

Resource Matching Service

Improving productivity through efficient resource management

Rethinking oil tank disposal

The move from oil to natural gas heating systems is building momentum. Despite lower carbon dioxide levels associated with the combustion of natural gas compared to oil, these heating system conversions raise the issue of safe redundant oil tank disposal.

As of January 2020, Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) classes redundant HDPE oil tanks as hazardous waste. The oil residue left inside the tanks contaminates the plastic and makes safe disposal and recycling difficult.

Key steps:

1. **Decommissioning and removal**
2. **Decontamination**
3. **Safe disposal/recycling**

Penalties may be faced if businesses are found not complying with NIEA disposal regulations.

The International Synergies (IS) Service can refer you to a list of NI businesses who have a registered licence with NIEA.

Aided by introductions made by IS Practitioners, the following achievements have resulted for the IS member businesses involved:

Cost savings: £12,908

Additional sales: £26,625

CO₂ reduction: 2,461 tonnes



Potential benefits for your business:

- Environmental compliance
- Cost-savings e.g. landfill diversion
- Safe disposal of hazardous waste

If you are seeking alternative solutions to oil tank disposal which comply with NIEA's guidelines, please get in touch with the International Synergies NI team at info@international-synergiesni.com or on +44 (0) 28 3833 3438