



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment & Decommissioning

**Offshore Petroleum Regulator for
Environment & Decommissioning**

For the attention of:
PPC permit holders

Department for Business, Energy &
Industrial Strategy
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19 August 2022

Dear Operator,

PPC – OFFSHORE EMISSIONS MONITORING GUIDANCE

The Offshore Combustion Installations (Pollution Prevention and Control) Regulations 2013 ('PPC')

I write to advise you the Department has published revision 4 of the "Offshore Emissions Monitoring Guidance" for the purpose of facilitating compliance with your PPC permit issued under the above Regulations. The guidance document can be downloaded from our [website](#)¹.

The guidance follows the Department making available a standard PPC Monitoring Plan template as outlined in our [letter](#)² to industry of 29 July 2022; this template can also be downloaded from the same page of our website.

What is the relevance of the monitoring guidance?

The monitoring guidance should be used in conjunction with the monitoring plan template to facilitate PPC monitoring compliance for the 2022 calendar year and for future years.

The guidance describes the Department's overall approach to emissions monitoring for permit compliance and provides guidance on appropriate techniques and methods, and corresponding industry standards.

Offshore operators holding a permit are required to hold a monitoring plan under which they must undertake emissions monitoring of combustion plant, including periodic measurements (extractive sampling) from the exhaust stacks of their Large Combustion Plant (LCP) and their Medium Combustion Plant (MCP). Offshore combustion installations must also comply with annual reporting requirements of the emissions from the installation of the pollutants prescribed in their permit.

The offshore monitoring plan and the associated monitoring programme should reflect the quality requirements given in this guidance. The guidance is centred around the implementation of Best Available Techniques (BAT) in relation to monitoring of emissions to

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/oil-and-gas-offshore-environmental-legislation#offshore-combustion-installations-pollution-prevention-and-control-regulations-2013-as-amended>

² https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1095429/PPC_Monitoring_Plan_-_Letter_to_industry_-_29072022.pdf



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air (atmospheric emissions) as required under the Regulations. For LCP, these requirements include the relevant requirements of the LCP BAT Reference document (BREF).

Who should use this guidance.

The audience for the guidance is oil and gas operators responsible for PPC compliance, for understanding and implementing monitoring strategies for offshore combustion equipment, rather than technical emission monitoring practitioners. However, the document allows the former to guide the latter when scoping the details of any measurement campaign(s) within an operator's monitoring plan.

What are the key dates for submissions under the guidance?

Refer to the Department's letter of 29 July 2022 regarding the expectation for monitoring plans to be submitted to the Department (via a permit variation in the PETS portal) by 30 September 2022. The monitoring plan template facilitates the Operator in outlining their monitoring intentions for the three-year period 2022 – 2024, and the plan should be updated each calendar year on a rolling basis in line with the monitoring guidance.

As a condition of your permit, **the Department reminds permit holders of the requirement to undertake the annual emissions monitoring of qualifying LCPs, if you have not already done so, in 2022.**

In line with the guidance, monitoring results from periodic compliance testing should be reported by email submission to the Department within 3 months of the required monitoring being conducted. No permit variation is required to report stack monitoring results. However, in addition to the email submission, stack monitoring reports should always be uploaded to the UK Energy Portal by the permit holder at the next permit variation.

Annual mass emissions data returns must be reported into the Environmental and Emissions Monitoring System (EEMS) in accordance with the permit condition. The requirement to monitor and report emissions from LCP each calendar year to meet annual compliance requirements allows results from the calendar year to be used to determine / sense check annual EEMS returns submitted by 31 March of the following calendar year.

In line with the guidance, any non-compliance with respect to emissions monitoring must be reported to the Department using the Integrated Reporting Service (IRS).

Should you have any queries about the content of this letter and need advice, please contact the Department using the details above.

Yours faithfully,



Jonathan Ward
Director, Environmental Operations
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