Environment Agency permitting decisions

Surrender

We have decided to accept the surrender of the permit for Barclays Data Centre operated by Barclays Bank PLC.

The permit number is EPR/CP3635KA.

We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid any pollution risk and to return the site to a satisfactory state.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements.

Purpose of this document

This decision document:

- explains how the operator's application has been determined
- provides a record of the decision-making process
- shows how all relevant factors have been taken into account

Structure of this document

- Key issues
- Annex 1 the decision checklist

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Key issues of the decision

This is a full surrender of the environmental permit. Although not all of the site is shut down and decommissioned, the total thermal capacity of the site has been reduced from 80.5MWth to just below 50MWth and hence no longer requires regulation by the Environment Agency. The operator has provided sufficient information to show that pollution risks have been removed from the decommissioned plant, and that the site is in a satisfactory state. We have therefore accepted the application to surrender the permit.

Decommissioning began at the site in 2013 and was completed in Q3 2014. The plant decommissioned is as follows:

- 1 x block A duel fuel boiler
- 5 x block B natural gas boilers
- 5 x block C gas oil generators

Whilst this plant has not been removed from site, they have been disconnected from the control systems, physically disconnected from fuel lines, have had their batteries removed and all engine fluid and air filters removed. Consequently it would be difficult for the operations to recommence operations on these items and all potentially polluting materials have been removed from the decommissioned plant.

The applicant has a planned preventative maintenance (PPM) system and was able to provide documentary evidence of its implementation.

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Annex 1: decision checklist

This document should be read in conjunction with the Duly Making checklist, the application, supporting information, Site Condition Report Evaluation template and surrender notice.

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met
		Yes
The site		
Extent of the surrender application	The operator has provided a plan showing the extent of the site of the facility that is to be surrendered.	✓
	We consider this plan to be satisfactory.	
Pollution risk	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility.	~
Satisfactory state	We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state. In coming to this decision we have had regard to the	√
	state of the site before the facility was put into operation.	

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