

# Licence Number EAWML 100297

## with Introductory Note

### Facility Type: Composting in Open Windrows

Environmental Protection Act 1990

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*Licence holder* **MEC Recycling Ltd.**  
*Specified land* **Ansons Farm**  
**Swinderby**  
**Lincoln**  
**Lincolnshire**  
**LN6 9HS**

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## Introductory note

This introductory note does not form a part of the licence

This licence permits the holder to operate a composting facility at the specified location. The inputs are limited to green wastes and animal manures. They do not include any catering waste or animal waste that would be covered by the Animal By-Products Regulations<sup>1</sup>. Composting can only be carried out under predominantly aerobic conditions in windrows located either indoors or outdoors. It cannot be carried out in any form of enclosed reactor vessel or under deliberately anaerobic conditions. This licence does not permit the burning of any wastes, either in the open, inside buildings or in any form of incinerator.

This is a fixed licence that can be issued provided that the following criteria are met. The same conditions are applied to each licence holder carrying out this activity.

- a. The quantity of waste that can be accepted onto the site is less than 75,000 tonnes per annum.
- b. The site must be at least 250 metres away from any residential property or workplace.
- c. Wastes must be stored on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage.
- d. The only discharges to controlled waters are surface water from the roofs of buildings and from areas of the site not used for the storage of wastes.
- e. The site must be outside groundwater source protection zones 1 (inner) or 2 (outer) and more than 250m from any water abstraction point.
- f. The location is not within 1 km of a European site (protected habitat).
- g. The location is not within 1 km of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), designated as acid grassland/heath.

This licence does not allow any emission into surface waters or groundwater. However:

- Liquids may be discharged into a sewer subject to a consent issued by the sewerage undertaker.
- Liquids may be tankered off-site for disposal or recovery.
- Clean surface water from roofs, or from areas of the site that are not being used in connection with the storage and treatment of waste, may be discharged directly to surface waters, or to groundwater by percolation through the soil via a soakaway.

## Operational requirements specified in regulations

Some aspects of the activity are not controlled by the conditions of this licence, because the controls are specified in the Waste Management Licensing (WML) Regulations<sup>2</sup>, or other legislation. These include:

- Regulation 4 of the WML Regulations describes the qualifications required by a technically competent person at a waste management facility.
- Section 33 (1)(c) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 prohibits the treating, keeping or disposal of controlled waste in a manner which causes or is likely to cause pollution of the environment or harm to human health.
- Section 85 of the Water Resources Act 1991 under which it is an offence to cause or knowingly permit polluting matter to enter controlled waters, (which include both surface and ground waters), unless the discharge is specifically allowed in a permit.
- The Oil Storage Regulations<sup>3</sup> require oil storage tanks to be bunded.

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## Public registers

The public registers in Environment Agency offices contain information relating to licences including the application and monitoring results. Certain information may be withheld from public registers where it is commercially confidential or contrary to national security. Some information is also available on the Environment Agency's website (see below).

## Appeals against the conditions in the licence

The licence holder may appeal to the Secretary of State against any of the conditions imposed by this licence, within 6 months of the date of issue.

## Licence modifications, transfers and surrender

The Environment Agency may modify the conditions of this licence in the future. If the licence holder wishes to modify the conditions, transfer the licence to another person or surrender the licence then he must submit an application to the Environment Agency.

## Other permits at this location

There may be other environmental permits at this location, issued to different operators/ licence holders or to the same operator/ licence holder for different activities. There may also be permits issued by another regulator such as the local authority. For information on any other Environment Agency-issued permits please contact the Environment Agency (see below).

This waste management licence does not remove the licence holder from their obligations under any other legislation.

## Talking to us

Please quote the licence number if you contact the Environment Agency about this licence.

In the event of an incident the Environment Agency may be contacted using the Incident Hotline telephone number (0800 80 70 60). Calls are free and the hotline operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

For routine enquiries during office hours, the Environment Agency contact telephone number is 08708 506 506. Alternatively you can write to the Environment Agency local office (at the address given in the phone book) or go to the Environment Agency website at [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk) where you can: complete an enquiry form on-line, look up the site under "what's in your backyard", or search for other information.

<sup>1</sup> - The Animal By-Products (England) Regulations 2003 (SI2003 No. 1482) and The Animal By-Products (Wales) Regulations 2003 (SI2003 No. 2756).

<sup>2</sup> - The Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 (SI 1994 No. 1056), (as amended)

<sup>3</sup> - The Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) (England) Regulations 2001 (SI 2001 No. 2954)

*End of Introductory Note.*



# Licence

Environmental Protection Act 1990  
Waste Management Licensing  
Regulations 1994



## Waste Management Licence Number EAWML100297

### Facility Type: Composting in Open Windrows

The Environment Agency ("the Agency") in exercise of its powers under section 36 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990, hereby authorises:

**MEC Recycling Ltd.** ("the licence holder"),

whose registered office (or principal place of business) is  
**Ansons Farm, Swinderby, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN6 9HS**

Company registration number **5023251**

to carry out the keeping *and treatment* of waste at  
**Ansons Farm, Swinderby, Lincoln, Lincolnshire, LN6 9HS**

the boundary of which is shown on the site plan at schedule 1 to this licence

to the extent authorised by and subject to the conditions of this licence.

17 September 2008.

Authorised to sign on behalf of the Agency

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# Conditions

## 1 – MANAGEMENT

### 1.1 General management

1.1.1 The activities shall be managed and operated:

- (a) in accordance with a management system, which identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, incidents and non-conformances and those drawn to the attention of the licence holder as a result of complaints; and
- (b) by sufficient persons who are competent in respect of the responsibilities to be undertaken by them in connection with the operation of the activities.

1.1.2 Records demonstrating compliance with condition 1.1.1 shall be maintained.

1.1.3 Any persons having duties that are or may be affected by the matters set out in this licence shall have convenient access to a copy of it kept at or near the place where those duties are carried out.

### 1.2 Accident management plan

1.2.1 The licence holder shall:

- (a) maintain and implement an accident management plan;
- (b) review and record at least every 4 years or as soon as practicable after an accident, (whichever is the earlier) whether changes to the plan should be made;
- (c) make any appropriate changes to the plan identified by a review.

### 1.3 Site security

1.3.1 Site security measures shall prevent unauthorised access to the site, as far as practicable.

## 2 – OPERATIONS

### 2.1 Licensed activities

2.1.1 The licence holder is authorised to carry out the activities specified in schedule 2, table 2.1 ("the activities").

### 2.2 Waste acceptance

2.2.1 Waste shall only be accepted if:

- (a) it is of a type and quantity listed in schedule 2, table 2.2; and
- (b) it conforms to the description in the documentation supplied by the producer and holder.

2.2.2 Records shall be maintained of all waste accepted onto the site.

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## **3 – EMISSIONS AND MONITORING**

### **3.1 Emissions to air, water, or land**

3.1.1 There shall be no point source emissions air, water, or land.

### **3.2 Transfers off-site**

3.2.1 Records of all the wastes sent off site from the activities, for either disposal or recovery, shall be maintained.

### **3.3 Fugitive emissions of substances**

3.3.1 Fugitive emissions of substances (excluding odour and noise) shall not cause pollution. The licence holder shall not be taken to have breached this condition if appropriate measures have been taken to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, those emissions.

3.3.2 Litter or mud arising from the activities shall not cause pollution. The licence holder shall not be taken to have breached this condition if appropriate measures have been taken to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, the litter and mud.

3.3.3 Litter and mud arising from the activities shall be cleared from affected areas outside the site as soon as practicable.

3.3.4 All liquid wastes, whose emission to water or land could cause pollution, shall be provided with secondary containment, unless the licence holder has used other appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, leakage and spillage from the primary container.

### **3.4 Odour**

3.4.1 Emissions from the activities shall be free from odour at levels likely to cause annoyance outside the site, as perceived by an authorised officer of the Agency, unless the licence holder has used appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, the odour.

### **3.5 Noise**

3.5.1 Emissions from the activities shall be free from noise at levels likely to cause annoyance outside the site, as perceived by an authorised officer of the Agency, unless the licence holder has used appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, the noise.

### **3.6 Pests**

3.6.1 Scavenging animals, scavenging birds and other pests shall not cause pollution. The licence holder shall not be taken to have breached this condition if appropriate measures have been taken to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, such pollution.

### **3.7 Monitoring**

3.7.1 The licence holder shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Agency, undertake monitoring for the parameters, at the locations and at not less than the frequencies specified in the following schedules and tables to this licence.

(a) Schedule 3, table 3.1.

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- 3.7.2 The licence holder shall maintain records of all monitoring required by this permit including records of the taking and analysis of samples, instrument measurements (periodic and continual), calibrations, examinations, tests and surveys and any assessment or evaluation made on the basis of such data.

## **4 – INFORMATION**

### **4.1 Records**

- 4.1.1 All records required to be made by this licence shall:
- (a) be legible;
  - (b) be made as soon as reasonably practicable;
  - (c) if amended, be amended in such a way that the original and any subsequent amendments remain legible, or are capable of retrieval; and
  - (d) be retained, unless otherwise agreed by the Agency, for at least 6 years from the date when the records were made, or in the case of the following records until licence surrender:
    - (i) off-site environmental and health effects; and
    - (ii) the condition of land and groundwater.
- 4.1.2 Any records required to be made by this licence shall be supplied to the Agency within 14 days, where the records have been requested in writing by the Agency.

### **4.2 Reporting**

- 4.2.1 All reports and notifications required by the licence shall be sent to the Agency using the contact details supplied in writing by the Agency.
- 4.2.2 A summary report of the waste types and quantities accepted and removed from the site shall be made for each quarter. It shall be submitted to the Agency within one month of the end of the quarter and shall be in the format required by the Agency.

### **4.3 Notifications**

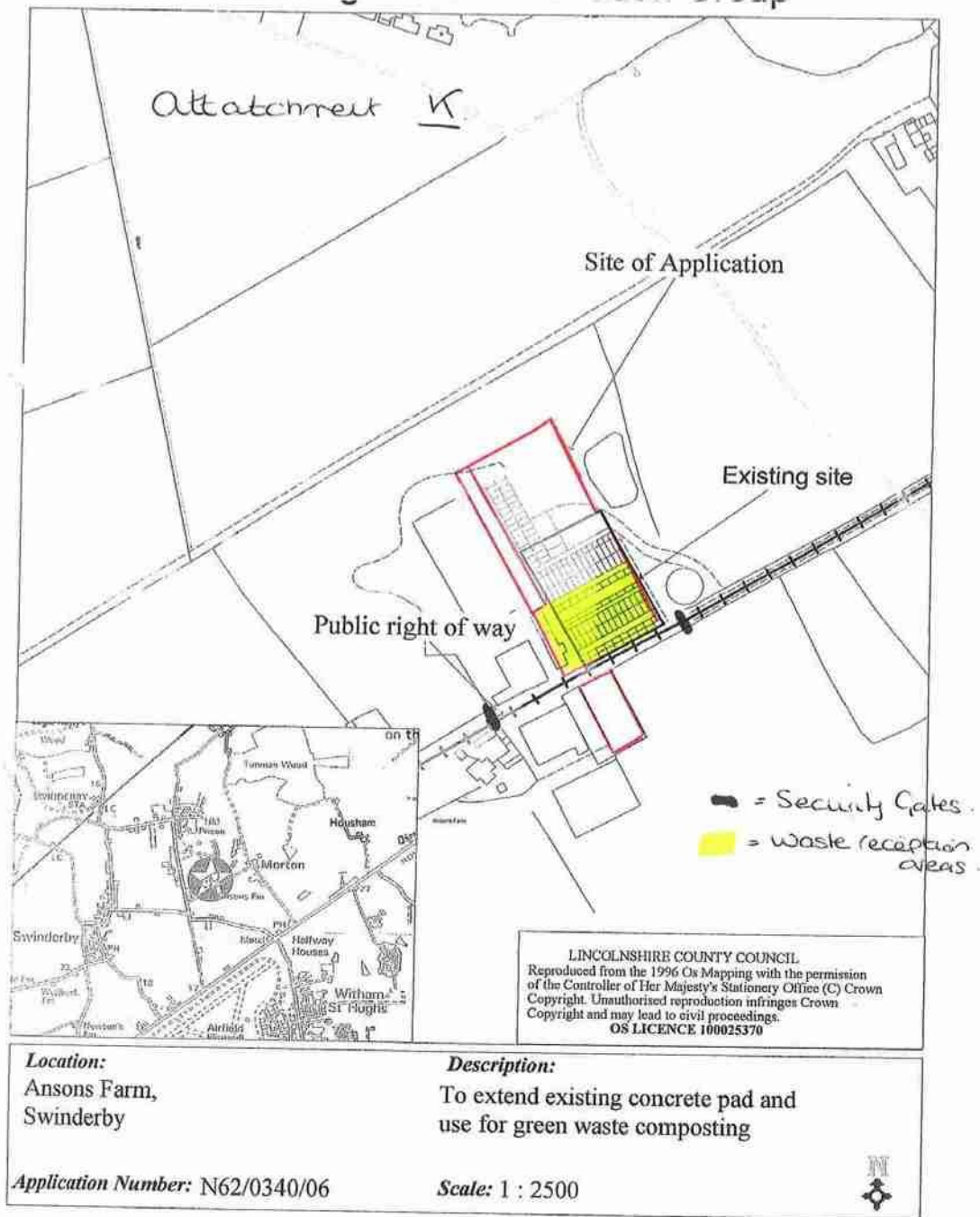
- 4.3.1 The Agency shall be notified without delay following the detection of:
- (a) any malfunction, breakdown or failure of equipment or techniques, accident or fugitive emission which has caused, is causing or may cause significant pollution;
  - (b) the breach of a limit specified in this licence; and
  - (c) any significant adverse environmental and health effects.
- 4.3.2 Written confirmation of actual or potential pollution incidents and breaches of emission limits shall be submitted within 24 hours.
- 4.3.3 Prior written notification shall be given to the Agency of the following events and in the specified timescales:
- (a) as soon as practicable prior to the permanent cessation of any of the activities;
  - (b) cessation of operation of all or part of the activities for a period likely to exceed 3 months;
  - (c) resumption of the operation of all or part of the activities after a cessation notified under (b) above

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- 4.3.4 Where the Agency has requested in writing that it shall be notified when the licence holder is to undertake monitoring and/or spot sampling, the licence holder shall inform the Agency when the relevant monitoring is to take place. The licence holder shall provide this information to the Agency at least 14 days before the date the monitoring is to be undertaken.
- 4.3.5 The Agency shall be notified within 7 days of any changes in technically competent management and the name of any incoming person together with evidence that such person has the required technical competence.
- 4.3.6 The Agency shall be notified within 14 days of the licence holder and/or any relevant person being convicted of a relevant offence, (unless such information has already been notified to the Agency), with details of the nature of the offence, the place and date of conviction, and the sentence imposed.
- 4.3.7 The Agency shall be notified within 14 days of the licence holder and/or any relevant person lodging an appeal against a conviction for any relevant offence and of the outcome when the appeal is decided.
- 4.3.8 The Agency shall be notified within 14 days of the occurrence of the following matters except where such disclosure is prohibited by Stock Exchange rules:
- a) Where the licence holder is a registered company:
    - any change in the licence holder's trading name, registered name or registered office address;
    - any change to particulars of the licence holder's ultimate holding company (including details of an ultimate holding company where a licence holder has become a subsidiary);
    - any steps taken with a view to the licence holder going into administration, entering into a company voluntary arrangement or being wound up; and
    - if the licence holder is not the operator: any change in the operators trading name; address; registered name or registered office address.
  - b) Where the licence holder is a corporate body other than a registered company:
    - any change in the licence holder's name or address;
    - any steps taken with a view to the dissolution of the licence holder; and
    - if the licence holder is not the operator: any change in the operators trading name; address; registered name or registered office address.
  - c) In any other case:
    - the death of any of the named licence holders (where the licence holder consists of more than one named individual);
    - any steps taken with a view to the licence holder, or any one of them, going into bankruptcy, entering into a composition or arrangement with creditors, or, in the case of them being in a partnership, dissolving the partnership; and
    - if the licence holder is not the operator: any change in the operators trading name; address; registered name or registered office address.
- 4.3.9 The Agency shall be notified at least 7 days in advance of the commencement of any of the activities.

## **4.4 Interpretation**

- 4.4.1 In this licence the expressions listed in schedule 4 shall have the meaning given in that schedule.

# Schedule 1- Site plan



## Schedule 2 - Operations

Table 2.1 Licensed activities	
Description of activities	Limits of activities
<b>R13:</b> Storage of waste pending any of the operations listed in paragraphs 1 to 12 of this Part of this Schedule, but excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced.	The storage, physical treatment, composting and maturation of wastes must take place in a well-ventilated building on an impermeable surface with a sealed drainage system, or outdoors on areas of impermeable surface with a sealed drainage system.
<b>R3:</b> Recycling or reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents, including composting and other biological transformation processes.	<p>The storage, physical treatment, composting and maturation of wastes must not take place in any form of enclosed reactor vessel.</p> <p>The storage, physical treatment, composting and maturation of wastes under anaerobic conditions shall be prevented, or where that is not practicable, minimised.</p>

Table 2.2: Licensed waste types and quantities	
<p><b>Maximum Quantities</b></p> <p>The quantity of wastes listed below, accepted at the site shall be less than 75,000 tonnes a year.</p>	
<p><b>Exclusions</b></p> <p>Notwithstanding the specification of waste types below, wastes shall not be accepted at the site which have any of the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catering waste and other wastes containing animal by-products covered by the Animal By-Products (England) Regulations 2003 and The Animal By-Products (Wales) Regulations 2003.</li> <li>• Consisting solely or mainly of dusts, powders or loose fibres</li> <li>• Wastes that are in a form which is either sludge or liquid</li> <li>• Odour producing or likely to be odour producing</li> </ul>	
Waste Code	Description
02	Wastes from agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, forestry, hunting and fishing, food preparation and processing (non-hazardous)
02 01	Wastes from agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, forestry, hunting and fishing
02 01 03	Plant tissue waste
02 01 07	Wastes from forestry (comprising wood and plant tissue)
02 03	Wastes from fruit, vegetables, cereals, edible oils, cocoa, coffee, tea, and tobacco preparation and processing; conserve production; yeast and yeast extract production, molasses preparation and fermentation
02 03 04	Biodegradable materials unsuitable for consumption or processing (other than those containing dangerous substances)
20	Municipal wastes (household waste and similar commercial, industrial and institutional wastes) (non-hazardous)
20 02	Garden and park wastes (including cemetery waste)

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**Table 2.2: Licensed waste types and quantities**

Table 2.2: Licensed waste types and quantities	
20 02 01	Biodegradable waste (comprising wood and plant tissue)
20 02 02	Soil and stones

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## Schedule 3 – Emissions and monitoring

<b>Monitoring point</b>	<b>Substance or parameter</b>	<b>Monitoring frequency</b>	<b>Monitoring method</b>	<b>Other specifications</b>
Internal for each windrow and for any sample of waste or compost	Temperature	None specified	Thermocouple probe	Monitoring equipment must be available on-site and used as required to ensure compliance with the conditions of this licence.
	Oxygen	None specified	Oxygen meter	
	Moisture	None specified	Moisture meter	

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## Schedule 4 - Interpretation

*"accident"* means an accident that may result in pollution.

*"authorised officer"* means any person authorised by the Agency under section 108(1) of The Environment Act 1995 to exercise, in accordance with the terms of any such authorisation, any power specified in Section 108(4) of that Act.

*"composting"*, means the biological decomposition of organic materials, under conditions that are predominantly aerobic and that allow the development of thermophilic temperatures as a result of biologically produced heat.

*"emissions to land"*, includes emissions to groundwater.

*"fugitive emission"* means an emission to air, water or land from the activities which is not controlled by an emission limit.

*"groundwater"* means all water, which is below the surface of the ground in the saturation zone and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.

*"groundwater protection zones"* are as defined in The Agency's Policy and Practice For the Protection of Groundwater.

*"impermeable surface"* means a surface or pavement constructed and maintained to a standard sufficient to prevent the transmission of liquids beyond the pavement surface, and should be read in conjunction with the term "sealed drainage system" (below).

*"notify/notified without delay"* means that a telephone call can be used, whereas all other reports and notifications must be supplied in writing, either electronically or on paper.

*"pollution"* means pollution of the environment, harm to human health and serious detriment to the amenities of the locality, resulting from the licensed activities.

*"quarter"* means a calendar year quarter commencing on either 1 January, 1 April, 1 July or 1 October.

*"relevant person"* and *"relevant offence"* shall have the meaning given to them in the Environmental Protection Act 1990

*"sealed drainage system"* in relation to an impermeable surface, means a drainage system with impermeable components which does not leak and which will ensure that:

- (a) no liquid will run off the surface otherwise than via the system;
- (b) except where they may lawfully be discharged, all liquids entering the system are collected in a sealed sump.

*"sewer"* means sewer within the meaning of section 219(1) of the Water Industry Act 1991.

*"technically competent management"* and *"technical competence"* shall be as prescribed under Section 74 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990

*"waste code"* means the code specified in The List of Wastes (England) Regulations 2005 (SI 2005 No. 895) as amended, or The List of Wastes (Wales) Regulations 2005 (SI 2005 No.1820) (W.148) as amended. Codes marked with an \* are hazardous waste, as defined in those regulations. Licence conditions apply to those wastes listed with a six-digit code.

*"Waste Management Licensing Regulations"*, means The Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 (SI1994 No. 1056) (as amended).

*"year"* means calendar year commencing on 1 January.