

March 25, 2009

## **Clare County Council Receives Non-Compliance Order From EPA**

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The report relates to out-of-hours odour surveys carried out by an EPA inspector, who was based in the vicinity of the landfill from 31 January to 4 February 2009.

During this time, the inspector carried out a total of 54 odour inspections. He reported an odour, which he described as “moderate and impersistent” on 14 out of the 54 occasions. The EPA definition of a moderate odour is one that is “easily detectable while walking and breathing normally, possibly offensivechr(146)’. Clare County Council did detect odour off site through its own daily odour patrol on Tuesday 2 February; this incident was reported to the EPA.

Clare County Council carried out extensive capping works in 2007 and 2008, following new guidelines issued by the EPA to all landfill operators in mid 2007. The number of complaints received by the Council and by the EPA was reduced by 50% in 2008.

The EPA commented in their audit of the facility in November 2008 that “there has been considerable capping works carried out recently and a reduced number of odour complaints have been received by the licensee. The management and operation of the facility is well organised. With the housekeeping at the facility very good and the licensee has well established procedures and practices in place for the operation of the facility. The licensee has invested a significant amount of time and energy into controlling landfill gas emissions from the facility, however an odour was detected off site and the licensee need to ensure that odours do not give rise to nuisance at off site locations, completion of the capping works should reduce the potential for odour nuisance off site”.

Clare County Council continues to operate the Central Waste Management facility in accordance with best practice in the industry, as recommended by the EPA. The Council is currently investigating the cause of these moderate, impersistent odours.

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