

INDUSTRIAL AND WASTE LICENCE ENFORCEMENT

SUMMARY 2020

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Despite the significant impact of Covid 19 during 2020 the Office of Environmental Enforcement (OEE) continued to **carry out the enforcement of IE, IPC and Waste licences at over**

830 individual installations throughout Ireland.

The **essential work of the EPA continued in 2020** thereby underscoring the importance of ensuring that the protection of human health and the environment is not diminished as a result of the current pandemic. **The EPA continued to carry out enforcement activities** in a risk based and proportionate manner in line with the EPA Compliance and Enforcement Policy.

In reaction to the pandemic and the associated restrictions that were imposed, the OEE engaged with the licensed community to ensure that they continued to meet their regulatory requirements and ensure the protection of health and the environment.

In response to these challenges the OEE continued its normal work practices where possible and also implemented a series of innovative measures to ensure enforcement actions were continued.

Further details on the EPA's enforcement activities for 2020 are available at <http://www.epa.ie/industrialwastedata/>

ENFORCEMENT CHALLENGES



**SITE
INSPECTIONS**



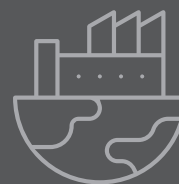
**COMPLAINT
INVESTIGATION
& RESOLUTION**



**EMISSIONS
MONITORING**



**NATIONAL
PRIORITY SITES**



**KEY
ENVIRONMENTAL
ISSUES**

SITE INSPECTIONS

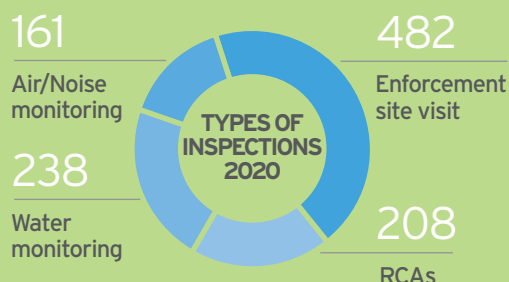


1089 Inspections were carried out at
468 different licensed sites.

REMOTE COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENTS (RCAs)

The OEE carried out over
200 RCAs from April to December 2020.

The RCA's use web-based communications systems to assess compliance at the licensed sites.



TOP 5 MOST VISITED SITES 2020



COMPLAINTS



THE OEE CONTINUES TO INVEST SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES INTO THE INVESTIGATION AND RESOLUTION OF COMPLAINTS FROM THE PUBLIC.

ODOURS from licensed facilities remained the single **biggest issue for the public in 2020.**

APRIL 2020 saw the **highest monthly total** of complaints received (187) by the OEE in recent years.

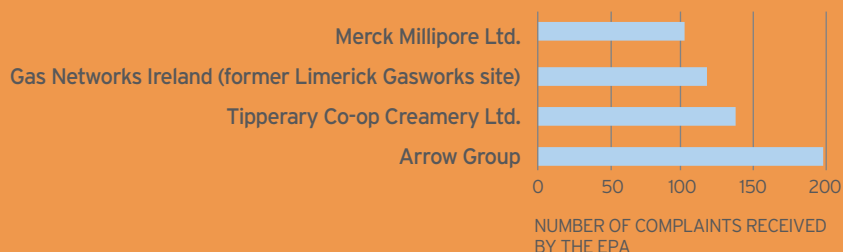
Whilst the number of individual sites being complained about did not increase significantly during the year, the **increase in the number of complainants (+127%) and complaints received (+92%) reversed the trends over previous years.**

13% of site inspections carried out by the OEE in 2020 were to **INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS FROM THE PUBLIC.**

The increased number of complainants indicates the presence of more people in their community on a continuous basis during the pandemic.



MOST COMPLAINED ABOUT SITES 2020



EMISSIONS MONITORING



WATER, EFFLUENT AND AIR MONITORING

is carried out by the EPA at a significant number of sites and this work continued in 2020.

37% of all inspections carried out at licensed sites during 2020 were for the purpose of **monitoring water, effluent and air monitoring.**

Continuous air emission monitoring data for sites with significant emissions to air was **submitted on a**

MONTHLY BASIS

to the OEE for assessment.

Routinely all licensed sites are required to carry out their own compliance monitoring and this was no different in 2020. It was noted however that there was an

18%

increase in the number of monitoring reports that were submitted to the OEE during 2020.

NATIONAL PRIORITY SITES

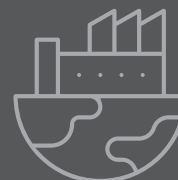


The OEE designated twelve sites as National Priority Sites, an increase from the eleven sites which were designated an NPS in 2019. Five of the 2019 sites were again designated an NPS in 2020. Five of the 2020 NPS sites were from the Waste sector. Arrow Group, which was also an NPS for all of 2019 continued to remain on the NPS list in 2020.

SITE	COUNTY	SECTOR	ISSUE
Arran Chemical Company Ltd.*	Roscommon	Chemical	Air emissions & groundwater contamination
Arrow Group*	Kildare	Food & Drink	Odour & Noise
Decotek Automotive Ltd.	Westmeath	Surface coating	Air emissions
Gas Networks Ireland (Former Limerick Gasworks remediation project)	Limerick	Waste	Odour & fugitive emissions
Green Circular Economy Unlimited Company	Dublin	Waste	Infrastructure, odour & financial provision
Killarney Waste Disposal Unlimited Company	Kerry	Waste	Waste storage, odour infrastructure & water management
Merck Millipore Ltd.	Cork	Surface coating	Odour
Raffeen Landfill Site (Cork Co. Co.)	Cork	Waste	Landfill gas & leachate management
Saint-Gobain Construction Products (Ireland) Ltd.	Monaghan	Mining	Water management
Takeda Ireland Ltd.	Dublin	Chemical	Air emissions
The Hammond Lane Metal Company Ltd.	Cork	Waste	Waste handling & housekeeping
Tipperary Co-operative Creamery Ltd.*	Tipperary	Food & Drink	Odour & wastewater management

* Sites still on NPS list at end of Quarter 4, 2020

KEY ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES



During 2020 there were a number of key environmental issues with regard to the enforcement of industrial and waste licensed sites.

ODOUR



NOISE



DISCHARGES TO WATER



EMISSIONS TO AIR



WASTE MANAGEMENT

