

OBTAINING PLANNING, WASTE PERMITS AND/OR WASTE LICENSES

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PLANNING

Planning & Development Act 2000

- **Planning & Development Regulations 2001 to 2003**
(S.I. No. 600 of 2001 & S.I. No. 70 of 2002)
- **Details Planning Process and Procedures**
- **Sets out the Content of the Planning Application**
 - Scale of drawings and location maps
 - Detail to be included on maps and drawings
 - Number of copies
- **Requirement to publish newspaper notice and erect site notices**
- **Sets out timeframes from submission to decision by the planning authority**
 - Submissions or observations within 5 weeks
 - Decision or request for further information within 8 weeks
 - Decision within 4 weeks following receipt of compliant response - 8 weeks if EIS accompanies planning application
- **Procedures for appeal to An Bord Pleanála/Oral Hearing**
- **Planning authority or An Bord Pleanála can refuse permission if development is unacceptable on environmental grounds**



WASTE LICENCE APPLICATION

Waste Management Act 1996 and Waste Management (Amendment) Act 2001

- Waste Management (Licensing) Regulations, 2000
- Amount of compost and waste held at the facility exceeds 1,000m³ at any one time
- Waste Recovery/Disposal Activities (other than landfill)
- Newspaper and site notices required
- Information required to accompany application
 - non-technical summary
 - existing environment, environmental impacts and mitigation measures
 - site design
 - waste acceptance and handling
 - environmental nuisances
 - decommissioning and aftercare
 - management plans
 - environmental monitoring
 - contingency arrangements



WASTE PERMIT

Waste Management (Permit) Regulations, 1998

- Amount of compost and waste held at the facility is less than 1,000m³ at any one time
- Issued by local authorities
- Application form from relevant local authority and give notice of application
- Less onerous than licensing
- Information required
 - Location, nature of facility, classes of activity
 - Description of plant and processes
 - Quantify emissions
 - Identify monitoring and sampling
 - Describe off-site waste handling procedures
 - Measures and emergency procedures to prevent emissions and minimise impacts
- Variation in the degree of information requested and conditions imposed between local authorities
- Annual reporting requirement



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Developments requiring an EIS

- **Schedule 5 of the Planning & Development Regulations**
 - Installations for the disposal of waste with an annual intake greater than 25,000 tonnes....

Information to be contained in an EIS –

- **Schedule 6 of the Planning & Development Regulations**
 - Description of the proposed facility
 - Description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the development
 - Description of the likely significant effects
 - Indication of any difficulties in compiling the information
- **Guidelines on the information to be contained in Environmental Impact Statements. (EPA, 2002).**



RECENT LEGISLATIVE CHANGES

Protection of the Environment Act 2003

- The development plan for the time being in force in relation to the functional area of a local authority shall be deemed to include the objectives for the time being contained in the waste management plan in force in relation to that area
- BAT replaces BATNEEC
- Agency has increased powers to review a waste licence
- The third and fourth Schedules of the Waste Management Act of 1996 have been substituted



KEY STARTING POINTS

Volume Parameters

- Tonnage of waste to be handled
- Source and consistency of waste
- Compost storage space requirements

Technology Choice

- Grade of compost to be produced
- Choice of composting technology
- Suitability/flexibility of composting technology
- Need for pre-processing on site
- Need for compost refinement

Siting Considerations

- Site availability/suitability
- Building sizes and setting
- Site infrastructure

Business Plan

- End-markets/outlets for compost



SHREDDING OF BIOWASTE



WINDROW COMPOSTING



COMPOSTING BAY



SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

Location in relation to sources of waste

Adjoining road infrastructure/site access

Site zoning and planning status

Site availability

Site Area

- **Dependent on technology – outdoor technologies require more area.**
- **Circa~2-3ha including for buildings, site roads, parking, turning circles etc.**

Proximity of houses/sensitive receptors

- **May necessitate handling all waste and compost internally**
- **Need for air collection and treatment**
- **Treatment of process air in scrubbers/biofilters**
- **Design of air management system is critical factor**

Fit with waste management plan for the Region

Potential to construct adjacent to other waste facilities



KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Odour/Bio-aerosols

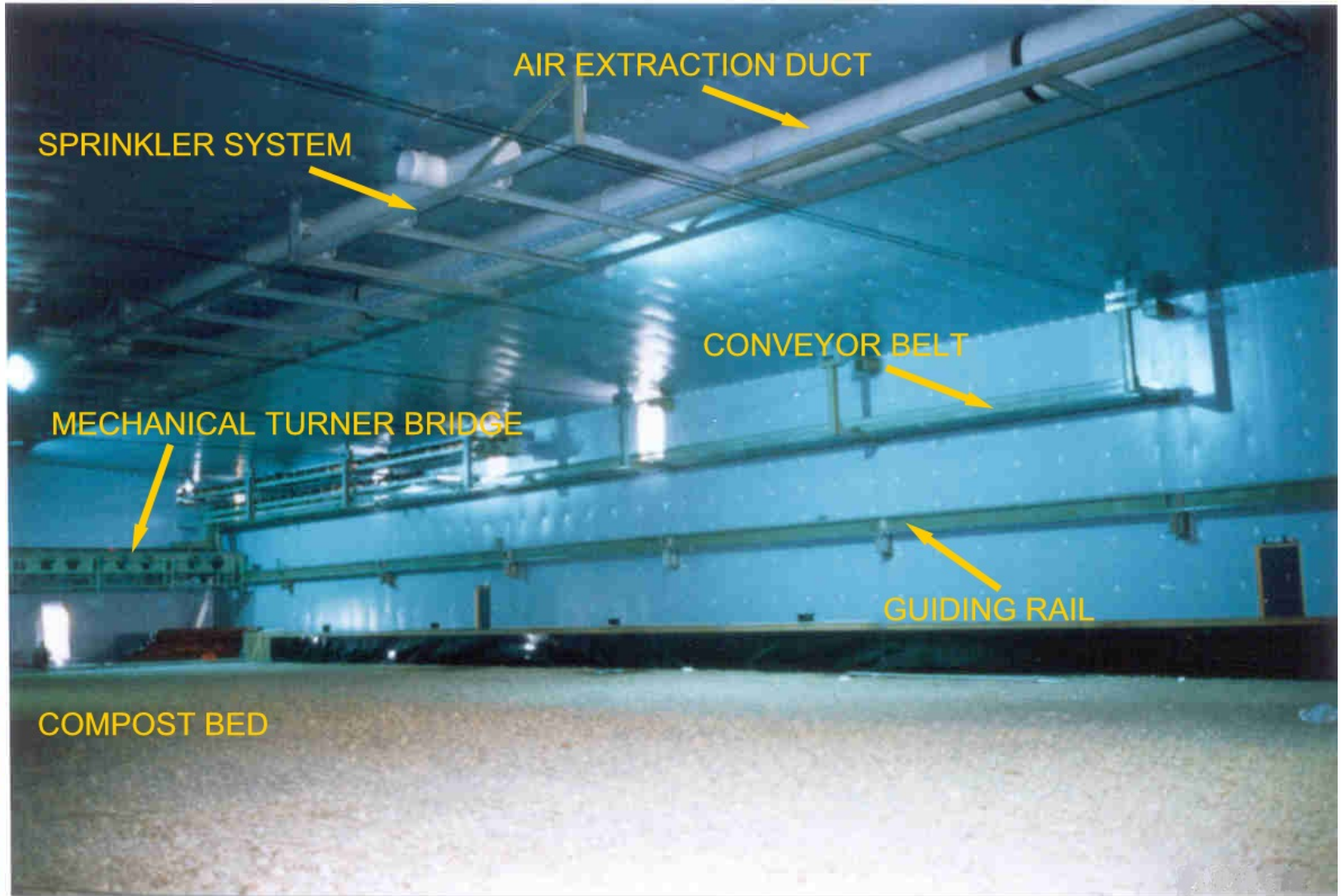
- **Air treatment critical**
 - **Controlled air collection system**
 - **Recirculation of air in aeration system**
 - **Treat excess air with water scrubbers and biofilters**
 - **Covered biofilters with elevated point emission vent**
- **Internal handling of waste and compost under negative pressure**
- **No external storage of compost**
- **Odour Modelling**
 - **Systematic quantification of all odour emissions**
 - **Efficiency of odour removal technologies**
 - **Impact of odour dispersion on the surrounding area using odour contours**
 - **Demonstrate negligible impact on adjacent houses/premises**
 - **Commit to an avoidance of nuisance**



EXTERNAL COMPOST REFINEMENT



COMPOSTING BAY



KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Noise

- **Baseline noise monitoring survey**
- **Identify potential noise sources (plant, equipment and traffic)**
- **Propose noise attenuation measures - suitable building materials, acoustic barriers, combine with landscaping measures**
- **Noise Modelling**
- **Demonstrate negligible impact on nearest houses/premises**



AUTOMATED MECHANICAL COMPOST TURNING WHEEL



KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Visual

- **Compost facilities can be visually intrusive**
- **Building heights of 10-15 m**
- **Footprint of building can be expansive**
 - 10,000 TPA ~ 3,000 m² (75 m * 40 m)
 - 30,000 TPA ~ 6,500 m² (100 m * 65 m)
 - 50,000 TPA ~ 9,000 m² (120 m * 75 m)
- **Avoid visually sensitive areas**
- **Site in industrial areas with similar types/sizes of buildings**
- **Baseline visual assessment**
- **Propose suitable mitigation measures**
 - **Appropriate landscaping measures**
 - **Screening & planting**
 - **Break-up expansiveness of building**
 - **Complement noise attenuation measures**



TUNNEL COMPOSTING



CONTAINER COMPOSTING



OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Traffic

- Traffic can be a significant issue for larger facilities >50,000 tpa
- Traffic due to
 - Haulage of waste into facility
 - Haulage of compost and residues from facility
- Suitable site access and adjacent road infrastructure
- Traffic impact assessment

Water and Wastewater

- Composting systems can provide for net water usage through recirculation
- Need to provide for connection to sewer not critical
- Outdoor systems wastewater control more problematic



PROCESS TO OBTAIN PLANNING PERMISSION/PERMIT/LICENCE

Carry out Feasibility Study

- Identify sources, types and quantities of waste
- Identify preferred site and carry out fatal flaw assessment
- Carry out technology assessment and choice
- Prepare business plan addressing markets and opportunities

Carry of Consultation Process

- Public consultation
- Pre-planning meetings
- Pre-application meeting with EPA

Commence Environmental Baseline Studies

- Can be time consuming
- Can identify difficulties with site



PROCESS TO OBTAIN PLANNING PERMISSION/PERMIT/LICENCE (CONTD.)

Progress design of facility

- Air collection and treatment
- Plant and equipment requirements
- Site layout and building details

Finalise baseline studies

Assess potential impacts

- Refine design of facility
- Include additional mitigation measures
- Finalise applications and EIS where applicable

Publish newspaper adverts and erect site notices

Lodge applications

Requests for further information (Planning authority and EPA)

- Can vary considerably
- Address in a timely and concise manner



CONCLUDING REMARKS

- **Consultant must be familiar with key parameters from start of project**
- **Developer must be flexible with respect to adapting process/operations and site layout**
- **Ongoing open communication between consultant and developer crucial to process**
- **COMMITMENT AND PERSEVERANCE !!!**

