

EPA Communiqué

January 2017

The Board held its 99th regular meeting on Tuesday 9 January 2017 in Hobart.

Assessment of Tyre Recycle – proposed shredder at Longford

Tyre Recycle operates a business collecting used motor vehicle tyres. It has accumulated a substantial stockpile of tyres at a property near Longford and has been required by the Northern Midlands Council to cease stockpiling and remove the existing stockpile by 2020. Tyre Recycle has proposed to install a shredder at the Longford site to process the tyres it collects and progressively shred the stockpile. The shredded tyres are to be processed at a separate site.

The Board completed its assessment of this proposal. Given that the existing stockpile of tyres is on the same parcel of land as the proposed shredder, and the stockpile is a Level 1 activity regulated by the Council, there was a detailed discussion as to how best to word a permit for the shredder without cutting across the Council's regulation of the existing stockpile, including its ban on any further stockpiling of tyres on the site. The Board determined that the Level 2 activity, which it had authority over, was the shredder and any immediate feedstock for it as well as the product from it. Accordingly, the Board decided that any conditions imposed should be limited to this scope.

The Board considered the matters raised in several representations and discussed the major environmental issues, including:

- The risk of a fire in the tyres and measures to prevent and manage this
- The management of fire-water in the event of a fire
- Noise, and
- Weed and disease management.

The Board concluded that the shredding activity could be conducted in an environmentally sustainable manner provided that the environmental conditions that would be required in any permit issued by the Council are complied with.