Metals Sector 2016

Environment Agency

Overview

Permitted sites

172 regulated sites

Main activities:

97	50	25
Surface treatment	Non-Ferrous	Ferrous

Industry facts

29,500 employees in steel industry

£2.2 billion economic output

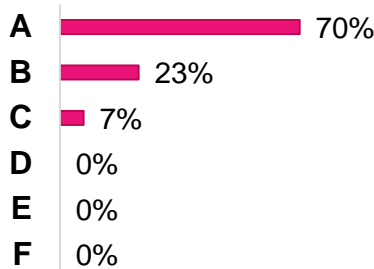**12** Million tonnes of steel produced

Exported 7.6 million tonnes of steel

Performance

Compliance ratings

A — 70%
B — 23%
C — 7%
D — 0%
E — 0%
F — 0%

1 persistently poor performing site

Pollution incidents

Serious 1
Minor 42

Permit breaches

Serious 0
Minor 208

Annual emissions

Principal emissions to air*

5.9 million t of **carbon dioxide**
6,118 t of **nitrogen oxides**
5,748 t of **sulphur oxides**
4,697 t of **particulate matter**

Waste produced by sites

Hazardous

9%
7% recovered
2% disposed

Non-Hazardous

91%
29% recovered
62% disposed

1.8 million tonnes

Industry focus

36% Of all waste recovered are those from processing slag

89% Of carbon dioxide released in the sector is from one site (Scunthorpe Steel Works)

*Above the Pollution Inventory reporting threshold

Metals Sector

Corporate outcomes 2016 to 2020

Our objective is for:
- A cleaner, healthier environment which benefits people and the economy;
- A nation better protected against natural threats and hazards, with strong response and recovery capabilities;
- A higher visibility, stronger partnerships and local choices

Our approach	How we will put this into practice
We will control and reduce the impact of industrial emissions on the environment. We will do this through implementing the Industrial Emissions Directive and following the associated Best Available Techniques Reference documents (BREFs).	We will carry out a sector review as soon as we start using the revised BREF(s). We will measure success by monitoring the number of permits we've reviewed and the number of Best Available Techniques (BAT) requirements permit holders have implemented. We will track the improvement conditions of those reviewed permits to ensure improvements are completed and on time. We will do this by setting up a joint Shadow Technical Working Group with other regulators, trade associations, industry representatives and permit holders to ensure all are represented during the BREF review process.
We will ensure our permit holders are engaged in the development of the ferrous metals processing BREF so we can provide a robust input into the review.	We will lead the UK shadow Technical Working Group to provide data for the Seville Process. We will do this by setting up a joint working group with our permit holders to ensure they're represented during the BREF review process.
We will continue to improve and protect our environment by reviewing the non-ferrous metals permits once the Best Available Techniques conclusion paper is published.	We will continue with our programme of reviewing our permits. We will issue all permits which are being reviewed by 31st May 2018.
We will improve our environment by progressively reducing the gases of concern. Permit holders will be responsible for reducing their emissions of heavy metals, polyaromatic hydrocarbons and particulates.	We will identify the top 20 emitters of these emissions and we will audit their permits. We will provide advice and guidance on how they can reduce their emissions. Our success will be a drop in emissions reported in the pollution inventory. We will check if businesses are complying with the relevant legislation and take prompt action if they are not.
We will make sure permit holders are more resilient to climate change.	We will provide advice and guidance on mitigating the effects of climate change.
We will continue to work within current EU legislation until such time new legislation is implemented after the European Union exit.	We will keep permit holders and trade associations updated on how they may be affected.
We will implement the outputs of the Strategic Charges Review to ensure we recover the correct charges to fund our regulatory work.	We will keep permit holders and trade associations updated on how they may be affected.
We are transforming our information systems and supporting guidance to be more customer-focused to support businesses and make it as easy as possible for them to do the right thing.	We will listen to those we regulate and communicate clearly with them making our guidance and advice clear and easy to understand. We are digital by default, to make transactions with us as easy as possible, while recognising that some businesses prefer more traditional approaches.

Data Sources:

The Environment Agency holds records for the number and type of regulated sites, the number of pollution incidents and permit breaches, and the compliance rating for each regulated site. The number of serious pollution incidents include both permitted and unpermitted sites in this sector.

Substance release and waste transfer data is collected from sites that operate under a Part A(1) environmental permit and form part of the Environment Agency's Pollution Inventory. See the 2016 datasets that support this report.

Industry data has been collected from a variety of sources including industry trade organisations and publicly available resources.