

Supplementary paper on the use of tyre bales in above ground installations

Final position on end-of-waste status for tyre bales

8 December 2010

In a 2009 paper entitled: *Environmental considerations arising from the use of baled tyres*, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) determined that the use of tyre bales constituted a waste activity and was subject to waste authorisation. In relation to the above ground use of tyre bales, the paper stated: ‘Use in “above ground” works may be acceptable as a non-waste activity.’ The EPA was subsequently requested to determine whether the above ground use of tyre bales is classified as a non-waste activity if it can be demonstrated that tyre bales represent end-of-waste for tyres: that is, that the use of a tyre in the manufacture of a tyre bale can be said to represent the complete and full recycling of that tyre.

The Environmental Protection Agency has decided that tyre bales cannot achieve end-of-waste status in accordance with article 6 of EU Directive 2008/98/EC on waste. Tyre bales remain classified as waste in all circumstances and subject to control and regulation as waste.

This note updates and supplements the Agency’s 2009 paper referred to above and clarifies the statement quoted above to the effect that use in above ground works is not acceptable as a non-waste activity. Earlier position papers published on the EPA website on the topic and dated 9 June 2010 and 13 September 2010 are replaced by this paper.

This decision has been notified to the European Commission in accordance with article 6 of Directive 2008/98/EC on waste and the procedures set down in Directive 98/34/EC.

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