Non-Hazardous and Inert Waste Treatment Sector 2016

Environment Agency

Overview

Permitted sites

4,245 regulated sites:
- 4,185 waste sites
- 60 installations

Main activities:

3,806

Non hazardous

439

Inert

Industry facts

20,000 Registered exempt waste activities in the sector

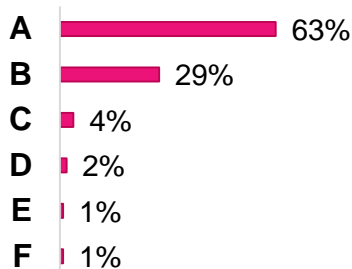**£** Income from permit fees - £11.7 million

90 Sites in the sector report under the Materials Facilities Regulations

82 million tonnes – waste received in this sector

Performance

Compliance ratings

A — 63%
B — 29%
C — 4%
D — 2%
E — 1%
F — 1%

74 persistently poor performing sites

Pollution incidents

Serious 22
Minor 535

Permit breaches

Serious 390
Minor 4,735

Annual Emissions

What happens to waste from the sector?

Total = 62.5 million tonnes

Incineration – 14%

Landfill – 14%

Recovery – 44%

Transfer – 15%

Treatment – 5%

Other – 8%

Industry focus

4.3 Million tonnes of notifiable non-hazardous waste exported in 2016.

75% The proportion of mixed waste separated and recovered by Materials Facilities sites

Non-Hazardous and Inert Waste Treatment 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 make sure more permit holders in the sector are complying with their permit and relevant regulations and we will take tough action if they don't. We want to see more permit holders performing at a consistently high level.	We will concentrate our compliance resources on the activities and permit holders that pose the highest risk. We will carry out compliance assessment at sites to check compliance with the relevant legislation and take prompt action if they are not. We will work with permit holders to identify the root causes of poor performance and put in place plans to improve performance.
We will improve our environment by working with permit holders to reduce the number of accidents and incidents at their sites.	We will review our permit site data to determine the root cause of incidents and accidents. We will use our findings to help us better target those sites which are shown to be high risk. We will ensure plans are in place to reduce the risk of incidents and accidents at permitted sites. We will focus our efforts on those permitted sites whose incidents and accidents have been most frequent, large scale and caused the most environmental impact. We will work with our trade associations and permit holders to share lessons learned and develop targeted campaigns.
We will protect the environment and public health with a consistent and proportionate to our regulatory approach	We will develop an annual plan where to focus our inspections and audits. We will regularly review our permits to ensure they meet the Best Available Techniques Reference document and other appropriate measures. We will work with permit holders to ensure each facility has a Technically Competent Manager with the appropriate qualifications. We will actively recover unpaid subsistence charges so that our compliance assessment work is funded.
We will protect the environment and public health by having accurately described and characterised waste which is removed from businesses. We will ensure waste goes to the correct permitted sites.	We will provide advice and guidance to permit holders on how waste should be characterised and described using the Duty of Care Code of Practice. We will engage with staff and permit holders to ensure they understand the requirements of the new Duty of Care Code of Practice. We will advise permit holders about the importance of keeping accurate and safe records. We will promote the Right Waste Right Place initiative with our permit holders. Where regulation is being breached we will take prompt and appropriate action.
We will protect the environment and public health by improving fire prevention at our permitted sites.	We will actively engage with permit holders, trade bodies and the Fire and Rescue Service. We will develop our understanding of the causes of fires and the measures we can take to minimise them. We will work with our permit holders to ensure FPP (fire prevention plans) are submitted where required. We will assess these and ensure the requirements are implemented. We will work with trade associations to develop activity specific FPPs for the different types of permitted sites.
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. See the 2016 datasets that support this report.

Details of the type and amount of waste received and removed is collected from regulated sites which undertake waste activities under the Waste Framework Directive.

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