

## **Major new MRF to serve the Dublin region**

Mr. John Gormley, TD, Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government has opened one of the largest and most sophisticated Materials Recovery Facilities (MRF) in Europe.

The facility is located at Ballymount in Dublin 12 and will cater for the processing of Green Bin materials in the Dublin region for the next 20 years, using the most modern electronic and mechanical equipment on the market. It is a joint venture between the four Dublin local authorities.

The Minister said - "This facility will employ 85 people onsite with a further 100 collecting green bins and will have a capacity of 100,000 tonnes per annum. All materials collected *via* green bins in the Dublin region will be segregated and baled at the new facility for further processing or recovery offsite. High quality is vital and people presenting clean separated material for recycling in their green bins is the key to success.

"Despite the current drop in market prices for recyclates, such material is still moving and consumers can have confidence in our recycling sector. The investment at the Ballymount Materials Recovery Facility underpins my approach - which is to invest in green infrastructure to create jobs, ensure sustainable economic development and provide consumers with the green services they need and deserve" - The Minister added.

"The facility has received over €26 million in funding from the Department and represents the type of sustainable, clean, efficient and cost-effective waste management system that is a basic requirement to ensure - not only the quality of the environment, but sustainable growth and economic prosperity."

Minister Gormley concluded - "We also need to capitalise on Irish consumers' exemplary record in recycling and develop the home markets for recycled material through the Market Development Programme. I will invest €13 million over the next 5 years in this programme, which I am confident will deliver further innovation, investment and employment in the green sector."

*Source: EnviroSolutions 26.01.09*