
Amendments to hazardous waste guidance suite to adapt the tracking system to legal changes to premises registration

Environment Agency

RPC rating: validated

Description of proposal

Prior to April 2016, premises that produced or held 500kg or more of hazardous waste per year in England had to identify themselves annually to the Environment Agency (EA). Recipients of hazardous waste also provided the EA with quarterly details of the hazardous waste they received, including postcode details from the place of production, regardless of the amount. The Smarter Environmental Regulation Review identified the requirement for premises to continue to register as a burden and recommended its removal.

The EA therefore enacted legislative changes to repeal the obligations relating to premises-registration from the Hazardous Waste Regulations 2005. Minor, non-legislative changes were also made to introduce a new consignment note code format for consignee returns. This is to make the system of waste-traceability more efficient.

Impacts of proposal

These new changes build upon a validated IA submitted by DEFRA for changes to their hazardous waste guidance suite. The number of affected business are:

- 160,000 (Registered Premises);
- 1,000,000 (Non-Registered);
- 9,876 (Consignees).

These changes amend the information submitted by businesses that receive hazardous waste, enabling shipments to be linked to the producer site of the waste.

One-off costs to business arise from guidance familiarisation and reading associated communications (£0.74m), as well as costs of changing six digit consignment note codes (£0.87m). For the EA, the largest costs are forgone income on registrations (£2.9m per annum) and one-off IT development and communication costs (£0.13m in 2015 & 2016). The beneficiaries of the proposed changes are registered hazardous

waste producers, firstly through registration time savings (~0.5m per annum) and secondly in reduced registration fee expenditure (~2.9m per annum).

Quality of submission

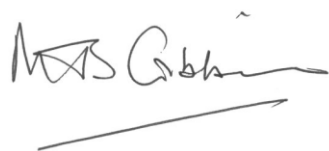
The submission is succinct, clear and proportionate, and provides enough information to support the estimated EANDCB. The regulator has provided a link to the initial validated report to show how the figures were initially calculated. It has also provided enough detail about the EA's implementation of the measure to support the assertion that the costs calculated by DEFRA are still applicable and that the EA's implementation approach has not created any impacts beyond those envisaged by DEFRA.

Departmental assessment

Classification	Qualifying regulatory provision
Equivalent annual net cost to business (EANDCB)	£0.0 million
Business net present value	£0.0 million

RPC assessment

Classification	Qualifying regulatory provision
EANDCB – RPC validated ¹	£0.0 million
Business Impact Target (BIT) Score ¹	£0.0 million



Michael Gibbons CBE, Chairman

¹ For reporting purposes, the RPC validates EANDCB and BIT score figures to the nearest £100,000.