



# Notice of variation with introductory note

Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016

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Sellafield Limited

Sellafield Site  
Seascale, Cumbria  
CA20 1PG

Variation notice number  
EPR/KP3690SX/V009

Permit number  
EPR/KP3690SX

# Sellafield Site

## Permit Number EPR/KP3690SX

### Introductory note

#### **This introductory note does not form a part of the notice.**

The following notice gives notice of the variation of an environmental permit.

In anticipation of the end of THORP and Magnox reprocessing a major review of the Sellafield Limited Radioactive Substances Activities (RSA) environmental permit has been undertaken. Significant reductions in radioactive discharges are occurring as reprocessing comes to an end. However, decommissioning and waste management will continue for many years. Consequently, the nature and radionuclide composition of radioactive discharges and waste disposals is changing and significant permit changes are needed to ensure effective regulation.

This variation includes changes made by us to introduce conditions into the permit that require an operator to develop and maintain a waste management plan (WMP) and a site wide environmental safety case (SWESC), in line with the joint environment agencies' guidance document '*Management of radioactive waste from the decommissioning of nuclear sites: guidance on the requirements for release from radioactive substances regulation*' (known as the GRR). We are introducing new conditions which require: improvements to the asset management of ventilation systems; greater understanding of future cobalt-60 aqueous discharges; and approval of any new permanent routing of aqueous radioactive waste via the Calder interceptor sewer or factory sewer. The consolidated permit also includes changes arising from the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations (for implementation of the Basic Safety Standards Directive 2013/59/Euratom) and other minor updates.

Specific changes made to the Sellafield Limited RSA environmental permit associated with limits and notification levels are as follows:

- Removal of site limits and quarterly notification levels where discharges have fallen below significant levels, in terms of quantity discharged and resulting impact.
- Significant reduction in headroom in site limits and quarterly notification levels where future discharge projections allow.
- Replacement of annual plant limits with annual plant notification levels to enable Sellafield Limited to optimise discharge routing and the effective use of abatement plants.
- Introduction of a 2 tier site limit structure. Just over half of upper site limits will be in force when the variation becomes effective, until a key milestone has been achieved, i.e. end of Magnox reprocessing for some aqueous and gaseous limits and active commissioning of High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filtration in the Magnox Swarf Storage Silos (MSSS) ventilation stack for some gaseous limits. There will be notification requirements in the permit regarding these key milestones. Once the lower site limit is in force, the upper site limit will only be in force in cases where we have agreed that Sellafield Limited has submitted an acceptable best available techniques (BAT) case to us regarding the need to move to the upper site limit, for a specified period to enable certain tasks.
- An additional notification has been included regarding the start and end of operations associated with the removal of fuel, isotopes or graphite from Piles 1 and 2.
- Interpretations have been added regarding the end of Magnox reprocessing and active commissioning of HEPA filtration in MSSS.

The Schedules specify the changes made to the permit. A consolidated environmental permit, reflecting the changes made to the permit, has been issued.

The status log of a permit sets out the permitting history, including any changes to the permit reference number.

**Status Log of the permit**

<b>Detail</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Response Date</b>
Authorisation under the Radioactive Substances Act BX9838/BX9838	Issued 12/07/04 Effective 01/10/04	
Variation BX9838/CA3777	Issued 29/03/06 Effective 01/04/06	
Variation BX9838/CB9754	Issued 19/03/08 Effective 01/04/08	
Variation BX9838/CD2114	Issued 14/11/08 Effective 15/11/08	
Variation BX9838/CD8899	Issued 19/10/09 Effective 21/10/09	
Variation BX9838/CE1318	Issued 13/11/09 Effective 1/12/09	
Variation BX9838/CE1369	Issued 29/03/10 Effective 01/04/10	
Application EPR/KP3690SX/V001	Duly made 03/05/11	
Additional Information Received		26/05/11
Permit determined	14/07/11	
Variation EPR/KP36390SX/V001 (varied and consolidated permit issued)	01/08/11	
Variation determined EPR/KP36390SX/V002	09/09/11	
Application EPR/KP3690SX/V003	Duly made 31/01/12	
Additional Information Received		12/03/2012
Permit determined	17/05/2012	
Variation EPR/KP36390SX/V003 (varied and consolidated permit issued)	01/06/2012	
Application EPR/KP3690SX/V004	Duly made 10/12/14	
Additional Information Received	16/1/15	
Permit determined	24/2/15	
Variation EPR/KP36390SX/V004 (varied and consolidated permit issued)	1/3/15	
Application EPR/KP3690SX/V005	Duly made 18/1/16	
Additional Information Received	26/1/16	
Permit determined	9/2/2016	
Variation EPR/KP3690SX/V005 (varied and consolidated permit issued)	1/3/16	
Application EPR/KP3690SX/V006	Duly made 1/11/16	
Permit determined	18/11/16	
Variation EPR/KP3690/V006 issued	1/12/16	
Variation EPR/KP3690/V007 (varied and consolidated permit issued)	1/4/2017	
Application EPR/KP3690SX/V008	Duly Made 06/04/17	
Permit Determined	29/11/17	
Variation EPR/KP3690/V008 (varied and consolidated permit issued)	1/12/17	
Application EPR/KP3690SX/V009	Duly made 17/10/18	
Additional Information Received	31/7/19	
Permit determined	20/02/20	
Variation EPR/KP3690SX/V009 (varied and consolidated permit issued)	1/4/20	

End of Introductory note

**Notice of variation**

Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

**Permit number**  
**EPR/KP3690SX**

**The Environment Agency in exercise of its powers under regulation 20 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 varies the environmental permit issued to**

**Sellafield Limited** (“the operator”)

whose registered office is

**Hinton House**  
**Birchwood Park Avenue**  
**Risley**  
**Warrington**  
**WA3 6GR**

company registration number 1002607

to carry on radioactive substance activities at

**Sellafield Site**  
**Seascale**  
**Cumbria**  
**CA20 1PG**

to the extent set out in the Schedules.

The notice shall take effect from 01/04/2020

Name	Date
<b>ROB ALLOTT</b>	<b>20/02/20</b>

Authorised on behalf of the Environment Agency

### **Schedule 1: variations to the permit**

The following conditions were varied on the application of the operator:

All conditions of permit KP3690SX have been replaced by Parts 1-4 and Schedules 1-7 of the consolidated permit

### **Schedule 2: varied and consolidated permit**

A varied and consolidated permit has been separately issued.