



**Environment,
Climate Change
& Water**

Your reference: 9040292
Our reference: DOC11/55327

Felicity Greenway
Major Development Assessment
NSW Government – Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

EMAIL AND STANDARD POST

Dear Ms Greenway

**RE: NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure - Proposed Modification to Chester Hill
Materials Recycling Facility (DA 06_0052 MOD 2) – Bankstown Local Government Area**

Reference is made to the letter sent by the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure dated 16 November 2011 in relation to proposed modification of Chester Hill Materials Recycling Facility (DA 06_0052 MOD 2).

Always Recycling Pty Ltd ("the Proponent") currently occupies the materials recycling facility at 191 Miller Road, Chester Hill ("the Premises"). Prior to 12 January 2011, Number 1 Demolition & Excavations (NSW) Pty Ltd held environment protection licence number 13198 to operate a waste facility at the Premises.

The proposed modification seeks to allow shipping containers to remain on the Premises as a permanent noise reduction method instead of concrete walls as previously proposed. The Proponent provided a report titled "Environmental Assessment for Containers" ("Environmental Assessment") in support of the proposed modification which includes a noise assessment dated 15 April 2011 prepared by Spectrum Acoustics Pty Limited.

Environment Protection Authority ("EPA") has reviewed the Environmental Assessment and provides the following comments.

1. Shipping containers on the Premises are not permitted to be used to store waste. The storage of waste in the shipping containers is part of the development consent and as such noise measurements taken while the shipping containers are storing waste will effect noise measurements. The noise assessment does not provide any information whether the noise measurements were taken while waste was stored in the shipping containers.

If the Shipping containers are to be used as permanent noise controls on the Premises the noise monitoring to assess compliance with development consent conditions must be undertaken with the shipping containers empty of all waste materials.

2. The noise assessment provides that the noise monitoring was undertaken for 15 minutes at each monitoring point to determine compliance with the noise limits set in the development consent. The noise assessment does not provide any justification for the time period used for noise monitoring in this particular assessment. The EPA notes that the NSW Industrial Noise Policy 2000 provides that noise monitoring should cover the full cycle of operational activity and be measured over a full day, week or longer depending on the development.
3. The noise assessment states that "*The recorded time-trace was analysed using Bruel & Kjaer Evaluator software to determine various noise contributions... After removal of cars from the measured signal, the noise level from the subject site was 47dB(A) $L_{eq(15 \text{ minute})}$ which is below the criterion of 50 dB(A)*" (page 3). The noise assessment does not provide any information as to how vehicle road noise was separated from the measured signal to determine the noise from the subject site was 47 dB(A).
4. The EPA notes that Figure 2 in the "Environmental Assessment Report for Modification of the Chester Hill Materials Recycling Facility (06-0053 Mod1) To Include the Recycling of Additional Types of Material" outlines a system of acoustic barriers to be installed across the Premises. The current proposal to keep the shipping containers presently onsite as noise barriers does not state if the internal acoustic barriers (detailed in Figure 2 of the previous modification) are to be replaced by shipping containers or deleted from the consent entirely.

It should also be noted that the acoustic barriers outlined in Figure 2 of the previous modification would separate the various activities undertaken onsite. The proposed modification does not provide any information on how this separation of activities will be achieved if the acoustic barriers are not installed or removed.

Due to insufficient information provided by the Proponent, the EPA cannot undertake an adequate assessment of the proposed modification of **DA 06_0052**. Further information must be provided in relation to Points 1 to 4 so that an adequate assessment can be made.

Should you have any queries regarding this matter, please don't hesitate to contact Trevor Wilson on 9995 5907.

Yours sincerely

Jm 6/12/11

Jacqueline Ingham
Unit Head Waste Operations
Environment Protection Authority