



Application for Licence

Part V Division 3 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Licence Number	L8336/2009/3
Applicant	SUEZ Recycling & Recovery Pty Ltd
ACN	002 902 650
File Number	DWERVT7318
Premises	Mindarie Resource Recovery Facility Lot 801 on Plan 57533 Pederick Road NEERABUP WA 6031
Date of Report	19/01/2021
Proposed Decision	Licence granted

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A/SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER

INDUSTRY REGULATION

an officer delegated under section 20 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (WA)

Table of Contents

1. Decision summary	3
2. Scope of assessment	3
2.1 Assessment framework	3
2.2 Application summary	3
2.3 Overview of Premises	4
3. Licence history	5
4. Relevant approvals	5
5. Consultation	5
6. Conclusion	6
References	6
Appendix 1: Application validation summary	7

1. Decision summary

The Delegated Officer has determined to renew the Licence for the SUEZ Recycling & Recovery Pty Ltd Mindarie Resource Recovery Facility for a period of 5 years. The renewal is administrative in nature to provide new licence commencement and expiry dates only, therefore a risk assessment of the emissions and discharges associated with the Premises has not been undertaken.

2. Scope of assessment

2.1 Assessment framework

In completing the assessment documented in this Decision Report, the department has considered and given due regard to its Regulatory Framework and relevant policy documents which are available at <https://dwer.wa.gov.au/regulatory-documents>.

The scope of this renewal is also influenced by Industry Regulation's internal work instruction *Covid-19 Licensing Position* which specifies that where practicable, renewals should be administrative only and constitute no further environmental assessment. Noting this, the Licence renewal is only to provide a new licence period and to implement any necessary administrative changes.

2.2 Application summary

On 5 October 2020, SUEZ Recycling and Recovery Pty Ltd (Applicant) submitted to the department an application to renew the Licence issued for the Mindarie Resource Recovery Facility.

The application is to provide a new licence period only. There are no proposed alterations to the currently licensed activities or infrastructure occurring at the Premises.

The Premises relates to the category and assessed production capacity under Schedule 1 of the *Environmental Protection Regulations 1987* (EP Regulations) which are defined in Licence L8336/2009/3 and Table 1.

Table 1: Prescribed premises category description

Prescribed premises category description (Schedule 1, <i>Environmental Protection Regulations 1987</i>)	Assessed production / design capacity
Category 67A: Compost manufacturing and soil blending: Premises on which organic material (excluding silage) or waste is stored pending processing, mixing, drying or composting to produce commercial quantities of compost or blended soils.	110,000 tonnes per year

The Applicant has a current lease agreement in place, which provides occupation of the premises until December 2032.

2.3 Overview of Premises

The Mindarie Resource Recovery Facility (MRRF) has been operating since 2009 and accepts municipal waste from the constituent members of the Mindarie Regional Council. The waste is separated, and the compostable organic material is processed to produce a stabilised compost product. Non-organic material is further separated into recyclable waste and any residual waste is disposed of at the Tamala Park Landfill. The storage building allows for a 7 day storage capacity. Truck loading takes place inside the building to eliminate possible dust dispersion.

The MRRF is an indoor waste processing facility which is intended to be maintained under negative pressure so that all air extracted from the processing areas undergoes the humidification process and air treatment through a four cell biofilter. With the three infeed fans, air is evenly distributed through the system at a maximum flow rate of 300,000 m³/h to achieve maximum odour reduction efficiency. The odour control system design has been maintained since the commencement of the facility, with the most recent biofilter media refurbishment completed in April 2017.

Waste materials are received onsite through automatic fast opening doors and tipped into a waste pit. Initial separation will be performed by the grapple operator who will feed the raw materials into the composter hoppers. The building is fully enclosed and maintained under negative pressure to minimise odour emissions.

The processed waste material will be held in the rotating composter for 3 days where it is continuously mixed with air and moisture to promote aerobic degradation. This process will break down 90% of the compostable material of the incoming waste stream into crude compost that will pass through a 30 millimetre trommel screen. Inorganic material will be separated and sorted at this point. The composters will be fed for between 8 and 12 hours per day. The composter output will be fed to the primary refining building where a large trommel screen separates crude compost from non-biodegradable materials. All residuals are collected in compactor bins at the end of the primary screening process.

Crude compost enters the maturation hall via a series of conveyors and is deposited at bays at one end of the building. Each bay is divided into 3 aeration zones, each zone with its own air supply. This allows control of air and temperature to maintain aerobic conditions during the maturation process and water is also added to ensure moisture is at optimum levels. During maturation the compost is turned towards toe outlet and after 28 days reaches the end of the bay. The maturation building is maintained under negative pressure.

The compost is further refined as it passes through a vibrating screen, included conveyors, magnetic separator, granulator and pulveriser. This material has a lower moisture content so a dust collection system collects and eliminates dust at strategic points. Dust is then collected in specific baghouses and air is sent to the maturation hall.

The biofilter odour control system has been designed to filter the maximum airflow through the processing system. Humidification of the air sent to the biofilter will be achieved through a fully automatic humidification system installed at the extraction points. The biofilter medium will comprise a mix of 2 size fractions, hard wood and native mulch, to maintain aeration and humidification. A drip system will maintain moisture to the top layer of the biofilter. The biofilter is constructed on an impervious sub-grade material which will collect leachate that will be redirected for use in the composter.

By means of aerobic digestion, the biofilter removes ammonia, sulphurous and volatile organic odourant compounds. The primary effect of normal biofilter operation is a conversion of odour, from an intense sweet fermentation odour to a less intense, earthy-musty odour.

3. Licence history

Table 2 provides the Licence history for L8336/2009/3.

Table 2: Licence history

Instrument	Issued	Amendment
L8336/2009/1	14/04/2009	New Licence
L8336/2009/2	10/04/2014	Licence renewal
L8336/2009/2	22/11/2016	Amendment Notice 1 – adjustment of condition numbers
L8336/2009/2	03/08/2017	Amendment Notice 2 – review and amendment of odour controls
L8336/2009/2	15/03/2019	Amendment Notice 3 – to extend the expiry date for one year
L8336/2009/2	26/03/2020	Licence Amendment – Amalgamation of Amendment Notices and extension to the expiry date by one year
L8336/2009/2	15/09/2020	Licence Amendment to alter conditions 18, 20 and 21
L8336/2009/3	19/01/2021	Licence renewal

4. Relevant approvals

Table 3 provides information relating to other approvals issued for the Premises.

Table 3: Relevant approvals

Legislation	Number	Approval
<i>Planning and Development Act 2005</i>		Lease agreement in place to December 2032.
	06/657	City of Wanneroo Planning approval – granted 16 December 2006.
<i>Environmental Protection Act 1986</i>	662	Ministerial Statement No 662 – Regional Resource Recovery Facility Lot 505, Neerabup Industrial Area, City of Wanneroo

5. Consultation

Table 4 provides a summary of the consultation undertaken by the department.

Table 4: Consultation

Consultation method	Comments received	Department response
Application advertised on the department's website (16/12/2020) and in the West Australian (21/12/2020)	Nil.	
City of Wanneroo advised of proposal (10/12/2020)	Nil.	
Applicant was provided with draft documents on 12/01/2021	Copy of lease agreement provided. No further comments.	Noted.

6. Conclusion

The Delegated Officer has reviewed the Licence renewal application for the Mindarie Resource Recovery Facility. The Delegated Officer considers that the application to renew the Licence is suitable, and grants Licence L8336/2009/3 with an expiry date of 13 April 2026.

The renewal of the Licence is administrative only to provide a new commencement and expiry date. No other changes to the Licence have been made.

References

1. Department of Environment Regulation (DER) 2017, *Guidance Statement: Licence duration*, Perth, Western Australia.
2. Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) 2019, *Guidance Statement: Decision Making*, Perth, Western Australia.

Appendix 1: Application validation summary

SECTION 1: APPLICATION SUMMARY				
Application type				
Works approval	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Licence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Relevant works approval number:		None <input type="checkbox"/>
		Has the works approval been complied with?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
		Has time limited operations under the works approval demonstrated acceptable operations?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
		Environmental Compliance Report / Critical Containment Infrastructure Report submitted?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
		Date Report received:		
Renewal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Current licence number:	L8336/2009/2	
Amendment to works approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	Current works approval number:		
Amendment to licence	<input type="checkbox"/>	Current licence number:		
		Relevant works approval number:	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registration	<input type="checkbox"/>	Current works approval number:	None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Date application received		5 October 2020		
Applicant and Premises details				
Applicant name/s (full legal name/s)		SUEZ Recycling & Recovery Pty Ltd		
Premises name		Mindarie Resource Recovery Facility		
Premises location		Lot 801 on Plan 57533 Pederick Road, Neerabup WA 6031		
Local Government Authority		City of Wanneroo		
Application documents				
HPCM file reference number:		DWERDT347028, A1942804		
Key application documents (additional to application form):		NIL, no licence amendment		
Scope of application/assessment				
Summary of proposed activities or changes to existing operations.		Licence renewal with a validity of 5 years		

Category number/s (activities that cause the Premises to become prescribed Premises)

Table 1: Prescribed Premises categories

Prescribed Premises category and description	Assessed production or design capacity	Proposed changes to the production or design capacity (amendments only)
Category 67A: compost manufacturing and soil blending: Premises on which organic material excluding silage) or waste is stored pending processing, mixing, drying or composting to produce commercial quantities of compost or blended soils.	110,000 tonnes per year	Nil Confirmed with applicant on 14/10/2020 (A1942804)

Legislative context and other approvals

Has the applicant referred, or do they intend to refer, their proposal to the EPA under Part IV of the EP Act as a significant proposal?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Does the applicant hold any existing Part IV Ministerial Statements relevant to the application?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Has the proposal been referred and/or assessed under the EPBC Act?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Has the applicant demonstrated occupancy (proof of occupier status)?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	General lease <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expiry: 2029
Has the applicant obtained all relevant planning approvals?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing EP Act clearing permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No clearing is proposed.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing CAWS Act clearing licence in relation to this proposal?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Licence not required.
Has the applicant applied for, or have an existing RIWI Act licence or permit in relation to this proposal?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Licence No: GWL 159409
Does the proposal involve a discharge of waste into a designated area (as defined in section 57 of the EP Act)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Is the Premises situated in a Public Drinking Water Source Area (PDWSA)?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<p>Is the Premises subject to any other Acts or subsidiary regulations (e.g. <i>Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004</i>, <i>Environmental Protection (Controlled Waste) Regulations 2004</i>, <i>State Agreement Act xxxx</i>)</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Is the Premises within an Environmental Protection Policy (EPP) Area?</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Is the Premises subject to any EPP requirements?</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
<p>Is the Premises a known or suspected contaminated site under the <i>Contaminated Sites Act 2003</i>?</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	