



Ballynagran Landfill Limited

Coolbeg Cross, Co. Wicklow A67 KF53

22/10/21

Please see below response to Non-Compliance NC022474. Response set out as follow: Non-compliance, Licence conditions and Schedules and Ballynagran response.

Damien Holmes

General Manager

Notification received 23/09/21

NC022474: Monitoring

Authorisation:

Ballynagran Residual Landfill

Reg. No.:

W0165-02

Non-Compliance Condition:

8.1 & Schedule D.7

Date of Non-Compliance (1st Date if related to a period):

25/08/2021

Notification Date:

25/08/2021

Description:

Monitoring of bio-stabilised residual waste is not being carried out by the licensee in accordance with Schedule D.7. This is a non-compliance with condition 8.1 & Schedule D.7 of the licence.

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Ballynagran Licence Condition/Schedule

8.1 The licensee shall carry out such monitoring and at such locations and frequencies as set out in *Schedule D: Monitoring* of this licence and as specified in this licence. Where monitoring infrastructure needs to be installed environmental monitoring shall commence no later than two months after its installation.

D.7 Waste Monitoring

Waste class	Frequency	Parameter	Method
Bio-stabilised residual waste	Every 500 tonnes from each source ^{Note 1}	Respiration activity after 4 days	To be agreed by the Agency

Note 1: Frequency can be reduced if an alternative protocol is agreed by the Agency under Condition 1.7.2.



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Response

Ballynagran do not agree that we are in non-compliance with condition 8.1 or Schedule D.7. It appears our interpretation of what is required under the licence differs to that of the EPA. Schedule D.7 does not explicitly say that the monitoring must be carried out at the landfill; it just says that it must be done for every 500t from each source. In 11 years of accepting bio-stabilised residual waste the EPA have never raised the issue of where the sampling takes place.

Ballynagran ensure that one AT4 sample result is provided for each 500t of bio-stabilised residual waste accepted. The sampling is carried out at the source of the bio-stabilised wastes production. It does not make sense to be sampling it for AT4 as it is landfilled as it is too late then; the waste would already be in the landfill and cannot be removed even if it failed the AT4 test. It is better to test it at source. As is also the case for all other landfill sites accepting biostabilised waste.

The sources of the biostabilised waste are all either permitted or licensed and are therefore highly regulated. As the sources of the bio-stabilised residual waste are providing AT4 test results for every 500t they are verifying the process which produces the stabilised waste on an ongoing basis. This should be sufficient to ensure the waste is sufficiently stabilised. Local authorities or the EPA regulate these facilities.

There is currently a working group comprising Dept. of Env., EPA/WERLA and Industry compiling new guidelines on the biostabilisation process including inputs/outputs and sampling requirements. The results of the new guidelines should form the basis for any future enforcement of biostabilised waste accepted to landfill. Therefore, Ballynagran consider this non-compliance untimely as all existing sampling arrangements which have been in place for 11 years have never been subject to a non-compliance before. Until the new guidelines produced by the working group are developed the established method of assessing compliance for the acceptance of biostabilised waste to landfill should be accepted by the EPA.