

Response ID ANON-URZ4-5F7B-9

Submitted to Fast-track approval applications
Submitted on 2024-05-02 19:40:02

Submitter details

Is this application for section 2a or 2b?

2A

1 Submitter name

Individual or organisation name:
GREENCYCLE COMPOSTING LIMITED

2 Contact person

Contact person name:
Alan Copsey

3 What is your job title

Job title:
PROJECT MANAGER

4 What is your contact email address?

Email:
s 9(2)(a)

5 What is your phone number?

Phone number:
s 9(2)(a)

6 What is your postal address?

Postal address:

141 HUGO JOHNSTON DRIVE
PENROSE
AUCKLAND 1061

7 Is your address for service different from your postal address?

No

Organisation:
GREENCYCLE COMPOSTING LIMITED

Contact person:
Alan Copsey

Phone number:
s 9(2)(a)

Email address:
s 9(2)(a)

Job title:
PROJECT MANAGER

Please enter your service address:

141 HUGO JOHNSTON DRIVE
PENROSE
AUCKLAND 1061

Section 1: Project location

Site address or location

Add the address or describe the location:

1080 SH16
WAIMAUKU 0883

File upload:

Section 1_Location.zip was uploaded

Upload file here:

No file uploaded

Do you have a current copy of the relevant Record(s) of Title?

Yes

upload file:

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Who are the registered legal land owner(s)?

Please write your answer here:

HALBERD HOLDINGS LIMITED

Detail the nature of the applicant's legal interest (if any) in the land on which the project will occur

Please write your answer here:

Greencycle Composting Limited and Halberd Holdings Limited have an Agreement dated 17th October 2023. The lease will run for the term of the Consents with Right of Renewal.

Background

A GCL is in the business of transforming organic waste into mulch and compost.

B. GCL wishes to establish a GORE composting facility. To do so they must first conduct a trial.

C HHL is the owner of the property known as Humphries Farm, situated at 1080 State Highway 16, Waimauku ("the Property") more particularly described in the schedule to this agreement.

D HHL has agreed to licence those parts of the Property shown marked on the attached plan as the Trial Site and the Facility together with the accessways ("the Site") from HHL to establish and operate a GORE composting facility ("the Facility") on the terms and conditions set out in this agreement ("Agreement").

Section 2: Project details

What is the project name?

Please write your answer here:

GreenCycle - Advanced Composting Facility

What is the project summary?

Please write your answer here:

Establish an advanced SG GORE® technology composting facility, processing capacity 50ktn p.a.

Provide a sustainable solution capable of processing a wide variety of organics, specifically targeting problematic, hard to process materials.

Targeted organics diversion from landfill - 35ktn+ p.a.

What are the project details?

Please write your answer here:

Purpose –

To build a facility that will divert over 35,000tn p.a + of Problem Organic waste from landfill and provide a sustainable and competitive processing service for Greater Auckland, Whangarei and further afield. (Facility capacity at start-up - 50,000tn p.a.)

Our objectives –

Our primary objective is to process Problematic Organic waste that is too difficult to recycle and usually dumped to landfill as 'Problem Greenwaste' including but not limited to -

- Problem or fibrous green waste

- Commercial food scraps

- Food processing waste, filter press waste, grape marc etc

- Animal processing waste / animal mortalities
- Bio-solids, paunch grass
- DAF or WAS
- Char and/or ash

GreenCycle has developed a unique recycling process and currently processes and transforms all types of greenwaste into high quality organic mulch. GreenCycle Composting will utilize this technology and IP in combination with the construction of a large scale SG GORE's Composting facility in Waimauku, West Auckland, redefining 'Problem Organic Waste' as 'recyclable waste'.

Activities –

Construction of a hi-tech processing facility including –

Upgrade of the Electrical supply and services

Construction of –

Offices

Receivables building

Processing building

Processing pad and bunkers

Infrastructure for –

Mitigation of contamination to water

Mitigation of contamination to air (odour)

Describe the staging of the project, including the nature and timing of the staging

Please write your answer here:

The project start is set for September 2024 with groundwork starting October 2024 when the ground is suitable for excavation works to begin.

Stage 1 – Design and Consents

May – August 2024

Primarily administrative, focusing on completion of Design works and Consents.

Funding signed off

Procurement of plant and machinery completed and delivery times locked in.

Stage 2 – Access

September 2024

Ensure the site has sufficient infrastructure for the construction phase and operations.

Install electrical supply/Transmission lines to the operations site and installation of Transformer

Upgrades to access road (if required).

Stage 3 – Site works

October – December 2024

Stormwater treatment ponds (SRP) will be constructed in advance of other site works.

Site works will be further staged throughout the period so that construction can proceed in a timely and logical manner.

Foundations and services for the offices and ancillary units will be completed in readiness for the delivery of the prefabricated units. Offices and ancillary units will be completed, and the units delivered and made available for use during the remainder of the construction phase.

The main operations pad/bunker area will be stripped and formed to design and foundations ready for the processing and screening sheds.

Stage 4 – Construction

November 2024 – February 2025

Construction will commence on the main operations site constructing pre-cast bunker walls on site prior to installing to form the bunkers and then laying the foundations and floors for the processing and screening sheds. Concrete works will continue on the operations pad, constructing the aeration bunker floors and access ways to complete the facility.

Sheds will be built through January and February and services installed.

Power reticulation completed to aeration pad, sheds, ancillary plant and offices.

Stage 5 – Delivery and commissioning of Plant and Equipment

January – March 2025

Installation of the SG GORE aeration systems to aeration bunkers, commission and test IT configuration.

Receive and commission all plant and machinery.

Sign off completion of all aspects of the construction project.

Commence Operations.

What are the details of the regime under which approval is being sought?

Please write your answer here:

Resource Management Act 1991

This project will require resource consents from the Auckland Council under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), including the following:

- Land use (e.g. use of a vehicle access onto an arterial road, earthworks exceeding 2,500 m²)

- Discharge of contaminants to air.
- Water take from a river (the Kaipara River)
- Diversion and discharge of stormwater

If you seeking approval under the Resource Management Act, who are the relevant local authorities?

Please write your answer here:

Auckland City Council

What applications have you already made for approvals on the same or a similar project?

Please write your answer here:

Nil

Is approval required for the project by someone other than the applicant?

No

Please explain your answer here:

There are no other parties requiring this approval for the project to continue.

If the approval(s) are granted, when do you anticipate construction activities will begin, and be completed?

Please write your answer here:

May 2024 - Funding signed off, design work commences
 July 2024 - Procure all plant and equipment
 August 2024 - Construction plans and working drawings completed
 Sept/Oct 2024 - Site works commence
 Nov/Dec 2024 - Construction works commence
 December 2024 - Site works completed
 February 2025 - Construction completed
 February 2025 - Plant and machinery installed and commissioned
 March 2025 - Fully operational

Section 3: Consultation

Who are the persons affected by the project?

Please write your answer here:

Auckland Council
 Iwi contacted
 Ngāti Manuhiri - Warkworth
 Ngāti Maru - Thames
 Ngāti Te Ata - Waiuku
 Ngātiwai - Whangarei
 Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara - Helensville
 Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei - Orakei
 Te Ākitai Waiohū - Mangere Bridge
 Te Kawerau ā Maki - Henderson
 Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua - Whangarei

Detail all consultation undertaken with the persons referred to above. Include a statement explaining how engagement has informed the project.

Please write your answer here:

Auckland Council -
 GreenCycle have conducted a Pre-application meeting June 18th 2023 with the Auckland Council.
 The land proposed for the location of the facility has changed though the technology and all other matters remain the same.

Iwi -
 GreenCycle Composting contacted all Iwi listed by email (file - '2023.10.19_email to Iwi')
 A response from Manuhiri Kaitiaki Trust of Warkworth was received October 20th 2023 (file - 'Manuhiri Kaitiaki Trust response')
 GreenCycle responded to Te Ao Rosie on 22nd of February 2024 (file - '2024_02_22_email to Manuhiri Kaitiaki Trust')
 There will be further discussions with Iwi and we will be working closely with them through the design phase in particular, and further throughout construction, commissioning and once operational.

Upload file here:

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Describe any processes already undertaken under the Public Works Act 1981 in relation to the land or any part of the land on which the project will occur:

Please write your answer here:

None

Section 4: Iwi authorities and Treaty settlements

What treaty settlements apply to the geographical location of the project?

Please write your answer here:

Deed of Settlement between the Crown and Te Kawerau ā Maki.

On 12 December 2013, Te Kawerau ā Maki and the Crown initialed a deed of settlement which was ratified by the Te Kawerau ā Maki community and signed on February 2014.

The Te Kawerau ā Maki Deed of Settlement is the final settlement of all historical Treaty of Waitangi claims of Te Kawerau ā Maki resulting from acts or omissions by the Crown prior to 21 September 1992, and is made up of a package that includes:

- an agreed historical account, acknowledgments and apology
- cultural redress
- financial and commercial redress.

No private land is affected by the redress, only Crown land. The benefits of the settlement will be available to all members of Te Kawerau ā Maki wherever they may live.

Recognition of the traditional, historical, cultural and spiritual associations Te Kawerau ā Maki has with places and sites owned by the Crown within their area of interest. This allows Te Kawerau ā Maki and the Crown to protect and enhance the conservation values associated with these sites.

Are there any Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Porou Act 2019 principles or provisions that are relevant to the project?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Are there any identified parcels of Māori land within the project area, marae, and identified wāhi tapu?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Is the project proposed on any land returned under a Treaty settlement or any identified Māori land described in the ineligibility criteria?

No

Has the applicant has secured the relevant landowners' consent?

Yes

Is the project proposed in any customary marine title area, protected customary rights area, or aquaculture settlement area declared under s 12 of the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004 or identified within an individual iwi settlement?

No

If yes, what are they?:

Has there been an assessment of any effects of the activity on the exercise of a protected customary right?

No

If yes, please explain:

Upload your assessment if necessary:

No file uploaded

Section 5: Adverse effects

What are the anticipated and known adverse effects of the project on the environment?

Please describe:

There is a very low risk of adverse effects on the environment.

The planning for mitigation for contamination to waterways during the construction phase and throughout the operational life of the project is robust and requires minimal maintenance.

During operation there is a low risk of contamination to air, i.e. odour

The SG BUNKER® Facility with GORE® Covers is an Advanced Composting System bringing several proven technologies together to achieve in-vessel performance and a high level of process control to manage the processing of organic waste whilst mitigating odour, leachate and other contaminants being discharged to the environment.

Upload file:

Section 5_Advers effects.zip was uploaded

Section 6: National policy statements and national environmental standards

What is the general assessment of the project in relation to any relevant national policy statement (including the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement) and national environmental standard?

Please write your answer here:

Ref: National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (January 2024)

and: New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010

We recognise the need for Integrated Management and recognise the interconnectedness of the whole environment, from the mountains and lakes, down the rivers to hāpua (lagoons), wahapū (estuaries) and to the sea; and recognise interactions between freshwater, land, water bodies, ecosystems, and receiving environments; and manage freshwater, and land use and development, in catchments in an integrated and sustainable way to avoid, remedy, or mitigate adverse effects, including cumulative effects, on the health and well-being of water bodies, freshwater ecosystems, and receiving environments.

Our mitigation processes and stormwater treatment will ensure that the health and well-being of water bodies and freshwater ecosystems will not be affected by the construction phase or during the operational life of the project nor disregard the Objectives of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010.

File upload:

Section 6_National Policy.zip was uploaded

Section 7: Eligibility

Will access to the fast-track process enable the project to be processed in a more timely and cost-efficient way than under normal processes?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Timing for the start of the project is critical but reliant upon gaining consents being processed in a relatively short period.

Fast-track will equate to substantial savings in time and therefore cost, and should eliminate many of the costs incurred for consultancy out-sourced by the relevant Council's.

What is the impact referring this project will have on the efficient operation of the fast-track process?

Please write your answer here:

In referring this project there will be little effect on the efficient running of the fast-track process.

Our works are predominantly simple construction with few specialist requirements and the operations on site during construction and throughout the operational life of the facility have distinct requirements for the prevention of environment effects.

We have the experience in the running of the same/similar processes and the requirements and mechanisms to mitigate environmental effects.

Therefore, we are to be able present a well informed and complete application for each consent required.

Has the project been identified as a priority project in a:

Central government plan or strategy

Please explain your answer here:

The following have been identified by Central Government as a Priority -

- to divert organic waste from Landfill

- to reduce the production of GHG's, (more specifically, methane)

The project achieves these priorities of Central Government.

GreenCycle Composting have applied the the MfE for partial funding of the project.

The application is now under final review (stage 4 of the process).

Will the project deliver regionally or nationally significant infrastructure?

Regional significant infrastructure

Please explain your answer here:

The project will be situated in the NW of Greater Auckland, the location chosen in response to the lack of processing capacity in areas North of Auckland.

The March 2023 Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure and Services Stocktake and Gap Analysis report developed for MfE, noted the following Gaps with respect to Organic Waste Reprocessing (see page 17-18):

Organic Waste Reprocessing

National Gap:

Overall, the market responds to where there are supplies of materials and a demand for the products. However, there are gaps in the processing capacity for some streams such as household food waste and compostable packaging. Compostable packaging and household food waste are seen as potentially contaminated and difficult to produce a quality product from. Gaining consents for food waste processing facilities can be a significant barrier.

Regional Gap:

There are clear regional gaps in processing capacity, most notably lower South Island, upper South Island, West Coast of the South Island, and North of Auckland. In these areas there are limited processing facilities for organic wastes including putrescible wastes from household, commercial primary processing sources, and agricultural sources (e.g. skins, fish farm waste, fallen fruit, grape marc). There are also Forestry residues, wood processing wastes in key regions (Otago-Southland, Hawkes Bay, Gisborne, Northland) Other common gaps include WTP biosolids, and processing waste such as DAF sludges, and liquid food processing wastes.

The GreenCycle Composting facility will receive feedstock from a number of regions.

For example, the efficiencies that GreenCycle has developed for the processing of Fibrous Greenwaste means such material out of the The Bay of Plenty will likely be diverted to this facility.

Furthermore, our SG GORE Composting Technology provides the ability to process other problem waste streams that can be diverted from landfill, including but not limited to -

- Problem or fibrous green waste
- Commercial food scraps
- Food processing waste, filter press waste, grape marc etc
- Animal processing waste / animal mortalities
- Bio-solids, paunch grass
- DAF or WAS
- Char and/or ash

Some of these waste streams will come from regions well south of Auckland or the Waikato.

Will the project:

contribute to a well-functioning urban environment

Please explain your answer here:

A well-functioning Urban environment creates 'waste', it is where the waste finishes up that is the key.

GreenCycle will provide a sustainable processes for the processing of organic waste from growers, factories, food processors, townships and others.

Providing a valuable, rich compost back to growers and the community for the production of food or the restoration of soils for parks and recreation.

It's important that NEW technologies are able to provide communities with safe and practical methods of dealing with the waste the community creates, without becoming a threat to the environment in which we live, work and enjoy.

One of the major advantages of the SG GORE Composting technology and system is the management and separation of contaminants within the composting material from the environment.

The mitigation of contamination to the environment within the operation is simplistic and it works.

Will the project deliver significant economic benefits?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

There is a lack of Organic Waste processing services to Greater Auckland and in particular the northern regions.

This facility will provide a simple and economical alternative to landfill, giving waste producers the choice of an advanced, environmentally sound, sustainable and circular solution.

The location for facility will be providing waste producers and collection companies a realistic, economic opportunity to develop new collection services to industry and communities that are currently underserved for the disposal of organic waste streams.

The location also makes the transportation of finished compost to farmers and growers in the Auckland and Northland regions, far more economical.

Will the project support primary industries, including aquaculture?

No

Please explain your answer here:

The project will support
Forestry
Agriculture
Horticulture
but will provide little or no direct support for aquaculture.

Will the project support development of natural resources, including minerals and petroleum?

No

Please explain your answer here:

Will the project support climate change mitigation, including the reduction or removal of greenhouse gas emissions?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Major environmental advantages -

Covered composting piles, monitoring of temperature + oxygen, well blended feed stock + positive aeration mitigates the potential for anaerobic conditions and the production of methane.

The enhanced aerobic conditions promote microbial metabolic pathways that form CO₂ and nitrogen from the breakdown of organics, far less harmful to the environment than the GHG's from a landfill.

For example, the diversion of 35ktn of 'Problem greenwaste' from landfill conserves 38ktn of GHG emissions.

Anaerobic Digested Biosolids and GHG emissions:

Publications show the biosolids sludge ex AD is still biologically active. In the most relevant study, GHG's were actively measured as emissions from the stored ex-AD biosolids over 12 months. It shows, stored biosolids produced 22.4 ± 3.8% of the total GHG emissions associated with anaerobic digestion of organic waste.

Will the project support adaptation, resilience, and recovery from natural hazards?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

The project will process debris such as fallen trees and storm damaged material to provide a high quality compost. In areas of flooding or where slips have occurred, compost may be used in part of the remediation and recovery of soils and exposed clay.

Will the project address significant environmental issues?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

Organic matter in soil can act as an indirect measure of the potentially available nitrogen in the soil, and has multiple other benefits such as moisture and nutrient retention and improving soil structure.

This is especially relevant to the impact this facility can have for horticulture in the Far North. Carbon levels in the Far North are very high and organic levels are very low when compared to the productive soils of the Bay of Plenty.

There is no doubt that organic matter, such as compost, is a necessary ingredient for the horticulture industries of the North, such as Avocado, to reach optimum and sustainable production levels.

Is the project consistent with local or regional planning documents, including spatial strategies?

Yes

Please explain your answer here:

A pre-application meeting was held with Auckland Council who were supportive of a consent application as being consistent with the regional plan.

Anything else?

Please write your answer here:

Fast-tracking the consents will serve to assist the 'on-time' completion of the facility.

If we fail to start the main body of ground works on-time, it is likely we will have to stage works differently, adding a further 12 months to the construction phase and the start of full scale operations, pushing out commissioning until March 2026, rather than 2025.

Cost for the completed facility would be well above budget, but as importantly, in this time, 50,000tn of organic material will have continued to go to landfill, adding to GHG emissions and not available to be processed into high quality compost. A much needed supply of nutrient rich organic material to the horticultural and agricultural industries.

Does the project includes an activity which would make it ineligible?

No

If yes, please explain:

Section 8: Climate change and natural hazards

Will the project be affected by climate change and natural hazards?

Yes

If yes, please explain:

It would be foolhardy to assume any project would be unaffected by climate change.

During the construction phase of the project, there may be weather patterns that cause a delay in ground work or construction, another reason for starting earlier with the aid of the fast-track process.

From an operational perspective, the operational site will not be prone the storm damage or flooding though the service road runs over a bridge which, could become flooded for short periods.

Supply of regular feedstock is not likely to fluctuate a great deal though flood and storm damage in exposed locations may cause a surge of organic waste for short periods.

Section 9: Track record

Please add a summary of all compliance and/or enforcement actions taken against the applicant by any entity with enforcement powers under the Acts referred to in the Bill, and the outcome of those actions.

Please write your answer here:

NIL

Load your file here:

No file uploaded

Declaration

Do you acknowledge your submission will be published on environment.govt.nz if required

Yes

By typing your name in the field below you are electronically signing this application form and certifying the information given in this application is true and correct.

Please write your name here:

Alan Copsey

Important notes