

Odour Impact Assessment for new MSW treatment facility



Eden Waste proposed to build and operate a new municipal solid waste (MSW) treatment facility at Stirling Road Airdrie. Eden Waste's engineering and planning consultants Jacobs Babbie commissioned an odour impact assessment to be submitted as part of the evidence at a public inquiry.

The process included a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) receiving 80,000 tonnes of MSW, in-vessel composting for green waste, food wastes and MRF separated MSW and landfill for the residual wastes.

The odour impact assessment considered the potential impacts from waste pre-treatment operations within the MRF, odour from in-vessel composting of MSW and odour from landfill gas. Because of the proximity of other landfills (e.g. Greengairs) the assessment needed to consider potential cumulative impacts. The assessment sought to answer the following questions:

- What are the sources of odour from the proposed development?
- How can they be quantified and with what degree of confidence?
- What are the likely odour concentrations at sensitive receptors?
- What standards should we aim to achieve to protect amenity?
- How can these standards be implemented effectively through conditions?
- What techniques are available to ensure that these conditions can be achieved in practice?

The inquiry reporter concluded that the odour from the process could be effectively controlled and that odour from the site was unlikely to cause loss of amenity or to cumulative impacts. Based on the evidence, the Reporter concluded that the Pollution Prevention & Control regime enforced by SEPA would ensure that the odour impacts from the process did not require duplicate planning controls.

