

Our reference: LIC13/220-01 DOC13/30348  
Contact: Chris Burton 02 6022 0609

The General Manager  
Greater Hume Shire Council  
PO Box 99  
HOLBROOK NSW 2644

Attention: Colin Kane

Dear Mr Pinnuck

**Re DA 42-12/13 – Proposed resource recovery composting facility, Kalawa, Gerogery**

I refer to the development application and accompanying assessment provided for the proposed resource recovery composting operation at Lot 1 DP 174425 and Lot 9 DP 10665, Kalawa, 92 Patterson's Road, Gerogery received by the Environment Protection Authority on 23 October 2012.

The EPA has responsibilities for pollution control and environmental management under the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*. Following a review of the information provided, including the supplementary information received on 13 June 2013 and all public submissions, we are able to issue our General Terms of Approval (GTA) for the proposed development.

The conditions provided at Attachment A relate to the development as proposed in the documents and information provided by Council. Attachment B includes the mandatory conditions that apply to all Environment Protection Licences. Should development consent be granted for this proposal the EPA recommends that these conditions be incorporated into the consent.

In the event that the development is modified either by the applicant prior to the granting of the consent, or as a result of conditions imposed by the determining authority, we request that further consultation occur with us about the proposed changes prior to the consent being issued. This will enable us to determine whether our GTA are required to be modified as a result of any proposed alterations.

In assessing the proposal the EPA has also identified a number of environmental issues that the determining authority may wish to consider in its overall assessment of the application. These are outlined at Attachment C and address the following issues:

1. Commercial and industrial liquid wastes Specific Exemption,
2. Odour,
3. Construction and operational noise, and
4. Contaminated wastewater management.

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DE <del>✓</del>	<del>INFO</del>
DEP ✓	ACTION

Should development consent be granted it will also be necessary for the applicant to apply for an Environment Protection Licence with the EPA for the activities of composting and waste processing (non-thermal treatment) consistent with the development application for the proposal and our GTA.

If you have any further enquiries about this matter further please contact Chris Burton by telephoning 02 6022 0609.

Yours sincerely



BRIAN WILD  
Head Albury Unit  
Environment Protection Authority

*12 July 2013*

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

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Notice No: 1510252

## ATTACHMENT A

### Administrative conditions

#### **A1. Information supplied to the EPA**

**A1.1** Except as expressly provided by these general terms of approval, works and activities must be carried out in accordance with the proposal contained in:

- the development application 42-12/13 submitted to Greater Hume Shire on 8 October 2012;
- the environmental impact statement *Transpacific Cleanaway Organic Composting Facility Volume 1 and Volume 2 dated October 2012* relating to the development.
- the additional information supplied for the odour impact assessment dated 8 March 2013 and subsequently 13 June 2013.

#### **A2. Fit and Proper Person**

**A2.1** The applicant must, in the opinion of the EPA, be a fit and proper person to hold a licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, having regard to the matters in s.83 of that Act.

### Limit conditions

#### **L1. Pollution of waters**

**L1.1** Except as may be expressly provided by a licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 in relation of the development, section 120 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 must be complied with in and in connection with the carrying out of the development.

#### **L5. Waste**

**L5.1** The licensee must not cause, permit or allow any waste to be received at the premises, except the wastes expressly referred to in the column titled "Waste" and meeting the definition, if any, in the column titled "Description" in the table below.

Any waste received at the premises must only be used for the activities referred to in relation to that waste in the column titled "Activity" in the table below.

Any waste received at the premises is subject to those limits or conditions, if any, referred to in relation to that waste contained in the column titled "Other Limits" in the table below.

This condition does not limit any other conditions in this licence.

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

Notice No: 1510252

Code	Waste	Description	Activity	Other
NA	Organic Waste	Natural organic waste as defined in Schedule 1 of the POEO Act, in force from time to time	Composting	NA
NA	Garden Waste	As defined in Schedule 1 of the POEO Act, in force from time to time	Composting	NA
NA		As defined in Schedule 1 of the POEO Act, in force from time to time	Composting	NA
NA	Liquid food waste	Liquid food waste as defined in Schedule 1 of the POEO Act, in force from time to time	Waste Processing Non thermal treatment	NA
NA	Wood waste	Wood waste as defined in Schedule 1 of the POEO Act, in force from time to time	Composting	NA
NA	Grease trap waste	Grease trap interceptor waste as defined in Schedule 1 of the POEO Act, in force from time to time	Waste Processing Non thermal treatment	NA

**L5.2** This condition only applies to the storage, treatment, processing, reprocessing or disposal of waste at the premises if it requires an environment protection licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

## L6. Noise limits

**L6.1** Noise from the premises must not exceed an LAeq (15 minute) noise emission criterion of 35 dB(A) at all times, except as expressly provided by these general terms of approval.

**L6.2** Noise from the premises is to be measured at the most affected point on or within the residential boundary or at the most affected point within 30m of a rural dwelling where the dwelling is more than 30m from the boundary to determine compliance with the LAeq(15 minute) noise limits.

Noise from the premises is to be measured at 1m from the dwelling façade to determine compliance with the LAeq (15 minute) noise level in L6.1.

Where it can be demonstrated that direct measurement of noise from the premises is impractical, EPA may accept alternative means of determining compliance. See Chapter 11 of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy.

The modification factors presented in Section 4 of the NSW Industrial Noise Policy shall also be applied to the measured noise levels where applicable.

**L6.3** The noise emission limits identified in L6.1 apply under meteorological conditions of:

- Wind speeds up to 3 m/s at 10 metres above the ground level; or
- Temperature inversions conditions up to 3°C/100m and wind speeds up to 2m/s at 10 metres above ground level.

## Noise Compliance Monitoring

**L6.4** A noise compliance assessment shall be undertaken within three months of commencement of operations at the premises. The assessment shall be prepared by a suitably qualified and experienced acoustical practitioner and shall assess compliance with noise limits presented in L6.1.

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

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Notice No: 1510252

## Hours of operation

**L6.5** All construction work at the premises must only be conducted between Monday to Friday between 7am and 6pm and Saturday 8am to 1pm, excluding *public holidays*.

**L6.6** Activities at the premises, other than construction work, may only be carried on between 7am and 6pm, Monday to Friday, 8am to 1pm Saturday and at no time on Sunday.

**L6.7** This condition does not apply to the delivery of material outside the hours of operation permitted by condition L6.5 or L6.6, if that delivery is required by police or other authorities for safety reasons; and/or the operation or personnel or equipment are endangered. In such circumstances, prior notification is provided to the EPA and affected residents as soon as possible, or within a reasonable period in the case of emergency.

**L6.8** The hours of operation specified in conditions L6.5 and L6.6 may be varied with written consent if the EPA is satisfied that the amenity of the residents in the locality will not be adversely affected.

## Operating conditions

### ***O1 Potentially offensive odour***

**O1.1** The licensee must not cause or permit the emission of offensive odour beyond the boundary of the premises.

**Note:** Section 129 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, provides that the licensee must not cause or permit the emission of any offensive odour from the premises but provides a defence if the emission is identified in the relevant environment protection licence as a potentially offensive odour and the odour was emitted in *accordance with the conditions of a licence directed at minimising odour*.

**O1.2** No condition of this licence identifies a potentially offensive odour for the purposes of section 129 of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997.

### ***O2. Dust***

**O2.1** The premises must be maintained in a condition which minimises or prevents the emission of dust from the premises.

**O2.2** All activities on the site must be undertaken with the objective of preventing visible emissions of dust beyond the boundary of the premises. Should such visible dust emissions occurs at any time, the licensee must identify and implement all practicable dust mitigation measures, including cessation of relevant works, as appropriate, such that emissions of visible dust cease.

**O2.3** Trucks entering and leaving the premises that are carrying loads must be covered at all times, except during loading and unloading.

### ***O3. Stormwater/sediment control - Construction Phase***

**O3.1** An Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) must be prepared and implemented. The plan must describe the measures that will be employed to minimise soil erosion and the discharge of sediment and other pollutants to lands and/or waters during construction activities. The ESCP should be prepared in accordance with the requirement for such plans outlined in *Managing Urban Stormwater: Soils and Construction* (available from the Department of Housing).

# General Terms of Approval - Issued



Notice No: 1510252

## 04. Stormwater/sediment control - Operation Phase

**04.1** A Stormwater Management Scheme must be prepared for the development and must be implemented. Implementation of the Scheme must mitigate the impacts of stormwater run-off from and within the premises following the completion of construction activities.

**04.2** The licensee must maximise the diversion of run-on waters from lands up-slope and around the site.

**04.3** The licensee must maximise the diversion of stormwater runoff containing suspended solids to the sediment basins installed on the premises.

**04.4** The drainage from all areas that will mobilise suspended solids and organic contaminants when stormwater runs over these areas must be controlled and diverted through appropriate control measures.

**04.5** The licensee must minimise the area of the site that is able to generate suspended material or contaminated stormwater when water runs over it.

**04.6** The licensee must endeavour to maximise the reuse of captured stormwater reuse at the premises.

**04.7** The licensee must install a contaminated water containment system with a minimum retention capacity for a 1 in 50 year 24hr storm event (4 ML). This must be additional and operated separately (to maintain design capacity - see condition 04.9) to the operational water storage of 1.2 ML.

**04.8** The liner system for the contaminated water containment system must comprise either:

- a) re-compacted clay or similar material at least 90 centimetres thick with an in-situ co-efficient of permeability less than  $10^{-9}$  metres per second; or
- b) an alternative liner system of equivalent or better performance and approved in writing by the EPA.

**04.9** The licensee must ensure the design storage capacity of the contaminated water containment system installed at the premises is reinstated within 5 days of the cessation of a rainfall event that causes runoff to occur on or from the premises.

## 05. Meteorological Monitoring

Prior to the commencement of operation of the development, the Proponent must establish a permanent meteorological station complying with the Approved Methods for Sampling and Analysis and the Australian Standard AS2923 – 1987, at the facility. The meteorological station must monitor the following parameters:

Parameter	Units of measure	Averaging period	Frequency	Sampling method <sup>1</sup>
Rainfall	mm/hr	1 hour	Continuous	AM-4
Sigma Theta @ 10 m	°	1 hour	Continuous	AM-2
Siting	-	-	-	AM-1
Temperature @ 10 m	K	1 hour	Continuous	AM-4
Temperature @ 2 m	K	1 hour	Continuous	AM-4
Total Solar Radiation @ 10m	W/m <sup>2</sup>	1 hour	Continuous	AM-4
Wind Direction @ 10 m	°	1 hour	Continuous	AM-2
Wind Speed @ 10 m	m/s	1 hour	Continuous	AM-2

<sup>1</sup> NSW EPA, 2001, *Approved Methods for the Sampling and Analysis of Air Pollutants in NSW*.

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

---



Notice No: 1510252

The location of the site chosen for the station and details of equipment, measurement and maintenance/service procedures and schedules to be installed and maintained must be submitted in writing to the EPA and approved in writing by the EPA before any sampling or analysis is carried out. The meteorological monitoring station must be calibrated at least once every 12 months. The EPA is to be provided with data on request on a Microsoft ® Office software compatible format.

## ***O6 Odour Management Plan***

**O6.1** The Proponent shall prepare, implement and maintain in consultation with a recognised odour control specialist an Air Quality and Odour Management Plan describing measures to minimise odour impacts associated with the operation. The Plan shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- i) objectives and targets,
- ii) odour risk assessment,
- iii) key performance indicators,
- iv) identification of all point and diffuse sources of odour associated with the operation;
- v) a detailed description of the odour mitigation methods and management practices that will be used throughout the operation to ensure offensive odour impacts do not occur off site;
- vi) details of the implementation of industry best practice management measures to ensure potential odour impacts are managed;
- vii) a detailed description of the methods used for monitoring the effectiveness of the odour mitigation methods and management practices for all point and diffuse sources of odour associated with the operation;
- viii) location, frequency and duration of odour monitoring;
- ix) details of proposed contingency measures should odour impacts occur;
- x) details of the proposed maintenance procedures for the overall project to ensure potential odour impacts are managed;
- xi) a communications strategy for handling potential odour complaints that includes recording, investigating, reporting and actioning;
- xii) odour complaints register to be reported to the EPA as required in the Annual Return. The register must document investigations undertaken to identify the cause(s) of an action(s) to rectify the complaints.
- xiii) system and performance review for continuous improvement

**O6.2** Prior to commencement of operations, the licensee must appoint a recognised odour control specialist to review and approve the Air Quality and Odour Management Plan. The review of the Air Quality and Odour Management Plan must include a review against each of the mitigation measures and management practices described in the documents and correspondence submitted to support the Project development application.

The licensee must provide EPA with a written report that includes a review and approval of the Air Quality and Odour Management Plan that has been undertaken and given by a recognised odour control specialist.

## ***O7 Compliance Assessment - Odour***

**O7.1** A comprehensive odour audit of the fully operational facility to confirm compliance with s129 of the POEO Act is to be completed following commissioning.

**O7.2** Within 6 weeks of commencement of operations, and between 6 and 18 months of commencement of operations during a period agreed to by EPA that considers community concerns and is designed to capture the conditions for maximum odour impact, the licensee must appoint a recognised odour control specialist to report on, and undertake a program of odour control testing, to quantify the odour abatement efficiency of the odour controls and the odour emission rate of the discharge to atmosphere, and confirm compliance with odour assessment specifications and assumptions. At these times the recognised odour control specialist must also conduct a review of Project operations

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

---



Notice No: 1510252

against each of the mitigation measures and management practices described in the Air Quality and Odour Management Plan and the documents and correspondence submitted to support the Project development application.

The licensee must provide EPA with the odour control specialist's report and review, and any outcomes, within 1 week of the licensee's receipt of the report.

**07.3** The scope and timing of the odour control specialist's audit report and review must be acceptable to the NSW EPA.

**07.4** The Proponent must submit to the EPA a description of additional mitigation measures that will be implemented if offensive odour impacts occur.

## **08 Emergency Response - Pollution Incident Response Management Plan**

**08.1** The licensee must prepare a pollution incident response management plan. In summary,

- The plan must include the information detailed in the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (section 153C) and be in the form required by the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009 (clause 98B);
- The licensee must keep the plan at the premises to which the environment protection licence relates or, in the case of trackable waste transporters and mobile plant, where the relevant activity takes place;
- Licensees must test the plan in accordance with the requirements of the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009; and
- If a pollution incident occurs in the course of an activity so that material harm to the environment is caused or threatened, licensees must immediately implement the plan.

Note - The specific requirements for pollution incident response management plans are set out in Part 5.7A of the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 and relevant clauses of the Protection of the Environment Operations (General) Regulation 2009.

## **Monitoring and recording conditions**

### **M1 Monitoring records**

**M1.1** The results of any monitoring required to be conducted by the EPA's general terms of approval, or a licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997, in relation to the development or in order to comply with the load calculation protocol must be recorded and retained as set out in conditions M1.2 and M1.3.

**M1.2** All records required to be kept by the licence must be:

- in a legible form, or in a form that can readily be reduced to a legible form;
- kept for at least 4 years after the monitoring or event to which they relate took place; and
- produced in a legible form to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.

**M1.3** The following records must be kept in respect of any samples required to be collected: the date(s) on which the sample was taken;

- the time(s) at which the sample was collected;
- the point at which the sample was taken; and
- the name of the person who collected the sample.



# General Terms of Approval - Issued

---



Notice No: 1510252

## ***Reporting conditions***

**R1.1** The applicant must provide an annual return to the EPA in relation to the development as required by any licence under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 in relation to the development. In the return the applicant must report on the annual monitoring undertaken (where the activity results in pollutant discharges), provide a summary of complaints relating to the development, report on compliance with licence conditions and provide a calculation of licence fees (administrative fees and, where relevant, load based fees) that are payable. If load based fees apply to the activity the applicant will be required to submit load-based fee calculation worksheets with the return.

## **General Conditions**

### ***G1. Community liaison***

**G1.1** The applicant must establish a community environment liaison committee, comprising representatives of the community and the applicant, that will meet at least annually. Discussion at the meetings must include implementation of the development consent and other statutory approvals, and provide adequate time for the community to raise matters of concern associated with the environmental impact of the development, with a view to achieving mutually satisfactory solutions.

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

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Notice No: 1510252

## ATTACHMENT B

### **Administrative conditions**

### **Operating conditions**

#### **Activities must be carried out in a competent manner**

Licensed activities must be carried out in a competent manner.

This includes:

- the processing, handling, movement and storage of materials and substances used to carry out the activity; and
- the treatment, storage, processing, reprocessing, transport and disposal of waste generated by the activity.

#### **Maintenance of plant and equipment**

All plant and equipment installed at the premises or used in connection with the licensed activity:

- must be maintained in a proper and efficient condition; and
- must be operated in a proper and efficient manner.

### **Monitoring and recording conditions**

#### **Recording of pollution complaints**

The licensee must keep a legible record of all complaints made to the licensee or any employee or agent of the licensee in relation to pollution arising from any activity to which this licence applies.

The record must include details of the following:

- the date and time of the complaint;
- the method by which the complaint was made;
- any personal details of the complainant which were provided by the complainant or, if no such details were provided, a note to that effect;
- the nature of the complaint;
- the action taken by the licensee in relation to the complaint, including any follow-up contact with the complainant; and
- if no action was taken by the licensee, the reasons why no action was taken.

The record of a complaint must be kept for at least 4 years after the complaint was made.

The record must be produced to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see them.

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

---



Notice No: 1510252

## Telephone complaints line

The licensee must operate during its operating hours a telephone complaints line for the purpose of receiving any complaints from members of the public in relation to activities conducted at the premises or by the vehicle or mobile plant, unless otherwise specified in the licence.

The licensee must notify the public of the complaints line telephone number and the fact that it is a complaints line so that the impacted community knows how to make a complaint.

This condition does not apply until 3 months after this condition takes effect.

## Reporting conditions

### Annual Return documents

#### ***What documents must an Annual Return contain?***

The licensee must complete and supply to the EPA an Annual Return in the approved form comprising:

- a Statement of Compliance; and
- a Monitoring and Complaints Summary.

A copy of the form in which the Annual Return must be supplied to the EPA accompanies this licence. Before the end of each reporting period, the EPA will provide to the licensee a copy of the form that must be completed and returned to the EPA.

#### ***Period covered by Annual Return***

An Annual Return must be prepared in respect of each reporting, except as provided below

*Note: The term "reporting period" is defined in the dictionary at the end of this licence. Do not complete the Annual Return until after the end of the reporting period.*

Where this licence is transferred from the licensee to a new licensee,

- the transferring licensee must prepare an annual return for the period commencing on the first day of the reporting period and ending on the date the application for the transfer of the licence to the new licensee is granted; and
- the new licensee must prepare an annual return for the period commencing on the date the application for the transfer of the licence is granted and ending on the last day of the reporting period.

*Note: An application to transfer a licence must be made in the approved form for this purpose.*

Where this licence is surrendered by the licensee or revoked by the EPA or Minister, the licensee must prepare an annual return in respect of the period commencing on the first day of the reporting period and ending on

- in relation to the surrender of a licence - the date when notice in writing of approval of the surrender is given; or
- in relation to the revocation of the licence - the date from which notice revoking the licence operates.

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

---



Notice No: 1510252

## ***Deadline for Annual Return***

The Annual Return for the reporting period must be supplied to the EPA by registered post not later than 60 days after the end of each reporting period or in the case of a transferring licence not later than 60 days after the date the transfer was granted (the 'due date').

## ***Licensee must retain copy of Annual Return***

The licensee must retain a copy of the annual return supplied to the EPA for a period of at least 4 years after the annual return was due to be supplied to the EPA.

## ***Certifying of Statement of Compliance and Signing of Monitoring and Complaints Summary***

Within the Annual Return, the Statement of Compliance must be certified and the Monitoring and Complaints Summary must be signed by:

- (a) the licence holder; or
- (b) by a person approved in writing by the EPA to sign on behalf of the licence holder.

A person who has been given written approval to certify a Statement of Compliance under a licence issued under the Pollution Control Act 1970 is taken to be approved for the purpose of this condition until the date of first review this licence.

## ***Notification of environmental harm***

The licensee or its employees must notify the EPA of incidents causing or threatening material harm to the environment immediately after the person becomes aware of the incident in accordance with the requirements of Part 5.7 of the Act

Notifications must be made by telephoning the EPA's Pollution Line service on 131 555.

The licensee must provide written details of the notification to the EPA within 7 days of the date on which the incident occurred.

## ***Written report***

Where an authorised officer of the EPA suspects on reasonable grounds that:

- (a) where this licence applies to premises, an event has occurred at the premises; or
- (b) where this licence applies to vehicles or mobile plant, an event has occurred in connection with the carrying out of the activities authorised by this licence, and
- (c) the event has caused, is causing or is likely to cause material harm to the environment (whether the harm occurs on or off premises to which the licence applies), the authorised officer may request a written report of the event.

The licensee must make all reasonable inquiries in relation to the event and supply the report to the EPA within such time as may be specified in the request.

The request may require a report which includes any or all of the following information:

- the cause, time and duration of the event;
- the type, volume and concentration of every pollutant discharged as a result of the event;

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

---



Notice No: 1510252

- the name, address and business hours telephone number of employees or agents of the licensee, or a specified class of them, who witnessed the event; and
- the name, address and business hours telephone number of every other person (of whom the licensee is aware) who witnessed the event, unless the licensee has been unable to obtain that information after making reasonable effort;
- action taken by the licensee in relation to the event, including any follow-up contact with any complainants;
- details of any measure taken or proposed to be taken to prevent or mitigate against a recurrence of such an event;
- any other relevant matters.

The EPA may make a written request for further details in relation to any of the above matters if it is not satisfied with the report provided by the licensee. The licensee must provide such further details to the EPA within the time specified in the request.

## General conditions

### Copy of licence kept at the premises or on the vehicle or mobile plant

A copy of this licence must be kept at the premises or on the vehicle or mobile plant to which the licence applies.

The licence must be produced to any authorised officer of the EPA who asks to see it.

The licence must be available for inspection by any employee or agent of the licensee working at the premises or operating the vehicle or mobile plant.

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

---



Notice No: 1510252

## ATTACHMENT C

### **Construction Noise**

The construction noise is predicted to exceed the adopted daytime construction management level LAeq(15 minute) of 40 dB(A) at three sensitive receptors during the construction of the facility. The predicted noise levels exceed the criteria by between 2 and 14 dBA.

It is noted that the sensitive receptor which exceeds the construction management level by 14 dBA is the landowner which will accommodate the compost facility operations. The other two identified sensitive receptors exceed the management level by 2 and 7 dBA respectively.

The proponent must address the construction noise impacts upon the sensitive receptors that have been identified to exceed the construction management level in accordance with the measures identified in Interim Construction Noise Guideline Department of Environment and Climate Change (1999). Whilst it is recognised that some mitigation measures have been proposed (see Section 14.5.1 of the EIS) these measures are not predicted to reduce the noise levels to below the construction management level.

A high level of consultation with the impacted sensitive receptors is required prior to undertaking any construction activities to minimise the impacts upon these receptors.

### **Operational Noise**

The project specific noise criteria LAeq(15 minute) dB(A) of 35 dBA is predicted to be marginally exceeded at one sensitive receptor. Whilst this receptor is in the same ownership as the site of the project, confirmation needs to be provided by the landowner that they accept that the operations are predicted to exceed the project specific noise criteria and that they are agreeable to this impact.

### **Stormwater and Leachate Management**

A sedimentation pond with a capacity of 3.8 megalitres (ML) is proposed to be installed at the premises which includes an operational volume for site reuse of approximately 1.2 ML as well as a retention volume of 2.6 ML above operational storage.

Upon review of the rainfall intensity frequency duration data from the Bureau of Meteorology, the average recurrence interval of 10 years 24 hours is 3.24 millimetres per hour (mm/hr) which equates to 78 millimetres (mm). To retain this quantity of runoff for a 3.7 hectare (ha) catchment area a pond with a capacity of 2.9 ML as a minimum is required to comply with the compost guidelines. For sensitive catchments a greater catchment capacity is required.

Due to the sensitivity of the receiving waters the EPA requires that a contaminated water containment system be installed with a minimum retention capacity for a 1 in 50 year 24hr storm event (4.43 mm/hr). This equates to 106 mm or 4 ML. This must be additional and operated separately to the operational water storage of 1.2ML.

Due to the potential for contaminated stormwater to leach into the shallow groundwater the sedimentation pond will need to be lined with a compacted clay or equivalent at least 900 mm thick with an in-situ coefficient of permeability of less than  $1 \times 10^{-9}$  m/s.

# General Terms of Approval - Issued

---



Notice No: 1510252

## Non-Thermal treatment of Liquid Waste (Grease Trap Waste)

As the proposed operations intend to process grease trap waste within the composting system a specific exemption will be required under the *Protection of the Environment Operations (Waste) Regulation 2005*. This requirement has been identified in the Environmental Impact Statement and will need to be made in accordance with the guidelines. Guidance material is available online at: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/waste/RREapplications.htm>

## Odour

The design of the facility, coupled with the proposed operating procedures, must ensure that the facility does not cause offensive odours outside the premises.

To ensure suitable composting conditions are achieved and maintained during the active composting phase (approximately the first eight weeks of composting) a range of composting processes are proposed to be monitored and controlled. These include:

- the aeration of the windrowed material prior to and after windrow turning. Monitoring of oxygen within the windrow is used to control a fan which in response to low oxygen levels re-oxygenates the windrow to ensure it is consistently aerobic and does not generate offensive odour;
- the temperature of the windrow. Real time monitoring of windrow temperature provides information on composting progress and is used as an alert to composting problems and the need for investigation. It is also used as an advanced warning of the generation of anaerobic material and potentially offensive odour;
- the porosity of the windrow. The windrow is moved twice during the eight week composting period to reinstate material porosity which is reduced during the decomposing process; and
- the moisture of the windrow. During windrow turning the moisture within the material is inspected. Turning redistributes moisture within the heap and additional moisture is added if the material is found to be too dry, which ensures the composting process runs to completion.

The proponent states that composting "requires good site management and good process management". Loss of process control can lead to the generation of adverse odour.

To address the risk of a failure of plant leading to a loss of process control, the site will include an emergency plan that outlines specific contingency actions that will keep operations running, and consequently, prevent compost material from becoming anaerobic. Such actions include: the hiring of a generator or other equipment to keep critical infrastructure operating.

To ensure that the measures proposed in the assessment are implemented, the Environment Protection Authority has included in the General Terms of Approval the requirement to prepare an Air Quality and Odour Management Plan as well as the requirement to undertake a compliance assessment for odour.

The proponent will be required to evaluate and implement additional best practice odour mitigation and control measures if the facility fails to adequately control odour and causes offensive odours outside the premises.