

Waste Sector - EPA Advice, Guidance & BAT



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Office of Climate Licensing & Resource Use 21/10/2009

Best Available Techniques for the Waste Sector

- The Origins of BAT
- Structure of BAT Notes – A Users Guide
- Waste BAT Notes under development

Historical Perspective – Where BAT came from

- Waste Management Act 1996
 - Waste Licensing
 - Concept of BATNEEC
 - Best Available Technology Not Entailing Excessive Cost

Bringing us to Present

■ 2003 Protection of the Environment Act

- Transposed IPPC Directive (96/61/EC) by amending WMA 1996-2001 and EPA Act 1992
- Substituted **BAT** for **BATNEEC**
- Added additional requirements (e.g. energy efficiency, accident prevention)
- Review Licences where changes in BAT make it possible to significantly reduce emissions

Why is BAT relevant?

EPA cannot grant a licence unless it is satisfied that:

- Emissions will not contravene relevant standards/regulations
- Energy used efficiently
- Prevention accidents
- Emissions will not cause environmental pollution
- Comply with Landfill Directive
- Consistent with relevant WMP or Hazardous WMP
- Best Available Techniques will be used to prevent or eliminate or, where that is not practicable, generally to reduce an emission from the activity

Who is required to comply with BAT?

- All New Waste Facilities
- Significant new expansions (Licence Reviews)
- Existing sites - ongoing site improvement aiming to achieve lower BAT levels

Reasonable time to comply with new BAT measures

BAT Definition

■ Best

- 'most effective in achieving a high general level of protection of the environment as a whole'

■ Techniques

- 'techniques includes both the technology used and the way in which the installation is designed, built, managed, maintained, operated and decommissioned'

■ Available Techniques

- 'techniques developed on a scale which allows implementation in the relevant class of activity specified in the Third and Fourth Schedules, under economically and technically viable conditions, taking into consideration the costs and advantages...and are reasonably accessible to the person carrying on the activity'

How do we determine what are BAT?

- BREF - BAT Reference documents produced by EIPPCB in Seville
- Waste Industry experience
- Most appropriate techniques depends on local factors
 - Technical characteristics of facility
 - Its geographical location
 - Local environmental considerations
 - Economic & technical viability of upgrading facility

Balance local circumstances with consistency

EPA Approach

- Prepare BAT Notes - include information in BREF documents, etc.
- Invite submissions/observations on draft BAT notes
 - via internet
 - written submissions
- Publish Final Draft Notes on Internet

Finalising BAT Notes

- When BAT Note finalised the EPA must
 - Send copy to Minister, Local Authorities, An Bord Pleanála, other prescribed bodies
 - Publish Notice in Iris Oifigiúil
 - Send notice to any persons who made submission
 - Provide copy of the BAT Note on request

BAT Note Structure – A Users Guide

- Section 1 - Introduction
- Section 2 - Interpretation of BAT
- Section 3 - Description of Activities
- Section 4 - Process Description, Risks to the Environment & Control Techniques
- Section 5 - **BAT**
- Section 6 - Emission Levels
- Section 7 - Monitoring Requirements

BAT Notes for Waste Sector

■ Waste Landfill Activities BAT Note

- Draft in consultation over recent years
- To replace Waste Landfill BAT Note - Issued (April 2003)

■ Waste Transfer Activities BAT Note

- Draft in consultation over recent years
- To replace Waste Transfer BAT Note - Issued (April 2003)

BAT Notes for Waste Sector in Development

- Composting Sector
- Thermal Waste Treatment
- Mechanical Biological Treatment
- Anaerobic Digestion

In Summary

- Where BAT came from
- BAT Note Structure
- Update on progress of future Waste BAT Notes

Encourage comments/submissions



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Thank you



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