

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION.....	1-1
1.1	BACKGROUND	1-1
1.2	WASTE LICENCE, PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT	1-5
1.3	PLANNING HISTORY	1-7
1.4	SCOPING OF THE EIA.....	1-8
1.5	AN OVERVIEW OF THE STRUCTURE OF THE EIS	1-9
1.6	TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES AND AVAILABILITY OF DATA	1-10
1.7	STUDY TEAM AND CONTRIBUTORS TO THE EIA.....	1-11
2	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	2-1
2.1	SITE CONTEXT.....	2-1
2.2	PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	2-2
2.3	ROAD TRANSPORT OPERATION	2-6
2.4	PEAT DEPOSITION SITE.....	2-6
2.5	PEAT HANDLING LOGISTICS ON-SITE.....	2-12
2.6	THE DRAINAGE SYSTEM.....	2-13
2.7	OPERATIONAL PLANT REQUIREMENTS	2-14
2.8	FACILITIES DESCRIPTION.....	2-16
2.9	PROGRAMME	2-16
2.10	POST DEPOSITION CONTINUATION OF USE AND DECOMMISSIONING.....	2-16
2.11	DECOMMISSIONING OPTIONS FOR PEAT RECEPTION HARDSTAND AREA.....	2-17
3	SITE OPERATING INFRASTRUCTURE	3-1
3.1	SITE RECEPTION AREA	3-1
3.2	TRAFFIC	3-3
4	ALTERNATIVES	4-1
4.1	BACKGROUND	4-1
4.2	NEED FOR THE SCHEME AND POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVES	4-2
4.3	ASSESSMENT OF TRANSPORT METHODS.....	4-4
4.4	PEAT SPREADING METHOD	4-4
5	HUMAN BEINGS.....	5-1
5.1	INTRODUCTION.....	5-1
5.2	STUDY METHODOLOGY.....	5-1
5.3	RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT.....	5-1
5.4	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT.....	5-7
5.5	IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	5-7
5.6	MITIGATION MEASURES.....	5-10
5.7	MONITORING.....	5-10
5.8	DO NOTHING SCENARIO.....	5-10
5.9	REINSTATEMENT AND RESIDUAL IMPACTS.....	5-10

6	TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGY	6-1
6.1	INTRODUCTION.....	6-1
6.2	METHODOLOGY.....	6-1
6.3	RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT.....	6-7
6.4	HABITATS AND SPECIES	6-12
6.5	CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	6-30
6.6	POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	6-31
6.7	DO NOTHING SCENARIO.....	6-37
6.8	MITIGATION MEASURES.....	6-37
6.9	PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	6-42
6.10	MONITORING.....	6-42
6.11	REINSTATEMENT AND RESIDUAL IMPACTS.....	6-43
7	AQUATIC ECOLOGY	7-1
7.1	INTRODUCTION.....	7-1
7.2	STUDY METHODOLOGY.....	7-2
7.3	RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT.....	7-4
7.4	CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	7-11
7.5	POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	7-11
7.6	DO NOTHING SCENARIO.....	7-15
7.7	MITIGATION MEASURES.....	7-15
7.8	PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	7-17
7.9	MONITORING.....	7-17
7.10	REINSTATEMENT AND RESIDUAL IMPACTS.....	7-18
8	SOILS AND GEOLOGY.....	8-1
8.1	INTRODUCTION.....	8-1
8.2	STUDY METHODOLOGY.....	8-2
8.3	RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT.....	8-3
8.4	CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	8-18
8.5	POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	8-21
8.6	DO NOTHING SCENARIO.....	8-22
8.7	MITIGATION MEASURES.....	8-22
8.8	PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	8-23
8.9	MONITORING.....	8-24
8.10	REINSTATEMENT AND RESIDUAL IMPACTS.....	8-24
9	HYDROLOGY AND DRAINAGE.....	9-1
9.1	INTRODUCTION.....	9-1
9.2	STUDY METHODOLOGY.....	9-1
9.3	RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT.....	9-2
9.4	CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	9-24
9.5	POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	9-26

9.6	DO NOTHING SCENARIO	9-27
9.7	MITIGATION MEASURES	9-27
9.8	PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	9-29
9.9	MONITORING	9-29
9.10	REINSTATEMENT AND RESIDUAL IMPACTS	9-29
10	EFFLUENT	10-1
10.1	INTRODUCTION	10-1
10.2	STUDY METHODOLOGY	10-1
10.3	RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT	10-1
10.4	CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	10-2
10.5	POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	10-2
10.6	DO NOTHING SCENARIO	10-3
10.7	MITIGATION MEASURES	10-3
10.8	PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	10-4
10.9	MONITORING	10-4
10.10	REINSTATEMENT AND RESIDUAL IMPACTS	10-4
11	AIR EMISSIONS	11-1
11.1	INTRODUCTION	11-1
11.2	STUDY METHODOLOGY	11-1
11.3	EMISSIONS CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	11-2
11.4	LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT - AIR QUALITY STANDARDS AND LIMITS	11-3
11.5	BACKGROUND AIR QUALITY DATA	11-5
11.6	INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER SOURCES IN THE REGION	11-8
11.7	POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	11-8
11.8	DO NOTHING SCENARIO	11-9
11.9	SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES	11-9
11.10	PREDICTED IMPACTS OF THE PEAT DEPOSITION SITE	11-10
11.11	MICRO-CLIMATE CONSIDERATIONS	11-11
11.12	AIR QUALITY MONITORING	11-11
11.13	RESIDUAL IMPACTS	11-11
12	NOISE	12-1
12.1	INTRODUCTION	12-1
12.2	METHODOLOGY	12-1
12.3	BASELINE	12-2
12.4	SURVEY RESULTS	12-2
12.5	PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	12-4
12.6	MITIGATION	12-6
12.7	MONITORING	12-7
12.8	CONCLUSION	12-7

13	LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT.....	13-1
13.1	INTRODUCTION.....	13-1
13.2	STUDY METHODOLOGY.....	13-1
13.3	PHOTOMONTAGES.....	13-3
13.4	REFERENCES.....	13-3
13.5	OUTLINE OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT.....	13-3
13.6	RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT.....	13-6
13.7	DO NOTHING SCENARIO.....	13-11
13.8	PROJECT DESCRIPTION.....	13-11
13.9	IMPACT ON LANDSCAPE.....	13-12
13.10	IMPACT ON VISUAL AMENITY.....	13-12
13.11	IMPACT ON LANDSCAPE PLANNING.....	13-13
13.12	IMPACT ON OTHER ISSUES.....	13-22
13.13	MITIGATION OF LANDSCAPE AND VISUAL IMPACT.....	13-23
13.14	RESIDUAL IMPACT.....	13-23
14	CLIMATE.....	14-1
14.1	INTRODUCTION.....	14-1
14.2	METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS.....	14-1
14.3	GLOBAL WARMING.....	14-1
14.4	INFLUENCE OF PEAT DEPOSITION ON RELEASES WITH GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL.....	14-2
14.5	DO NOTHING SCENARIO.....	14-3
14.6	PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT.....	14-3
14.7	MITIGATION MEASURES.....	14-3
14.8	MONITORING AND REPORTING.....	14-3
15	ARCHAEOLOGY, ARCHITECTURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE.....	15-1
15.1	INTRODUCTION.....	15-1
15.2	METHODOLOGY.....	15-1
15.3	EXISTING ENVIRONMENT.....	15-2
15.4	CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DEVELOPMENT.....	15-11
15.5	POTENTIAL IMPACT OF THE DEVELOPMENT.....	15-11
15.6	DO NOTHING SCENARIO.....	15-12
15.7	MITIGATION MEASURES.....	15-12
15.8	PREDICTED IMPACT OF THE DEVELOPMENT.....	15-12
15.9	MONITORING.....	15-12
16	MATERIAL ASSETS AND TRAFFIC.....	16-1
16.1	INTRODUCTION.....	16-1
16.2	WASTE PRODUCTION, TREATMENT AND DISPOSAL.....	16-1
16.3	TRAFFIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT.....	16-5

17	IMPACT INTERACTIONS AND CUMULATIVE IMPACTS	17-1
17.1	INTRODUCTION.....	17-1
17.2	ASSESSMENT OF INTERACTIONS AND CUMULATIVE IMPACT	17-1
17.3	CONCLUSION	17-5
17.4	DO NOTHING SCENARIO	17-5
17.5	MITIGATION MEASURES.....	17-5
17.6	MONITORING.....	17-6
17.7	REINSTATEMENT AND RESIDUAL IMPACTS.....	17-6
18	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EMS).....	18-1
18.1	INTRODUCTION.....	18-1
18.2	SRAHMORE SITE OPERATION.....	18-1

Figures

<i>Figure 1.1: Regional Site Location Map.....</i>	<i>1-3</i>
<i>Figure 2.1: Site Location Map (Including Existing and Proposed Peat Deposition).....</i>	<i>2-4</i>
<i>Figure 2.2: Unloading and export of Peat from Reception Hardstand</i>	<i>2-7</i>
<i>Figure 2.3: Peat Deposition Area (Enabling Roads for Deposition).....</i>	<i>2-10</i>
<i>Figure 2.4: Peat Deposition Area (Initial Peat Deposition 1).....</i>	<i>2-10</i>
<i>Figure 2.5: Peat Deposition Area (Initial Peat Deposition 2).....</i>	<i>2-10</i>
<i>Figure 2.6: Peat Deposition Area (Advanced Peat Deposition 3).....</i>	<i>2-11</i>
<i>Figure 2.7: Peat Deposition Area (Final Deposition Shape).....</i>	<i>2-12</i>
<i>Figure 2.8: Site Drainage Layout Plan.....</i>	<i>2-15</i>
<i>Figure 6.1: Main Habitats in Area 6.....</i>	<i>6-4</i>
<i>Figure 6.2: Signs of Faunal Species of Interest</i>	<i>6-6</i>
<i>Figure 6.3: Breeding Bird Survey Transects.....</i>	<i>6-8</i>
<i>Figure 8.1: Site Investigation Locations</i>	<i>8-6</i>
<i>Figure 8.2: Existing and Proposed Peat Deposition.....</i>	<i>8-7</i>
<i>Figure 8.3: Geological Long Sections</i>	<i>8-10</i>
<i>Figure 8.4: Extract Bedrock Map</i>	<i>8-11</i>
<i>Figure 8.5: Groundwater Levels and Flow Direction.....</i>	<i>8-16</i>
<i>Figure 9.1: Regional Surface Water Network.....</i>	<i>9-3</i>
<i>Figure 9.2: Surface Water Monitoring Location Plan.....</i>	<i>9-6</i>
<i>Figure 9.3: Site Drainage Layout Plan.....</i>	<i>9-7</i>
<i>Figure 9.4: Groundwater Monitoring Location Plan</i>	<i>9-21</i>
<i>Figure 11.1: Dust Monitoring Locations 2010</i>	<i>11-7</i>
<i>Figure 12.1: Noise Monitoring Locations 2010.....</i>	<i>12-3</i>
<i>Figure 13.1: View Location Plan.....</i>	<i>13-5</i>
<i>Figure 13.2a: View 1 (View as Existing)</i>	<i>13-14</i>
<i>Figure 13.2b: View 1 (View as Proposed)</i>	<i>13-15</i>
<i>Figure 13.3a: View 2 (View as Existing)</i>	<i>13-16</i>
<i>Figure 13.3b: View 2 (View as Proposed)</i>	<i>13-17</i>
<i>Figure 13.4a: View 3 (View as Existing)</i>	<i>13-18</i>
<i>Figure 13.4b: View 3 (View as Proposed)</i>	<i>13-18</i>
<i>Figure 15.1: Archaeological Sites.....</i>	<i>15-7</i>
<i>Figure 16.1: Proposed Peat Transport Routes</i>	<i>16-6</i>
<i>Figure 16.2: Traffic Survey Location.....</i>	<i>16-9</i>
<i>Figure 16.3: AADTs at 2007.....</i>	<i>16-11</i>
<i>Figure 16.4: AADTs at 2011.....</i>	<i>16-12</i>
<i>Figure 16.5: Trip Distribution</i>	<i>16-18</i>

Tables

<i>Table 5.1: Population Change 1996 – 2006 (CSO)</i>	5-2
<i>Table 5.2: Household Numbers & Size</i>	5-3
<i>Table 5.3: Employment Growth in the West – Persons aged 15 and over at Work</i>	5-4
<i>Table 5.4: Average Number of Persons on Live Register in Béal an Mhuirthead (Belmullet)</i>	5-4
<i>Table 6.1: Designated Conservation Sites located within 10km of the Development Site</i>	6-12
<i>Table 6.2: Summary of Breeding Bird Data Collected (within 50m of the observer) during the 2008 Breeding Bird and 2010 early breeding/ late winter Surveys at Srahmore Deposition Site</i>	6-21
<i>Table 6.3: Summary of Bird Species recorded on the site but at a distance of > 50m from the observer</i>	6-22
<i>Table 6.4: Comparison of Species Recorded in the 2004 2008 and 2010 studies</i>	6-24
<i>Table 6.5: Ecological Site Evaluation Criteria</i>	6-25
<i>Table 6.6: Conservation Status of Bird Species Recorded during 2008 Breeding Bird Survey</i>	6-30
<i>Table 6.7: Impact Magnitude Matrix</i>	6-32
<i>Table 7.1: The biological river quality classification system (McGarrigle et al., 2002)</i>	7-3
<i>Table 7.2: Designated ecological conservation areas located within 10km of the development site (Aquatic sites)</i>	7-5
<i>Table 7.3: Q-values for the Owenmore River upstream and downstream of the site (Source: EPA 2002 and 2008)</i>	7-9
<i>Table 8.1: Piezometric Levels within Srahmore Peat Deposition site</i>	8-14
<i>Table 9.1: Rainfall Matrix for Belmullet Station (Met Éireann, March 2010)</i>	9-9
<i>Table 9.2: Design Calculation of peak runoff and regulated runoff to Swale</i>	9-10
<i>Table 9.3: Surface Water Chemistry Background 2003</i>	9-14
<i>Table 9.4: Surface Water Monitoring Locations</i>	9-16
<i>Table 9.5: Surface Water Monitoring (Suspended Solids) on the Munhin River</i>	9-17
<i>Table 9.6: Surface Water Monitoring (Ammonia) on the Munhin River</i>	9-18
<i>Table 9.7: Groundwater Results- Background 2003</i>	9-22
<i>Table 11.1: Relevant Air Quality Standards and Guidelines</i>	11-4
<i>Table 11.2: Measured Dust Deposition Rates</i>	11-6
<i>Table 11.3: Dust Monitoring Locations</i>	11-6
<i>Table 12.1: Baseline Noise Survey Results- February 2010</i>	12-2
<i>Table 12.2: Construction Phase Noise Levels at Nearest Sensitive Receptors</i>	12-5
<i>Table 12.3: Operational Phase Noise Levels at Nearest Sensitive Receptors</i>	12-6
<i>Table 13.1: Significance Criteria</i>	13-2
<i>Table 15.1: Archaeological Monuments in Vicinity of the Peat Deposition Site</i>	15-6
<i>Table 16.1: Location and Type of Junction Surveyed</i>	16-8
<i>Table 16.2: AADT within the Study Area</i>	16-13
<i>Table 16.3: 7 Day Profile Summary</i>	16-13
<i>Table 16.4: Traffic Movements during the Peak Construction Period (Month 2)</i>	16-16
<i>Table 16.5: Traffic Movements should all Sites operate at Peak simultaneously</i>	16-17
<i>Table 16.6: Link Capacity Assessments</i>	16-19
<i>Table 16.7: Site 4 Junction Capacity Analysis Results Scenario 1</i>	16-20
<i>Table 16.8: Site 4 Junction Capacity Analysis Results Scenario 2</i>	16-21
<i>Table 16.9: Site 5 Junction Capacity Analysis Results Scenario 1</i>	16-21
<i>Table 16.10: Site 5 Junction Capacity Analysis Results Scenario 2</i>	16-22

Table 16.11: Site 8 Junction Capacity Analysis Results Scenario 1 16-22
Table 16.12: Site 8 Junction Capacity Analysis Results Scenario 2 16-23
Table 17.1: Interaction of Environmental Factors 17-1

Appendices

- Appendix 1.1: Existing Waste Licence and Existing Planning Permission
- Appendix 1.2: IPPC Licence Rehabilitation Plan, Owenniny Works
- Appendix 1.3: Consultation Letter Responses
- Appendix 1.4: Planning Drawings
- Appendix 6.1: Species List for Cutover Blanket Bog Habitat
- Appendix 6.2: List of Vertebrates and Adjudget Status
- Appendix 6.3: Details of Potential or Disused Otter Holts identified within the Srahmore Peat Deposition Site
- Appendix 6.4: Photographic Record
- Appendix 7.1: Qualifying Criteria for Site Evaluation
- Appendix 7.2: BirdWatch Ireland and Ramsar Descriptions
- Appendix 8.1: Trial Pit Logs
- Appendix 8.2: Particle Size Distribution Curves
- Appendix 8.3: Borehole Logs
- Appendix 8.4: Packer Test Results
- Appendix 8.5: Hydraulic Permeability Test Results
- Appendix 8.6: AGEC Geotechnical Assessment Report
- Appendix 8.7: Stability Assessments 2007 and 2010- TOBIN Consulting Engineers
- Appendix 9.1: Annual Environmental Reports- Bord na Móna (BnM)
- Appendix 11.1: Corrective Actions- Waste Licence Compliance (BnM)
- Appendix 15.1: Archaeological Monitoring Report
- Appendix 15.2: RMP Sites
- Appendix 15.3: Topographical Files for County Mayo
- Appendix 15.4: Archaeological Legislation
- Appendix 18.1: Environmental Management System
- Appendix 18.2: EPA Site Inspection Reports