
Attachment 4.8.4. Site Condition Report

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This technical note addresses the requirements for a Site Condition Report to be submitted as part of the application by Indaver Ireland Ltd. (Indaver) for an Industrial Emissions (IE) licence for the proposed Ringaskiddy Resource Recovery Centre at Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork.

A Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment report (see Attachment-4-8-3) has been completed in accordance with the European Commission guidance concerning baseline reports under Article 22(2) of Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions.

The Agency's 2018 *Licence Application Form Guidance* states that a baseline report may fulfil the requirements of the site condition report. As such, this assessment outlines where the reader can find the required information in the Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment as well as including the current site condition regarding air and noise quality.

2.0 RELEVANT SECTIONS

2.1 Current Site Condition

The current condition of the Ringaskiddy Resource Recovery Centre site is covered in Sections 6.0 *Stage 5 – Environmental Setting* and 8.0 *Stage 7 – Site Investigation and Baseline Soil & Water Quality Assessment* of the Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment report submitted as Attachment 4-8-3 of this application. In these sections summary details of the existing soil, ground and groundwater quality are discussed in relation to current quality standards.

The potential for historical contamination at the site is addressed in Section 5 *Stage 4 – Site History* of the Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment. Aerial Imagery from the Ordnance Survey Ireland (OSi) and historic maps were analysed and do not show any prior land use besides agricultural purposes at the site. Areas of infill have been noted to the north of the site and towards the adjacent site, Hammond Lane Metal Company. However, based on the soil and groundwater sampling outlined in Section 8.0 of the report, and the nature of the previous use of the site, the risk of significant historical contamination is considered to be low – moderate.

Regional hydrology surrounding the Ringaskiddy site is covered in Section 6.2 *Hydrology* of the Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment report. This includes details of all the major and minor surface water features in the area as well as the current quality status of these where applicable.

2.2 Comparison with First Site Condition Report

A site condition report has not been submitted previously. The site historically was of an agricultural nature with no previous industrial development. Site investigations were undertaken in 2000/2001 with additional soil quality investigations undertaken in November 2018. Previous site investigations and results are discussed in Section 6.3 *Soil, Geology & Hydrogeology* and Section 8.0 *Stage 7 – Investigation, Baseline Soil & Water Quality Assessment* of the Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment report.

2.3 Compliance with Groundwater Regulations

The Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment report concluded (following onsite investigation) that groundwater beneath the site is of generally good quality. Results of baseline groundwater sampling are included in Section 8 *Stage 7 – Site investigation, Baseline Soil & Water Quality Assessment* of the report. These show that the groundwater quality at the site complies with the Groundwater Threshold Values (GTVs) from the European Communities Environmental Objectives (Groundwater) Regulations, S.I. 9 of 2010 & S.I. 366 of 2016, and the EPA Interim Guidelines for groundwater, where available.

2.4 Soil

The Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment report concluded (following onsite investigation) that the soil at the site is relatively clean and there is no known contamination present. This would be expected due to the non-industrial history of the site. Results of baseline soil testing can be seen in Section 8.2 *Baseline Soil Analysis* of the Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment Report.

2.5 Noise

An environmental noise survey was conducted in the vicinity of the proposed resource recovery facility, in accordance with the EPA's *Guidance Note for Noise: Licence Applications, Surveys and Assessments in Relation to Scheduled Activities* (NG4, EPA 2016) and ISO 1996 (2017) *Description Measurement and Assessment of Environmental Noise. Part 2 Determination of Environmental Noise Levels*. The purpose of the survey was to determine the prevailing noise environment in the area and to advise the relevant operational noise criteria for the site (against which the noise emissions were modelled for compliance).

The results of the noise survey are set out in Section 10.3.2 of Chapter 10 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) submitted in Section 6 of this licence application.

2.6 Air Quality

There are no existing operational emissions from the Indaver facility as it is a new build. Chapter 8 of the EIAR outlines the current ambient air quality at the site and the surrounding area.

A summary of the extensive baseline surveys carried out in the region of the proposed Ringaskiddy Resource Recovery Centre facility is provided in Section 8.3 of Appendix 8.1 of the EIAR.

3.0 CONCLUSIONS

As stated in the Agency's 2017 *Licence Application Form Guidance*;

"If a baseline report is submitted as part of this applications this may also fulfil the requirements to describe the condition of the site"

The Soil & Groundwater Baseline Assessment report submitted with this application and the information included within this document fulfils this requirement.

4.0 REFERENCES

ARUP (2019) Environmental Impact Assessment Report, Ringaskiddy Resource Recovery Centre. Prepared by ARUP for Indaver Ireland Ltd.

AWN Consulting (2019) Soil & Groundwater Baseline Report for Indaver Ireland Ltd., Ringaskiddy, Co. Cork. Ref. TH/18/10501R01b.