



INTERIM SLUDGE TREATMENT SOLUTIONS

Short-term Solutions to Sludge Treatment and Reuse

Client:: Various Local Authorities

SUMMARY:

Services Provided:

- Assessment of Sludge Quantities
- Provision of Service Contract Documents
- Analysis of Tenders
- Recommendation of Tender

All Local Authorities completed their Sludge Management Plans, generally, between 2000 and 2003. However, in a number of cases the strategies proposed have not yet been implemented. Therefore, Nicholas O'Dwyer Ltd were appointed to secure short-term solutions to address the issue of sludge treatment and biosolid reuse.

As Capital Budgets were allocated to the Sludge Management Plans, the Councils did not wish to spend capital monies on the short-term proposals as any infrastructure installed could impact the long-term solution. Therefore, a service contract strategy was adopted whereby an area of the Hub Centre site was set aside for a Contractor to set up a temporary treatment regime or a collection system with treatment being carried out off site. The treatment process had to be in accordance with the Code of Good Practice for the use of Biosolids in Agriculture, SI 148 of 1998 and SI 276 of 2001. The contract was framed to permit maximum flexibility for the contractor in any proposal while ensuring that the core requirements were complied with. Proof of planning was also required for any off-site treatment and a full paper-trail was required for any beneficial reuse outlet. The contract period was generally for 3 years, as this was deemed to be sufficient time to implement the main capital scheme. The payment terms were simplified to ensure ease of financial management from both the Contractors and Councils point of view.



Tenders were received and analysed to ensure all requirements were adhered to and a recommendations made which provided the council with best most economical and sustainable solution.

Interim solutions have been developed in Carlow, Cavan, Meath, Kildare and Longford. In the case of Carlow, we were re-appointed to re-tender the contract when the initial 3-year period expired.

