



Offshore Petroleum Regulator
for Environment & Decommissioning

**Department for Business, Energy &
Industrial Strategy**

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8 July 2020

Dear Sir / Madam,

**YOUR PERMIT UNDER THE OFFSHORE COMBUSTION INSTALLATIONS
(POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL) REGULATIONS 2013**

PERMIT REVIEW, UNDER CONDITION 9 OF YOUR PERMIT

I am writing to you with regards to the need for assessing compliance in respect of the Large Combustion Plant Best Available Techniques Reference Document (LCP BREF) for Open Cycle Gas Turbines (OCGTs).

Background

The PPC Regulations transposed the Industrial Emissions Directive 2010/75/EU (IED). The IED provides an integrated approach to the control of emissions to air (and other emissions and discharges) which is managed through permitting. In accordance with the IED, permit conditions are set to minimise discharges, emissions, and waste through the application of Best Available Techniques (BAT). This includes the setting of binding Emission Limit Values (ELVs) which are either set within the IED, in permit conditions based upon BAT or defined in BREF documents and associated BAT Conclusions (BATc). In the BREF documents, BAT is applied to specific industrial sectors and / or specified plant which come under the scope of the IED i.e. operators that hold a permit under the Regulations.

In 2017, the European Commission published an update to the LCP BREF. This included updates applicable to individual OCGT (single or dual fuel) on offshore installations with a maximum rated thermal input of 50MWth or more. The LCP BREF sets BAT-AELs (Associated Emission Levels) which must be implemented by 18 August 2021, 4 years after the publication of the LCP BREF. Article 15(4) of IED allows competent authorities to set less strict BAT-AELs. Permit holders unable to meet the BAT-AEL requirement can therefore, using specific criteria, apply for a derogation from meeting the BAT-AELs.

Therefore, permit holders with qualifying LCP must meet the Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) BAT-AEL of 350 mg/m³ by 18 August 2021 or have had a derogation application submitted and approved by the Department by 18 August 2021.

Condition 9 of your permit states:

The permit may be subject to formal review, and the Department will contact the permit holder prior to a proposed review to confirm the arrangements. The permit holder shall provide the Department with any information that the Department considers necessary to undertake a proposed review.

This letter forms part of that contact from the Department, acting through OPRED.

As part of condition 9, the Department requires you to provide the following information at the latest **by 30 November 2020**:

- if any qualifying LCPs listed in Schedule 1(2) of your permit are capable of operating at greater than 70% of baseload power.
- whether all qualifying combustion equipment listed in Schedule 1(2) of your permit use BAT. It will be necessary to conduct a BAT assessment to determine this.
- whether or not the NOx emissions from qualifying LCPs listed in Schedule 1(2) of your permit will exceed the BAT-AEL of 350 mg/m³.

As part of the review of permits, the Department expects that it will propose adding the NOx limit to your permit conditions. If your NOx emissions do exceed the 350 mg/m³ BAT-AEL, you will need to apply to the Department for a derogation. In order to allow sufficient time for derogation requests to be considered and determined in advance of the August 2021 deadline, we request that you submit any derogation application **by 30 November 2020**.

MONITORING, UNDER CONDITION 6 OF YOUR PERMIT

In addition to the above, under condition 6 of your permit, the Department reminds the permit holders, if not already done so, to undertake emissions monitoring of qualifying LCPs. The Department would refer the permit holder to the stack monitoring industry letter issued to operators dated 18 August 2016.

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

Yours faithfully,



Alison Taylor
EMT Technical Lead
Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning