



Standard rules consultation no18:  
revision of standard rules set  
SR2018 No 9

Summary of consultation responses  
and decisions

December 2018

We are the Environment Agency. We protect and improve the environment.

We help people and wildlife adapt to climate change and reduce its impacts, including flooding, drought, sea level rise and coastal erosion.

We improve the quality of our water, land and air by tackling pollution. We work with businesses to help them comply with environmental regulations. A healthy and diverse environment enhances people's lives and contributes to economic growth.

We can't do this alone. We work as part of the Defra group (Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs), with the rest of government, local councils, businesses, civil society groups and local communities to create a better place for people and wildlife.

Published by:

Environment Agency  
Horizon House, Deanery Road,  
Bristol BS1 5AH  
Email: [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)  
[www.gov.uk/environment-agency](http://www.gov.uk/environment-agency)

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# 1. Introduction

The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (“EP Regulations”) allow us to offer standard permits, to reduce the administrative burden on business while maintaining environmental standards. They are based on sets of standard rules that we can apply widely. The rules are developed using assessments of the environmental risk posed by the activity.

Through this consultation, live from 23 November to 21 December 2018, we proposed a revision to a set of standard rules for specified generators.

The consultation invited views on whether a revision to the rules to allow secondary abatement would be appropriate.

## 2. How we ran the consultation

We invited comments on the proposal from operators, trade associations and businesses, other regulators, the public, community groups and non-governmental organisations with an interest in environmental issues.

We ran an e-consultation and made hard copies available to those who requested. We also met several trade associations and their members to explain our proposals and to understand their views. This document summarises the responses to the consultation questions and any other key points raised. It sets out our responses to the points raised by consultees, the decisions we have made and the actions we will take as a consequence.

## 3. Proposed rules and risk assessments for medium combustion plants and specified generators

### 3.1. Summary of the key findings and the actions we will take

#### **Proposals we consulted on**

The consultation proposed a revision to standard rule set SR2018 No 9. These rules currently allow the operator to operate one or more unabated Tranche B Specified Generators which are natural gas fired engines or boilers which are combined heat and power (CHPs).

The consultation proposed to include the option for secondary abatement in this rule set. This included:

- removing the prohibition of secondary abatement
- providing compliance and monitoring requirements in the rules

### 3.2. Level of response

We have received one response from an operator which we have considered.

### 3.3. Key findings and the actions we will take

There were no objections to the proposal.

We are satisfied that the proposed revised standard rules set is appropriate for this activity. We will implement the revised rule set and plan to publish it before January 2019.

### 3.4. Responses to questions and our response to these

The respondent strongly agreed with the proposal to revise the rules and supported the proposed amendment to allow secondary abatement under the standard rules permit. We note that the proposal is being supported by this consultee.

## 4. Next Steps

The revised standard rule set will be published on the GOV.UK website before January 2019.

If you responded and wish to follow up your response, or want more detail on any of the points made in this document, you can contact us:

Environment Agency

Regulatory Development Permitting Team

Horizon House

Deanery Road

Bristol

BS1 5AH

email: [enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk)

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