

Board Direction BD-015353-24 ABP-315424-22

The submissions on this file and the Inspector's report were considered at a Board meeting held on 06/02/2024.

The Board decided to grant permission generally in accordance with the Inspector's recommendation, for the following reasons and considerations, and subject to the following conditions.

Reasons and Considerations

Having regard to the permitted established use of the site, which is subject to licensing by the Environmental Protection Agency, and to the provisions of the Meath County Development Plan 2021 – 2027 it is considered that the proposed extension to the existing composting facility, subject to compliance with the conditions set out below, would not seriously injure the residential or visual amenities of the area, would not be prejudicial to public health, would not give rise to a traffic hazard and would be in accordance with both national and regional policy in relation to waste management. The proposed development would, therefore, be in accordance with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

Environment Impact Assessment Screening

The Board accepted and adopted the conclusion of the Inspector that, by reason of the nature, scale and location of the subject site, the proposed extension to the existing composting facility would not be likely to have significant effects on the environment and that that the preparation and submission of an environmental impact assessment report would not, therefore, be required in this case.

Appropriate Assessment Screening

The Board completed an Appropriate Assessment screening exercise in relation to the potential effects of the proposed development on European Sites, taking into account the nature and scale of the proposed development on serviced lands, the nature of the receiving environment, the distances to the nearest European sites and the hydrological pathway considerations, submissions and observations on file, the information and reports submitted as part of the subject application, and the Planning Inspector's report. In completing the screening exercise, the Board agreed with and adopted the report of the Planning Inspector and that, by itself or in combination with other development, plans and projects in the vicinity, the proposed development would not be likely to have a significant effect on any European Site in view of the Conservation Objectives of such sites, and that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is not, therefore, required.

Conditions

1. The development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the plans and particulars lodged with the application 5th day of October 2022, except as may otherwise be required in order to comply with the following conditions. Where such conditions require details to be agreed with the planning authority, the developer shall agree such details in writing with the planning authority prior to commencement of development and the development shall be carried out and completed in accordance with the agreed particulars.

Reason: In the interest of clarity.

 The development shall comply with all relevant conditions of the previous grants of permission P.A Ref. KA/30304, ABP PL208236 and P.A. Ref KA/901007, ABP PL17.236333

Reason: In the interests of orderly development.

3. This permission is for the composting of waste with a maximum intake of 50,000 tonnes per annum.

Reason: In the interest of clarity and orderly development.

4. Mitigation and monitoring measures outlined in the plans and particulars, including the Planning and Environmental Considerations Report shall be carried out in full, except where otherwise required by conditions attached to this permission.

Reason: In the interest of protecting the environment and in the interest of public health.

5. The proposed extension shall be used only as a compost-making facility in conjunction with the existing structure and shall not be used for any other waste processing activity or any other class of use contained in Part 4 of Schedule 2 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 or any other amending, unless authorised by a separate and specific grant of planning permission.

Reason: To limit the proposed development to the terms of the application, having particular regard to the location of the site in a rural area.

6. All sludges, compost and intermediary products shall be stored indoors. No composting materials shall be stored outdoors.

Reason: To safeguard the amenities of the area.

7. All waste for composting, brought to the site, and all composting materials leaving the site shall be delivered and taken away in enclosed containers.

Reason: To safeguard the amenities of the area.

8. The external finish to the proposed stack and biofilter walls shall be neutral in colour.

Reason: In the interest of visual amenity.

Board Member

Date: 07/02/2024