

Permitting decisions

Surrender

We have decided to accept the surrender of the permit for Brooks Lane Biodiesel Production operated by Convert 2 Green Limited.

The permit number is [EPR/CP3837MM](#).

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 provides a record of the decision making process. It:

- highlights [key issues](#) in the determination
- summarises the decision making process in the [decision checklist](#) to show how all relevant factors have been taken into account

Unless the decision document specifies otherwise we have accepted the applicant's proposals.

Read the permitting decisions in conjunction with the environmental permit and the surrender notice. The introductory note summarises what the notice covers.

Key issues of the decision

1. Reason for the surrender application

The installation was operated as a facility to manufacture up to 8200 tonnes per annum of biodiesel by the transesterification reaction of used cooking oil (UCO) with methanol, potassium hydroxide and sodium methylate.

In addition to the biodiesel production, the permit allowed the operation of a treatment process for used cooking oils and animal fats involving the settlement, filtration and drying of UCO to produce a highly refined oil product which is used as a vehicle fuel (Ultra Biofuel).

When Convert 2 Green was acquired by Olleco in July 2015, a decision was made to close the Middlewich site. The biodiesel production process ceased in September 2015 and the oil storage and treatment operation was gradually scaled down during 2016, with all activities ceased by August 2016.

The UCO tanks have been drained of any residual oil which was containerised into IBCs. The majority of waste oil was shipped to Olleco's processing site in Liverpool. However, a quantity of peanut oil (~10,000 litres) was collected by Oil Recoveries Limited for recycling.

2. Satisfactory state to surrender

The operator has demonstrated in the Site Condition Report that they have taken all reasonable steps to return the site to satisfactory state:

- Storage tanks have been drained of any residual oil. The waste oil was shipped to another site or collected for recycling.
- Wash water was tankered off site.
- Any remaining tanks were removed for scrap
- Bunds have been cleaned
- Any pipework associated with the storage tanks was drained and removed off site.
- Damaged sections of flooring were cut away and replaced and the floor was cleaned prior to vacating the building.
- Externally, the bund walls were removed and any damaged concrete was repaired.

Final site inspections were undertaken on the 8th June 2017 and 20th June 2017 to confirm that the permitted site was in a satisfactory state to be surrendered.

Decision checklist

Aspect considered	Decision
Receipt of application	
Confidential information	<p>A claim for commercial or industrial confidentiality has not been made.</p> <p>The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on confidentiality.</p>
Identifying confidential information	<p>We have not identified information provided as part of the application that we consider to be confidential.</p> <p>The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on confidentiality.</p>
The site	
Pollution risk	<p>We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to avoid a pollution risk resulting from the operation of the regulated facility.</p>
Satisfactory state	<p>We are satisfied that the necessary measures have been taken to return the site of the regulated facility to a satisfactory state.</p> <p>In coming to this decision we have had regard to the state of the site before the facility was put into operation.</p>