

Anaerobic Digestion

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Legislative Controls

Control Regulation (EC) No 1069/2009 and Implementing Regulation (EC) No. 142/2011 is implemented and enforced in Northern Ireland by:

The Animal By-Products (Enforcement) Regulations (NI) 2011

DARD is the Competent Authority

Types of ABPs that can be used in an AD plant:

Cat 1: can't be used

Cat 2 must be processed (exceptions)

Cat 3 materials – meat plant offal, food waste

Animal By-products

Category 1: High risk material

BSE positive animals

Specified risk material eg brain, spinal cord

Material treated with unapproved treatments

- Can't be used in AD plants

Category 2: Intermediate risk

manure, Gut contents

Milk treated with therapeutic treatments

These can be used without further processing provided CA content there is no risk to animal or public health

Other Cat 2 materials must be processed before use e.g fallen pigs and poultry

Animal By-products

Category 3: Food fit but no longer intended for human consumption

Food beyond its sell by date

Meat plant offals

Milk which is fit but doesn't satisfy quality standards

- Catering waste

Animal By-Products

Current Policy

If the material can be spread directly on land, then approval is not required.

Materials include – Milk – both Cat 3 and Cat 2

manure

Gut contents

Provided that it is considered that there is no risk to Animal or Public health

Regulated by NIEA

EU standard:

Minimum temperature 70C for one hour

Min particle size 12mm

Minimum time 60mins

Parameters only apply to ABPs

Can be before or after process

Catering waste

Authorisations – D6 – on DARD website

Materials produced by kitchens, domestic and commercial

National rules:

Max particle size 5cm 6cm

Min Temperature 57C 70C

Min time 5hrs 1hr

Following treatment the material is stored for an average of 18 days.

Requirements for approval

1. Siteing of the plant – separate from farmyard, separate access if approval for all materials is required

2. Prevent re-contamination – clean, dirty areas

Requirements for approval

3. Materials which can be used
4. Record keeping
5. Sampling of batch – Salmonella, E Coli, Enterococaceae
6. Effect of other disease legislation – TB, brucellosis, salmonella, avian influenza

The Process

- Application to DARD – Form on website
- Inspection of premises
- Checking of parameters – temperature, time, particle size
- 3 month temporary approval
- Full approval.

Useful Websites

- <http://www.dardni.gov.uk/index/animal-health/animal-by-products/animal-by-products-guidance-documents/compost-biogas-manure.htm>
- <http://animalhealth.defra.gov.uk/managing-disease/animalbyproducts/index.htm>

• Thank You