

Conditions for composting and anaerobic digestion in Ireland

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Summary

- Relevant legislation
 - ◆ European
 - ◆ National
- Conditions
- Approval Process

Objectives of 1774/2002

- **Prohibition** of recycling certain animal by-products into the animal feed chain, namely dead animals and other condemned material
- Introduction of a number of **alternative methods** for the use or disposal of animal by-products, **including compost and anaerobic digestion**
- **Link** with Environmental law
- Transposed into Irish Law by SI 248 of 2003

Quick Summary of ABP Law

DIR.90/667/EC

ANIMAL WASTE



ANIMAL
BY-PRODUCTS

High risk
material



Category 1

Category 2

Low risk
material



Category 3

Category 3 Material includes

- Parts of slaughtered animals which are fit for human consumption but are not intended for human consumption for commercial reasons
- Parts of animals, which are rejected as unfit for human consumption but are not affected by any signs of diseases communicable to humans or animals and derive from carcasses that are fit for human consumption
- Food factory waste and waste food from supermarkets
- Fish caught on the open sea and fish offal from fish products plants
- Catering waste, - meaning all waste food including used cooking oil originating in restaurants, catering facilities and kitchens, including central kitchens and household kitchens

Quick- What are they...

- Composting is the breakdown of organic material, such as kitchen or garden waste, by organisms in an aerobic environment.
- Anaerobic Digestion is a biochemical reaction carried out in a number of steps by several types of bacteria

Why are DAF involved?

- European Regulation and amendments, when ABPs enter a facility certain parameters and procedures must be employed.
- Swill Order - Location
- TSE controls – End-Use

Current Situation

- National legislation has been reviewed
 - ◆ SI 707 of 2005
- Final Conditions and guidance notes issued at the end of December 2005
- Approx. 25 facilities applied, some in existence and some planned
- Applications being assessed

Summary of Conditions

- Location, location, location
- Time-Temperature parameters – depend on feedstock:
 - ◆ Cat 3 ABPs
 - ◆ Catering Waste
- Microbiological Samples
- Internal Layout – clean and dirty
- Procedures to prevent cross-contamination

Conditions – continued.....

- Cleaning and hygiene procedures
- Vermin control
- Calibration of equipment
- Record keeping
- HACCP plans
- End – use.

Recent changes in legislation

- Former Foodstuffs
- On-site validation for alternative parameters for ABPs
- End- Use?

Approval Procedures

- Two-stage process:
 - ◆ Notification
 - ◆ Application
- Operators are advised to approach DAF before construction (and preferably before planning permission)
- Assessment directed to location and layout of plant.

Approval – continued...

- Once constructed, second stage – application
- New form and additional information required
- Validation visit aimed at assessing the procedures and management of the plant
- Initial validation to be done centrally by a veterinary inspector

Monitoring of approved plants

- Regular sampling to be done, failures to be reported to DAF
- Unannounced spot checks both from HQ and local officers
- Ongoing monitoring to be done half-yearly by local veterinary inspector
- Approved plants subject to annual HQ inspection

In Summary

- Main legislation now EU Regulation 1774/2002 and its amendments
- Conditions issued and no change likely unless change in EU legislation
- Approvals all being processed so far
- New applicants and notifications welcome at any stage

THE END