



An
Bord
Pleanála

Record of Meeting 17.PC0223

Case Reference / Description	17.PC0223 Increased acceptance of non-hazardous waste for recovery and disposal, Knockharley Landfill, Co. Meath.		
Case Type	Pre-application consultation		
Meeting	Meeting with Eastern-Midlands Regional Waste Office		
Date	20/07/17	Start Time	11 a.m.
Location	Offices of EMRWO	End Time	11.45 a.m.
Chairperson	Philip Green	Executive Officer	Kieran Somers

Attendees		
Representing An Bord Pleanála		
Staff Member	Email Address	Phone
Philip Green, Assistant Director of Planning		
Pauline Fitzpatrick, Senior Planning Inspector		
Kieran Somers, Executive Officer	k.somers@pleanala.ie	01-8737107

Representing the EPA		
Hugh Coughlan		
Emma Cassin		

The meeting commenced at 11 a.m.

The Board said that the instant meeting with the EMRWO was an information-gathering exercise from its point of view pursuant to section 37C(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, whereby the Board can consult with any person it considers may have information relevant to the purposes of the consultation under section 37B. A record of the meeting would be taken which would be made public at the closure of the pre application consultation process. A copy of the instant record would be forwarded to the EMRWO.

The Board noted that the function of pre-application consultations generally is to determine whether or not a proposed development would constitute strategic infrastructure, to advise on procedural issues and any other matters pertaining to proper planning and sustainable development which, in the opinion of the Board, might have a bearing on any decision.

The Board set out the progress of pre-application consultations to date. It advised the EMRWO that two meetings have been held with the prospective applicant in relation to PC0223.

With respect to the Knockharley Landfill, the Board set out the constituent elements of the proposed development as follows:

- Increased landfilling of non-hazardous municipal solid waste up to 290,000 tonnes per annum.
- Recovery through long term storage of non-hazardous incinerator bottom ash up to 150,000 tonnes per annum.
- Facility processing building for incinerator bottom ash (IBA) processing or temporary baled municipal solid waste (MSW) storage.
- Leachate treatment/conditioning plant.

The EMRWO was also informed that the prospective applicant had sought formal closure to the pre-application consultation processes. The Inspector's report had been received by the Board, but, by Board Direction dated the 5th May, 2017, the Board had deferred consideration of the case and requested the pre-application consultation team to examine in more detail the planning and environmental authorisations for the permitted Carranstown and Poolbeg Energy from Waste facilities in respect of proposals and requirements for the recovery or disposal of bottom ash; to meet with representatives from the EPA and the EMRWO to discuss their perspective on strategic management of this waste stream in Ireland and as to

whether any relevant considerations arise in terms of the IED licences for the Poolbeg or Carranstown facilities.

As regards bottom ash, the Board noted that the prospective applicant in this pre-application consultation case proposes recovery by way of a dedicated storage area (where it will be stored and available subject to future market conditions).

The representatives from the EMRWO noted that they recently had a meeting with representatives of the prospective applicant.

Noting this, the Board's representatives said that a key area in relation to the need for the proposed development related to dealing with incinerator bottom ash. It was stated that the Board is seeking clarity in this area generally and as to whether there are any existing mechanisms in existence or being proposed for the potential recovery or reuse of this material. The Board noted for the record that it also recently had a meeting with representatives from the EPA in this regard.

With regard to regional plans, the Board enquired as to whether there are any specific references to the potential re-use of this waste stream at present or in the future. The EMRWO replied that the relevant plan does refer to exploring alternatives generally and does broadly support such an approach.

The Board asked if there are any policies at European level which are pertinent. The EMRWO noted that bottom ash has been used abroad with respect to building materials and as aggregate.

The representatives of the EMRWO noted that an end-of-waste status might have to be obtained with respect to such facilities; it added that such a process could potentially be lengthy and would involve a number of stakeholders. It also noted that in the absence of either End of Waste status or technical standards there is currently no substantive opportunity in Ireland for re-use of this material at present.

The Board's representatives asked the EMRWO if it had any opinion on the proposed use of bottom ash at Knockharley (i.e. storage and segregation). The EMRWO said that the viability of any proposed re-use of this material would be dependent on a variety of matters as outlined previously. The EMRWO said that a collective approach would be needed with respect to the development of this particular market. It added that there was no real certainty at present as to how or when the market would develop.

In a general context, it noted that alternative uses and approaches with regard to waste are coming on stream as time progresses.

The EMRWO noted that there are still a number of waste streams, including bottom ash, which currently do not have any alternative uses in Ireland other than export or landfill.

The Board's representatives said that any application consequent to this pre-application consultation process would have to be very clear with regard to volumes of waste and the categories of same which are included in a planning application. The EMRWO agreed with this.

Conclusion:

It was agreed that a copy of the record would be forwarded to the EMRWO. The record will be made available to the prospective applicant and will be on the public record when the pre-application consultation case is formally concluded. The EMRWO also agreed to forward on information relating to bottom ash.

The meeting concluded at 11.45 a.m.

Philip Green**Assistant Director of Planning**