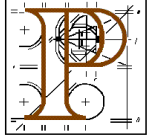


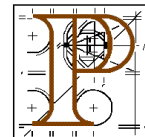
# Record Of Meeting



<b>Case Reference/</b>	29S.PC0203		
<b>Description</b>	Expansion and upgrading of the existing Ringsend Waste Water Treatment Plant, Dublin.		
<b>Case Type:</b>	Pre-app consultation		
<b>Meeting:</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>		
<b>Date:</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> February, 2016	11a.m.	
<b>Location:</b>	Board's offices		
<b>Chairperson:</b>	Anne Marie O'Connor		

<b>Attendees:</b>
<b>Representing An Bord Pleanála</b>
Anne Marie O'Connor – Assistant Director of Planning
Paul Caprani – Senior Planning Inspector
Marcella Doyle – Senior Executive Officer
Kieran Somers – Executive Officer
<b>Representing Prospective Applicant</b>
Donal O'Connor, Irish Water
Dominic Moloney, Irish Water
Niall Riordan, Irish Water
John Collins, Irish Water
Ken McIntyre, J.B. Barry and Partners
Gordon Barry, J.B. Barry and Partners
Stephen Little, Stephen Little and Associates

# Record Of Meeting



Arnold Zilverentant, Nereda

The meeting commenced at 11a.m.

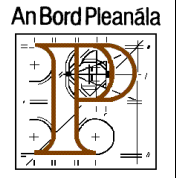
The Board referred to the meetings it has held with representatives from Dublin City Council and the EPA. It also referred to its recent site visit to the existing facility at Ringsend.

## **Presentation on Aerobic Granular Sludge:**

A representative from the company involved in providing Aerobic Granular Technology (known as Nereda) gave a presentation regarding the technology. It first referred to conventional wastewater treatment which, although proven and in existence for over 100 years, has drawbacks in terms of poor sludge settling quality, low biomass concentrations, high energy consumption and high chemical consumption. Aerobic Granular Sludge technology on the other hand has noticeable benefits in terms of its much better settling properties, high biomass concentrations and relatively low energy and chemical consumption. The prospective applicant also pointed out that this technology entails a simple batch design and operation and requires a smaller footprint in terms of construction. The prospective applicant also said that this technology is more robust to external conditions such as low temperatures, toxic shock and changes in pH.

The prospective applicant referred to the current Ringsend Specific Process Proving Program which is being trialled in two steps. The first step is in terms of a containerised unit; the second step is in relation to a full scale, existing SBR cell. Step 1 is currently on-going and extends from April 2015 to June 2016. This phase will provide data to the EPA in respect of the discharge parameters. It will also prove that the technology is appropriate and will meet requirements at the Ringsend facility. The prospective applicant said that this phase has proven to be successful thus far. Step 2 of the Program is currently under construction and commissioning will begin during the summer of 2016. The objectives of this are to demonstrate full scale compliance with future loads and effluent criteria as well as de-risking/optimisation of future retrofit works.

## Record Of Meeting



With reference to the existing Garmerwolde facility in Holland where AGS technology is currently employed, the prospective applicant confirmed to the Board that this WWTP discharges into freshwater. The prospective applicant also referred to the three Nereda AGS facilities in Ireland, namely Clonakilty, Carrigtwohill and Cork Lower Harbour. It said that both Clonakilty and Carrigtwohill are performing well; the facility at Cork Lower Harbour is due to commence operation circa late 2016/early 2017.

### **Presentation on SID consultations:**

The prospective applicant gave a brief overview of the project to date and stated its intention to lodge a formal planning application to the Board circa Q4 of 2016.

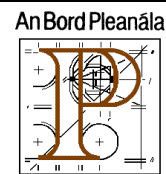
The prospective applicant referred to the consultations it has engaged in to this point. Engagements are on-going with key stakeholders such as Dublin City Council and the EPA, and the prospective applicant is also arranging public consultations. It advised that EIS and NIS scoping documents are being prepared and will be made available for public consultation in mid-March 2016 for a period of 6 to 8 weeks. The prospective applicant also added that parties who made submissions on the previous application (case reference number YA0010) will be directly contacted regarding the current proposal. The prospective applicant outlined the nature and number of meetings held to date with the EPA and Dublin City Council. It also reported that there are on-going consultations with a number of other bodies such as the ESB and Dublin Port.

### **Other matters:**

The Board enquired as to whether the proposed development would be likely to impact on recreational users in the vicinity (i.e. sailing/boating clubs, rowing clubs and walkers). It recommended that such groups should be identified and engaged with at an early stage. The prospective applicant agreed with this and said that its approach will be as broad as possible and although it may not be possible to individually identify all groups at the outset, the public consultation process will be available to any interested parties.

The prospective applicant referred to a list of prescribed bodies who it believes will have to be formally notified of the planning application pursuant to Article 213 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001, as amended. It also referred to other relevant bodies and NGO's who it proposes to consult with.

## Record Of Meeting



### **Conclusion:**

The Board advised the prospective applicant that it now intends to have a meeting with the SID division of the Board to update the Board and elicit any views it might have regarding the proposed development. Following the closure of the public consultation process the Board stated that it would be advisable for the prospective applicant to request a further meeting with the Board.

The Board also indicated that it intends to remain in contact with the EPA, particularly following the Agency's site visit to the facility in Holland taking place in February.

The Board gave the prospective applicant copies of the records of its meetings with Dublin City Council and the EPA. These are for information purposes.

The Board again emphasised to the prospective applicant that the EIS to accompany the planning application should be robust and cover all aspects of the proposed development.

The prospective applicant referred to a spur road which it might wish to discuss further with the Board at a later time in respect of the previous permission (YA0010). The Board acknowledged this request, but reminded the prospective applicant that a planning permission cannot be partially implemented and stated that any future application should include all works permitted under YA0010 which the application wished to implement.

The prospective applicant indicated that it may be lodging a section 146B request to the Board shortly in connection with the temporary construction access.

The meeting concluded at 12.15p.m.

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**Anne Marie O'Connor**

**Assistant Director of Planning**