation and Monitoring
There are no specific mitigation measures or monitoring proposed in the RD.

The Landscape Conclusions
The planning authority has identified, described and assessed the likely significant direct and indirect effects of the development on the landscape concluding that *"This is assessed and concludes that there will be no additional impact".*

The Recommended Decision does not propose to include any additional mitigation measures in relation to landscape.

Overall Conclusions for Material Assets, Cultural Heritage and the Landscape
I have examined all the information on material assets, cultural heritage and the landscape provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects in terms of Material Assets, Cultural Heritage and the Landscape.

15.4.9 **Interactions Between Environmental Factors**

Interactions of effects are considered in Section 16 of the EIAR. The most significant interactions between the factors as a result of the activity are summarised below:

<u>Population and human health, air noise and traffic</u>
The proposed development has the potential to impact on human beings from air (including dust and odour) and noise emissions, traffic and major accidents. As demonstrated such effects are considered not to be likely or significant.

<u>Population and human health, traffic, Climate and material assets</u>
It is considered that the predicted increases in traffic and resource consumption as a result of the increase in waste accepted at the facility will be of negligible impact on climate, air quality, resource consumption, and human beings. As demonstrated such effects are considered not to be likely or significant.

Conclusions

I have considered the interaction between population and human health, biodiversity, land, soil, water, air, climate, landscape, material assets, cultural heritage and the interaction of the likely effects identified throughout this report. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects in terms of the interaction between the foregoing environmental factors.

15.4.10 Vulnerability of the Project to Risks of Major Accidents and or Disasters

The EIAR describes the expected effects deriving from the vulnerability of the activity to risks of major accidents and/or disasters that are relevant to the activity. Flooding is dealt with in Chapter 8 of the EIAR. The EIAR states "*The OPW map (Figure 8.5) indicates that areas in the vicinity of the site are not at risk from flooding. The area has not been included in the National Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) and Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) databases." Safety and Hazard Control and* Accidents and Emergencies is dealt with in Chapter 4.17 and 4.18 of the EIAR respectively. According to the EIAR the licensee has prepared an Emergency Response procedure. The risks of accidents associated with the activities are dealt with in Prevention of Accidents section of this Inspectors Report.

Mitigation and Monitoring
Below are the mitigation and monitoring measures in relation to the vulnerability of the project to risks of major accidents and disasters specified in the RD and section 9 of this report.

Conclusions
I have examined all the information on major accidents and/or disasters provided by the licensee, received through consultations, as well as considering any supplementary information, where appropriate. I am satisfied that the potential effects identified will be avoided, managed and mitigated by the measures identified and through the proposed conditions of the Recommended Determination/Decision. I am, therefore, satisfied that the operation of the activity is not likely to have any unacceptable direct or indirect effects as a result of major accidents and/or disasters.

15.5 Reasoned Conclusion on the significant effects

Having regard to the examination of environmental information contained above, and in particular to the content of the EIAR and supplementary information provided by the licensee, in the course of the application, it is considered that the potential significant direct and indirect effects of the activities on the environment are as follows:

- Emissions to air from odour
- Noise emissions
- Accidental leakages or spills
- Major accidents and disasters (e.g. fire).

Having assessed those potential effects, I have concluded as follows:

- Emissions to air from odour sources will be mitigated through: implementing monitoring, maintenance and control measures.
- Noise emissions will be mitigated through: imposing daytime, evening-time and

night-time noise limits at noise-sensitive locations and implementing monitoring, maintenance and control measures; and

- Accidental leakages or spills will be mitigated through: the use of an oil interceptor and holding tank, inspection and maintenance of bunds and tanks, and accident and emergency requirements specified in the licence.
- Major accidents and disasters will be mitigated through: accident and emergency requirements specified in the licence implementing monitoring, maintenance and control measures.

Having regard to the effects (and interactions) identified, described and assessed throughout this report, I consider that the monitoring, mitigation and preventative measures proposed will enable the activities to operate without causing environmental pollution, subject to compliance with the Decision. The conditions of the RD and the mitigation measures proposed will significantly reduce the likelihood of accidental emissions occurring and limit the environmental consequences of an accidental emission should one occur.

16. EPA Charges

The annual enforcement charge recommended in the RD is €8,497, which reflects the anticipated enforcement effort required and the cost of monitoring. This is the same enforcement charge as already set out for 2024 for the facility.

17. Recommendation

The Agency, in considering an application for a licence or the review of a licence, shall have regard to Section 40 of the Waste Management Act. The Agency shall not grant a licence or revised licence unless it is satisfied that emissions comply with relevant emission limit values and standards prescribed under regulation. In setting such limits and standards, the Agency must ensure they are established based on the stricter of both the limits and controls required under BAT, and those required to comply with any relevant environmental quality standard. The Agency shall perform its functions in a manner consistent with Section 15 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 as amended.

The RD specifies the necessary measures to provide that the facility shall be operated in accordance with the requirements of Section 40(4) of the Waste Management Act, and has regard to the AA Screening and EIA. The assessment is consistent with Section 15 of the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 as amended. The RD gives effect to the requirements of the Waste Management Act, and has regard to submissions made.

This report was prepared with the assistance of Joe Reilly.

I recommend that a Proposed Determination be issued subject to the conditions and for the reasons as drafted in the RD.

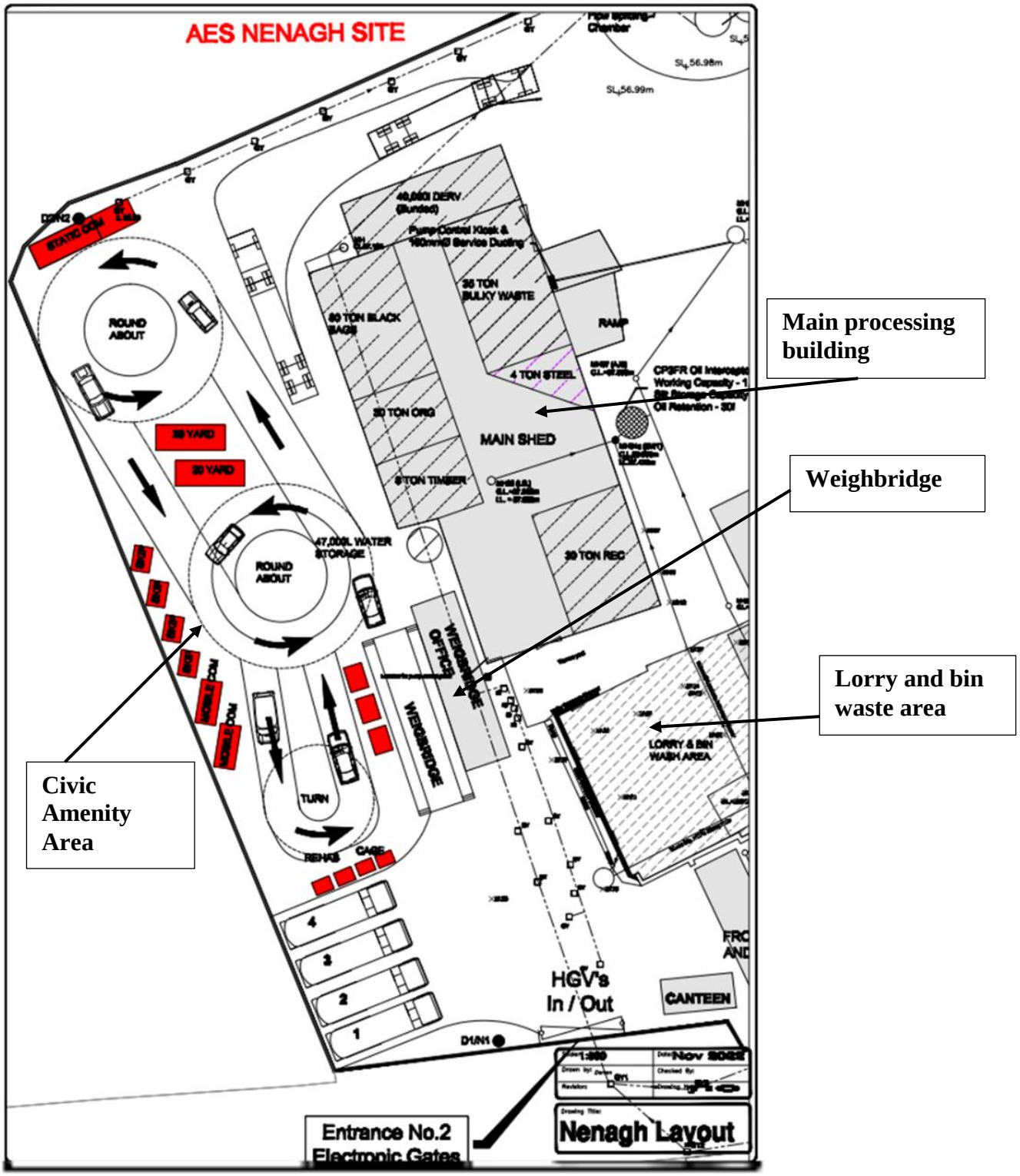
Signed

Jennifer Cope

Jennifer Cope
Inspector

Procedural Note
In the event that no objections are received to the Proposed Decision on the application, a licence will be granted in accordance with Section 43(1) of the Waste Management Act, as soon as may be after the expiration of the appropriate period.

Appendix 1 Site Layout



(Source: Article 14 reply of the waste application)

Appendix 2 Appropriate Assessment

List of European Sites assessed, their associated qualifying interests and conservation objectives.

Site Name (site code)	Qualifying Interests (* denotes a priority habitat)	Conservation Objectives
Silvermines Mountains West SAC (002258)	**Habitats** 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* 4030 European dry heaths 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae*	NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Silvermines Mountains West SAC 002258. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Silvermine Mountains SAC (000939)	**Habitats** 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* 6230 Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)*	NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives: Silvermine Mountains SAC 000939. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Bolingbrook Hill SAC (002124)	**Habitats** 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* 4030 European dry heaths 6230 Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas, in Continental Europe)*	NPWS (2018) Conservation Objectives: Bolingbrook Hill SAC 002124. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC (002241)	**Habitats** 5130 Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands 7210 Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae** 7230 Alkaline fens 8240 Limestone pavements* 91E0 Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)** 91J0 *Taxus baccata* woods of the British Isles*	NPWS (2019) Conservation Objectives: Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC 002241. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Lower River Shannon SAC (002165)	**Habitats** 1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time 1130 Estuaries 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	NPWS (2012) Conservation Objectives: Lower River Shannon SAC 002165. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.

Site Name (site code)	Qualifying Interests (* denotes a priority habitat)	Conservation Objectives
	1150 Coastal lagoons* 1160 Large shallow inlets and bays 1170 Reefs 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts 1310 *Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*) 1410 Mediterranean salt meadows (*Juncetalia maritimi*) 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculion fluitantis* and *Callitricho-Batrachion* vegetation 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*) 91E0 Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae*)* **Species** 1029 Freshwater Pearl Mussel *(Margaritifera margaritifera)* 1095 Sea Lamprey *(Petromyzon marinus)* 1096 Brook Lamprey *(Lampetra planeri)* 1099 River Lamprey *(Lampetra fluviatilis)* 1106 Salmon *(Salmo salar)* 1349 Common Bottlenose Dolphin *(Tursiops truncatus)* 1355 Otter *(Lutra lutra)*	
Keeper Hill SAC (001197)	**Habitats** 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* 7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog)	NPWS (2017) Conservation Objectives: Keeper Hill SAC 001197. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.
Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA (004058)	**Birds** A017 Cormorant *(Phalacrocorax carbo)* A061 Tufted Duck *(Aythya fuligula)* A067 Goldeneye *(Bucephala clangula)* A193 Common Tern *(Sterna hirundo)*	NPWS (2024) Conservation objectives: Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA 004058. Version 1.0. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Site Name (site code)	Qualifying Interests (* denotes a priority habitat)	Conservation Objectives
	Habitats Wetlands	
Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA (004165)	**Birds** A082 Hen Harrier *(Circus cyaneus)*	NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives: Slievefelim to Silvermines Mountains SPA 004165. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA (004168)	**Birds** A082 Hen Harrier *(Circus cyaneus)* A098 Merlin *(Falco columbarius)*	NPWS (2022) Conservation Objectives: Slieve Aughty Mountains SPA 004168. Version 1. National Parks and Wildlife Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

Appendix 3 Relevant Legislation

The following European instruments are regarded as relevant to this application assessment and have been considered in the drafting of the Recommended Determination.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive (2011/92/EU as amended by 2014/52/EU)
Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) & Birds Directive (79/409/EC)
Water Framework Directive [2000/60/EC]
Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)
Air Quality Directives (2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC)
Energy Efficiency Directive (2018/2002/EU)
Environmental Liability Directive (2004/35/CE)

Appendix 4 Other CIDs/BREF/BAT documents relevant to this assessment

National BAT notes	Publication date
Final draft BAT Guidance Note on Best Available Techniques for the Waste Sector: Waste Transfer and Materials	December 2011