

Review of an Environmental Permit for an Installation subject to Chapter II of the Industrial Emissions Directive under the Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016 (as amended)

Decision document recording our decision-making process following review of a permit

The Permit number is: EPR/AP3339XG

The Operator is: AmeyCespa (East) Limited

The Installation is: Waterbeach Mechanical Biological Treatment Facility

This Variation Notice number is: EPR/AP3339XG/V004

What this document is about

Article 21(3) of the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) requires the Environment Agency to review conditions in permits that it has issued and to ensure that the permit delivers compliance with relevant standards, within four years of the publication by the European Commission of updated decisions on BAT Conclusions.

We have reviewed the permit for this installation against the revised BAT Conclusions for the Waste Treatment industry sector published on 10 August 2018 in the Official Journal of the European Union. In this decision document, we set out the reasoning for the consolidated variation notice that we have issued.

It explains how we have reviewed and considered the techniques used by the Operator in the operation and control of the plant and activities of the installation. This review has been undertaken with reference to the decision made by the European Commission establishing Best Available Techniques (BAT) Conclusions (BATc) for Waste Treatment as detailed in document reference C(2018) 5070. It is our record of our decision-making process and shows how we have taken into account all relevant factors in reaching our position. It also provides a justification for the inclusion of any specific conditions in the permit that are in addition to those included in our generic permit template.

As well as considering the review of the operating techniques used by the Operator for the operation of the plant and activities of the installation, the consolidated variation notice takes into account and brings together in a single document all previous variations that relate to the original permit issue. Where this has not already been done, it also modernises the entire permit to reflect the conditions contained in our current generic permit template.

The introduction of new template conditions makes the Permit consistent with our current general approach and with other permits issued to Installations in this sector. Although the wording of some conditions has changed, while others have been deleted because of the new regulatory approach, it does not reduce the level of environmental

protection achieved by the Permit in any way. In this document, we therefore address only our determination of substantive issues relating to the new BAT Conclusions.

We try to explain our decision as accurately, comprehensively and plainly as possible. Achieving all three objectives is not always easy, and we would welcome any feedback as to how we might improve our decision documents in future.

How this document is structured

1. Our decision
2. How we reached our decision
3. The legal framework
4. Annex 1 – Review of operating techniques within the Installation against BAT Conclusions.
5. Annex 2 – Review and assessment of changes that are not part of the BAT Conclusions derived permit review
6. Annex 3 – Improvement Conditions

1 Our decision

We have decided to issue the Variation Notice to the Operator. This will allow the Operator to continue to operate the Installation, subject to the conditions in the Consolidated Variation Notice that updates the whole permit.

We consider that, in reaching our decision, we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the varied permit will ensure that a high level of protection is provided for the environment and human health.

The Consolidated Variation Notice contains many conditions taken from our standard Environmental Permit template including the relevant annexes. We developed these conditions in consultation with industry, having regard to the legal requirements of the Environmental Permitting Regulations and other relevant legislation. This document does not therefore include an explanation for these standard conditions. Where they are included in the Notice, we have considered the techniques identified by the operator for the operation of their installation, and have accepted that the details are sufficient and satisfactory to make those standard conditions appropriate. This document does, however, provide an explanation of our use of “tailor-made” or installation-specific conditions, or where our Permit template provides two or more options.

2 How we reached our decision

2.1 Requesting information to demonstrate compliance with BAT Conclusion techniques

We issued a Notice under Regulation 61(1) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (a Regulation 61 Notice) on 19 July 2019 requiring the Operator to provide information to demonstrate where the operation of their installation currently meets, or how it will subsequently meet, the revised standards described in the relevant BAT Conclusions document.

The Notice required that, where the revised standards are not currently met, the Operator should provide information that:

- describes the techniques that will be implemented before 17 August 2022, which will then ensure that operations meet the revised standards, or
- justifies why standards will not be met by 17 August 2022, and confirmation of the date when the operation of those processes will cease within the Installation or an explanation of why the revised BAT standards are not applicable to those processes, or
- justifies why an alternative technique will achieve the same level of environmental protection equivalent to the revised BAT standards described in the BAT Conclusions.

Where the Operator proposed that they were not intending to meet a BAT standard that also included a BAT Associated Emission Level (BAT-AEL) described in the BAT Conclusions Document, the Regulation 61 Notice required that the Operator make a formal request for derogation from compliance with that BAT-AEL (as provisioned by Article 15(4) of IED). In this circumstance, the Notice identified that any such request for derogation must be supported and justified by sufficient technical and commercial information that would enable us to determine acceptability of the derogation request.

The Regulation 61 Notice response from the Operator was received on 16 January 2020.

We considered it was in the correct form and contained sufficient information for us to begin our determination of the permit review. The Operator made no claim for commercial confidentiality. We have not received any information in relation to the Regulation 61 Notice response that appears to be confidential in relation to any party.

2.2 Review of our own information in respect to the capability of the Installation to meet revised standards included in the BAT Conclusions document

Based on our records and previous experience in the regulation of the installation, we consider that the Operator will be able to comply with the techniques and standards described in the BAT Conclusions other than for those techniques and requirements described in BAT Conclusion 1, 2a, 3, 21, 23 and 34. In relation to these BAT Conclusions, we do not fully agree with the Operator in respect of their current stated capability as recorded in their response to the Regulation 61 Notice. We have therefore included Improvement Conditions 2 and 3 in the Consolidated Variation Notice to ensure that the requirements of the BAT Conclusions are delivered before 17 August 2022.

3 The legal framework

The Consolidated Variation Notice will be issued under Regulations 18 and 20 of the EPR. The Environmental Permitting regime is a legal vehicle which delivers most of the relevant legal requirements for activities falling within its scope. In particular, the regulated facility is:

- an installation as described by the IED;
- subject to aspects of other relevant legislation which also have to be addressed.

We consider that, in issuing the Consolidated Variation Notice, it will ensure that the operation of the Installation complies with all relevant legal requirements and that a high level of protection will be delivered for the environment and human health.

We explain how we have addressed specific statutory requirements more fully in the rest of this document.

Annex 1: decision checklist regarding relevant BAT Conclusions

BAT Conclusions for the Waste Treatment Industry Sector, were published by the European Commission on 10 August 2018. There are 53 BAT Conclusions. This annex provides a record of decisions made in relation to each relevant BAT Conclusion applicable to the installation. This annex should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Variation Notice.

The overall status of compliance with the BAT conclusion is indicated in the table as:

NA – Not Applicable

CC – Currently Compliant

FC – Compliant in the future (within 4 years of publication of BAT conclusions)

NC – Not Compliant

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
1	<p>In order to improve the overall environmental performance, BAT is to implement and adhere to an environmental management system (EMS) that incorporates all of the following features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. commitment of the management, including senior management; II. definition, by the management, of an environmental policy that includes the continuous improvement of the environmental performance of the installation; III. planning and establishing the necessary procedures, objectives and targets, in conjunction with financial planning and investment; IV. implementation of procedures paying particular attention to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) structure and responsibility, (b) recruitment, training, awareness and competence, (c) communication, (d) employee involvement, (e) documentation, (f) effective process control, (g) maintenance programmes, (h) emergency preparedness and response, (i) safeguarding compliance with environmental legislation; 	FC	<p>The operator has confirmed that they have an Environment Management System which is certified against the recognised standard of ISO 14001:2015 and independently checked by BSI (accredited by UK Accreditation Service (UKAS)).</p> <p>The written management system follows the management system framework as introduced in ISO 14001:2015 and the Plan, Do Check Act Model.</p> <p>The operator has used the term “see corporate EMS” for a number of BATc 1 elements. We were not able to assess the corporate EMS during this permit review. However, we consider that the operator will be future compliant with BATc 1. Improvement condition 3 (IC3) has been included in the permit to achieve compliance (see Annex 3).</p>

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	<p>V. checking performance and taking corrective action, paying particular attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) monitoring and measurement (see also the JRC Reference Report on Monitoring of emissions to air and water from IED installations – ROM), (b) corrective and preventive action, recruitment, training, awareness and competence, (c) maintenance of records, (d) independent (where practicable) internal or external auditing in order to determine whether or not the EMS conforms to planned arrangements and has been properly implemented and maintained <p>VI. review, by senior management, of the EMS and its continuing suitability, adequacy and effectiveness;</p> <p>VII. following the development of cleaner technologies;</p> <p>VIII. consideration for the environmental impacts from the eventual decommissioning of the plant at the stage of designing a new plant, and throughout its operating life;</p> <p>IX. application of sectoral benchmarking on a regular basis;</p> <p>X. waste stream management (see BAT 2);</p> <p>XI. an inventory of waste water and waste gas streams (see BAT 3);</p> <p>XII. residues management plan (see description in Section 6.5);</p>		

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
	XIII. accident management plan (see description in Section 6.5); XIV. odour management plan (see BAT 12) XV. noise and vibration management plan (see BAT 17).		
2	In order to improve the overall environmental performance of the plant, BAT is to use all of the techniques listed below: (a) Set up and implement waste characterisation and pre-acceptance procedures; (b) Set up and implement waste acceptance procedures; (c) Set up and implement a waste tracking system and inventory; (d) Set up and implement an output quality management system; (e) Ensure waste segregation; (f) Ensure waste compatibility prior to mixing or blending of waste; (g) Sort incoming solid waste	FC	The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 2. <u>Environment Agency assessment</u> We have assessed the information provided in the site EMS. Although there is information relevant to compliance with BATc 2 in the operator's EMS, we consider that aspects of BATc 2a have not been adequately addressed in the EMS with respect to characterisation of the following non-standard waste stream: EWC 20 02 03. We consider that the operator will be future compliant with BATc 2a. Improvement condition 3 has been included in the permit to achieve compliance (see Annex 3).

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3	<p>In order to facilitate the reduction of emissions to water and air, BAT is to establish and to maintain an inventory of waste water and waste gas streams, as part of the environmental management system (see BAT 1), that incorporates all of the following features:</p> <p>(i) information about the characteristics of the waste to be treated and the waste treatment processes, including: (a) simplified process flow sheets that show the origin of the emissions; (b) descriptions of process-integrated techniques and waste water/waste gas treatment at source including their performances;</p> <p>(ii) information about the characteristics of the waste water streams, such as: (a) average values and variability of flow, pH, temperature, and conductivity; (b) average concentration and load values of relevant substances and their variability (e.g. COD/TOC, nitrogen species, phosphorus, metals, priority substances /micropollutants); (c) data on bioeliminability (e.g. BOD, BOD to COD ratio, Zahn-Wellens test, biological inhibition potential (e.g. inhibition of activated sludge)) (see BAT 52);</p> <p>(iii) information about the characteristics of the waste gas streams, such as: (a) average values and variability of flow and temperature;</p>	FC	<p>The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 3.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and while we acknowledge that the operator has demonstrated compliance with most of the BATc 3 elements, it is unclear to us how this inventory is documented. The inventory of waste water and waste gas streams must be part of the established EMS. The operator's response to BATc 1 has not clarified this as it refers to the BATc 3 response.</p> <p>We consider that the operator will be future compliant with BATc 3. IC3 has been included in the permit to achieve compliance (see Annex 3).</p>

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	(b) average concentration and load values of relevant substances and their variability (e.g. organic compounds, POPs such as PCBs); (c) flammability, lower and higher explosive limits, reactivity; (d) presence of other substances that may affect the waste gas treatment system or plant safety (e.g. oxygen, nitrogen, water vapour, dust).		
4	In order to reduce the environmental risk associated with the storage of waste, BAT is to use all of the techniques given below: (a) Optimised storage location; (b) Adequate storage capacity; (c) Safe storage operation; (d) Separate area for storage and handling of packaged hazardous waste.	CC	The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 4. <u>Environment Agency assessment</u> We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 4.
5	In order to reduce the environmental risk associated with the handling and transfer of waste, BAT is to set up and implement handling and transfer procedures.	CC	The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 5.

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	<p>Handling and transfer procedures aim to ensure that wastes are safely handled and transferred to the respective storage or treatment. They include the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • handling and transfer of waste are carried out by competent staff; • handling and transfer of waste are duly documented, validated prior to execution and verified after execution; • measures are taken to prevent, detect and mitigate spills; • operation and design precautions are taken when mixing or blending wastes (e.g. vacuuming dusty/powdery wastes). <p>Handling and transfer procedures are risk-based considering the likelihood of accidents and incidents and their environmental impact.</p>		<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 5.</p>
6	<p>For relevant emissions to water as identified by the inventory of waste water streams (see BAT 3), BAT is to monitor key process parameters (e.g. waste water flow, pH, temperature, conductivity, BOD) at key locations (e.g. at the inlet and/or outlet of the pre-treatment, at the inlet to the final treatment, at the point where the emission leaves the installation).</p>	N/A	<p>The operator has confirmed that all leachate and wastewater arising on-site are reused to wet the compost material. The only emission to water from the facility is the uncontaminated site surface water from the roof and non-operational areas from emission point W1.</p>

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			<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u> We are satisfied that BATc 6 is not applicable to this installation.</p>
7	BAT is to monitor emissions to water with at least the frequency given in BATc 7, and in accordance with EN standards. If EN standards are not available, BAT is to use ISO, national or other international standards that ensure the provision of data of an equivalent scientific quality.	N/A	<p>The operator states that there is no process water emission from the facility and we agree with this assessment.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u> We are satisfied that BATc 7 is not applicable to this installation.</p>
8	BAT is to monitor channelled emissions to air with at least the frequency given in BATc 8, and in accordance with EN standards. If EN standards are not available, BAT is to use ISO, national or other international standards that ensure the provision of data of an equivalent scientific quality.	CC	<p>The operator states that channelled emissions to air from the MBT are monitored quarterly for ammonia, benzene, hydrogen sulphide, mercury, oxides of nitrogen and odour.</p> <p>This monitoring is carried out by an MCERT certified contractor.</p>

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			<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We have assessed the information provided in the site EMS and are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 8.</p> <p>We are satisfied that the Installation is currently compliant with BATc 8.</p>
10	<p>BAT is to periodically monitor odour emissions.</p> <p>Odour emissions can be monitored using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EN standards (e.g. dynamic olfactometry according to EN 13725 in order to determine the odour concentration or EN 16841-1 or -2 in order to determine the odour exposure); • when applying alternative methods for which no EN standards are available (e.g. estimation of odour impact), ISO, national or other international standards that ensure the provision of data of an equivalent scientific quality. <p>The monitoring frequency is determined in the odour management plan (see BAT 12).</p>	CC	<p>The operator has confirmed that odour emissions from the biofilter are monitored on a quarterly basis using the EN 13725 standards. Additionally, the operator also confirmed that there is a daily odour monitoring plan for the operations on site. This ensures that any odorous emissions are promptly identified, prior to local receptors being adversely impacted. This monitoring is carried out at both onsite and offsite locations.</p> <p>In accordance with the Waste Treatment BREF and BAT Conclusions 2018, we have</p>

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			<p>amended the monitoring frequency for odour concentration to once every 6 months.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 10.</p>
11	<p>BAT is to monitor the annual consumption of water, energy and raw materials as well as the annual generation of residues and waste water, with a frequency of at least once per year.</p> <p>Monitoring includes direct measurements, calculation or recording, e.g. using suitable meters or invoices. The monitoring is broken down at the most appropriate level (e.g. at process or plant/installation level) and considers any significant changes in the plant/installation.</p>	CC	<p>The operator has confirmed that water usage, energy usage and raw materials are monitored, with annual reports submitted to the Environment Agency. We have retained this monitoring and reporting requirement as reflected in Table S4.3 of the Notice.</p> <p>All process water and leachate are reused at the facility.</p>

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			<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 11.</p>
12	<p>In order to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce odour emissions, BAT is to set up, implement and regularly review an odour management plan, as part of the environmental management system (see BAT 1), that includes all of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a protocol containing actions and timelines; • a protocol for conducting odour monitoring as set out in BAT 10; • a protocol for response to identified odour incidents, e.g. complaints; • an odour prevention and reduction programme designed to identify the source(s); to characterise the contributions of the sources; and to implement prevention and/or reduction measures. 	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 12.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 12.</p>
13	<p>In order to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce odour emissions, BAT is to use one or a combination of the techniques given below:</p> <p>(a) Minimising residence times;</p> <p>(b) Using chemical treatment;</p>	N/A	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>Techniques 13 (a) and (c) are applicable to open systems and aerobic treatment of water based liquid waste, respectively.</p>

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	(c) Optimising aerobic treatment		Technique 13b is not employed on-site. We are satisfied that BATc 13 is not applicable to this Installation.
14	<p>In order to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce diffuse emissions to air, in particular of dust, organic compounds and odour, BAT is to use an appropriate combination of the techniques given below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Minimising the number of potential diffuse emission sources; (b) Selection and use of high-integrity equipment; (c) Corrosion prevention; (d) Containment, collection and treatment of diffuse emissions; (e) Dampening; (f) Maintenance; (g) Cleaning of waste treatment and storage areas; (h) Leak detection and repair (LDAR) programme 	CC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 14. The following BATc 14 techniques are employed at the installation:</p> <p>d) Containment, collection and treatment of diffuse emissions</p> <p>The MBT relies on enclosed reception and preparation building for storage and handling of waste receipts. The main material pre-treatment is carried out in an enclosed equipment to minimise dust and odour emissions.</p> <p>The compost hall is fully enclosed and maintained under negative pressure, with the extracted air treated by biofiltration.</p>

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			<p>f) Maintenance</p> <p>There is a system of routine inspection and planned preventative maintenance of emission control systems in place.</p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 14.</p> <p>We are satisfied that the Installation is currently compliant with BAT 14.</p>
15	<p>BAT is to use flaring only for safety reasons or for non-routine operating conditions (e.g. start-ups, shutdowns) by using both of the techniques given below:</p> <p>(a) Correct plant design; (b) Plant management</p>	N/A	<p>No flaring takes place at the Installation.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We are satisfied that BATc 15 is not applicable to this Installation.</p>

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16	<p>In order to reduce emissions to air from flares when flaring is unavoidable, BAT is to use both of the techniques given below:</p> <p>(a) Correct design of flaring devices; (b) Monitoring and recording as part of flare management</p>	N/A	<p>No flaring takes place at the Installation.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u> We are satisfied that BATc 16 is not applicable to this Installation.</p>
17	<p>In order to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce noise and vibration emissions, BAT is to set up, implement and regularly review a noise and vibration management plan, as part of the environmental management system (see BAT 1), that includes all of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. a protocol containing appropriate actions and timelines; II. a protocol for conducting noise and vibration monitoring; III. a protocol for response to identified noise and vibration events, e.g. complaints; IV. a noise and vibration reduction programme designed to identify the source(s), to measure /estimate noise and vibration exposure, to characterise the contributions of the sources and to implement prevention and /or reduction measures. 	CC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u> As part of the original application, the operator carried out an assessment of potential environmental noise emissions from the facility in accordance with the British Standard BS4142:1997. The assessment concluded that under worst case conditions, the noise emissions from the facility was significantly less than a level that would be classed as being of “marginal significance.</p> <p>There is no history of noise and vibration nuisance at sensitive receptors from this facility. Consequently, there is no requirement</p>

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			<p>for a Noise Management Plan (NMP) at the moment.</p> <p>However, should the activities start to give rise to pollution outside the site due to noise and vibration, there is condition in the updated permit (condition 3.4.2) which requires the operator to submit an NMP to the Environment Agency when notified.</p> <p>We are satisfied that the Installation is currently compliant with BAT 17.</p>
18	<p>In order to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce noise and vibration emissions, BAT is to use one or a combination of the techniques given below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Appropriate location of equipment and buildings; (b) Operational measures; (c) Low noise-equipment; (d) Noise and vibration equipment; (e) Noise attenuation 	CC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator states that some of the techniques detailed under this BAT point are employed at the facility. These techniques are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <u>Appropriate location of equipment and buildings</u> <p>Noise generated from the facility is limited to shovel and grab machinery, vehicle</p>

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			<p>movements and machinery (terminator and belts) from the preparation building. The operator confirmed that these sources occur in an area located to the rear of the main MBT building and also advised that some are used within a building as far as is practicable from receptors.</p> <p>b) <u>Operational measures</u></p> <p>The operator confirmed that part of their operational measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection and maintenance of equipment • Operation in partially enclosed buildings and, • Noisy equipment operation by experienced staff. <p>As previously stated under BATc 18, There is no history of noise and vibration nuisance at sensitive receptors from this facility.</p>

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			We have assessed the information provided by the operator and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 18.
19	<p>In order to optimise water consumption, to reduce the volume of waste water generated and to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions to soil and water, BAT is to use an appropriate combination of the techniques given below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Water management; (b) Water recirculation; (c) Impermeable surface; (d) Techniques to reduce the likelihood and impact of overflows and failures from tanks and vessels; (e) Roofing of waste storage and treatment areas; (f) Segregation of water streams (g) Adequate drainage infrastructure; (h) Design and maintenance provisions to allow detection and repair of leaks (i) Appropriate buffer storage capacity 	CC	<p>The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 19.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u> We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 19.</p>

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20	<p>In order to reduce emissions to water, BAT is to treat waste water using an appropriate combination of the techniques given below:</p> <p>Preliminary and primary treatment, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Equalisation (b) Neutralisation (c) Physical separation, e.g. screens, sieves, grit separators, grease separators, oil-water separation or primary settlement tanks <p>Physico-chemical treatment, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) Adsorption (e) Distillation /rectification (f) Precipitation (g) Chemical oxidation (h) Chemical reduction (i) Evaporation (j) Ion exchange (k) Stripping <p>Biological treatment, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (l) Activated sludge process (m) Membrane bioreactor 	N/A	<p>The operator states that all waste water generated within the MBT is used within the composting process. The only emission to water from the facility is the uncontaminated site surface water from the roof and non-operational areas from emission point W1.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We are satisfied that BATc 20 is not applicable to this Installation.</p>

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	<p>(n) Nitrification / denitrification when the treatment includes a biological treatment</p> <p>Solids removal, e.g.</p> <p>(o) Coagulation and flocculation (p) Sedimentation (q) Filtration (e.g. sand filtration, microfiltration, ultrafiltration) (r) Flotation</p> <p>See also: Table 6.1: BAT-associated emission levels (BAT-AELs) for direct discharges to a receiving water body</p> <p>See also: Table 6.2: BAT-associated emission levels (BAT-AELs) for indirect discharges to a receiving water body</p>		
21	<p>In order to prevent or limit the environmental consequences of accidents and incidents, BAT is to use all of the techniques given below, as part of the accident management plan (see BAT 1):</p> <p>(a) Protection measures;</p>	FC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator confirmed that the site has various procedures embedded within the EMS to deal with accidents and incidents. The procedures include:</p>

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	(b) Management of incidental /accidental emissions; (c) Incident /accident registration and assessment system		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance on managing fire water and major spillages • Risk assessments for pollution prevention • Guidance on investigating and reporting incidents. <p>The operator also confirmed that the MBT has its own procedures for dealing with fire and emergencies. The MBT also has an incident response plan to ensure pollution prevention measures are in place to minimise the consequences of an environmental incident.</p> <p>Although the operator has detailed these procedures, which could all come under an Accident Management plan (AMP), we consider that these procedures are all embedded in different aspects of the EMS and not part of a robust AMP which should be a feature of the site's EMS in line with BAT requirements (see BATc 1).</p> <p>Consequently, we consider that the operator will be future compliant with BATc 21. IC3 has</p>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
			been included in the permit to achieve compliance.
22	<p>In order to use materials efficiently, BAT is to substitute materials with waste.</p> <p>Waste is used instead of other materials for the treatment of wastes (e.g. waste alkalis or waste acids are used for pH adjustment, fly ashes are used as binders).</p>	N/A	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We are satisfied that BATc 22 is not applicable to this Installation.</p>
23	<p>In order to use energy efficiently, BAT is to use both of the techniques given below:</p> <p>(a) Energy efficiency plan; (b) Energy balance record</p>	FC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator reports that an energy audit has been carried out for the site. This audit details metering to the MBT, uses of energy at the MBT and energy saving opportunities.</p> <p>Additionally, the operator states that following on from the ESOS report, all observations are being considered. The operator did not provide any other information to support compliance with BATc 23 in their response to the Regulation 61 Notice dated 19/07/2019.</p>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
			<p>We consider that the information provided is insufficient, therefore, we have included IC3 in the permit to achieve compliance. The operator is required to complete the improvement condition and demonstrate compliance with the Waste Treatment BREF and BAT Conclusions by the compliance date, 17 August 2022.</p>
24	<p>In order to reduce the quantity of waste sent for disposal, BAT is to maximise the reuse of packaging, as part of the residues management plan (see BAT 1).</p> <p>Packaging (drums, containers, IBCs, pallets, etc.) is reused for containing waste, when it is in good condition and sufficiently clean, depending on a compatibility check between the substances contained (in consecutive uses). If necessary, packaging is sent for appropriate treatment prior to reuse (e.g. reconditioning, cleaning).</p>	CC	<p>The operator reports that packaging is reused at the facility where possible. The installation reuses IBCs where possible and oil drums are reused for waste oil.</p> <p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and considering the nature of the wastes received and treated at the Installation, we are</p>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
			satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 24.
33	<p>In order to reduce odour emissions and to improve the overall environmental performance, BAT is to select the waste input.</p> <p>The technique consists of carrying out the pre-acceptance, acceptance and sorting of the waste input (see BAT 2) so as to ensure the suitability of the waste input for the waste treatment, e.g. in terms of nutrient balance, moisture or toxic compounds which may reduce the biological activity.</p>	CC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 33.</p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 33.</p>
34	<p>In order to reduce channelled emissions to air of dust, organic compounds and odorous compounds, including H₂S and NH₃, BAT is to use one or a combination of the techniques given below:</p> <p>(a) Adsorption; (b) Biofilter; (c) Fabric filter; (d) Thermal oxidation; (e) Wet scrubbing</p>	CC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 34. Biofilters and scrubbers are installed at the facility.</p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 34.</p>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
	<p>See also: Table 6.7: BAT-associated emission levels (BAT-AELs) for channelled NH₃, odour, dust and TVOC emissions to air from the biological treatment of waste.</p>	<p>FC (BATc 34, Table 6.7)</p>	<p>For the BAT-AEL, we note that the existing permit includes emission limit values for ammonia, mercury, benzene, and hydrogen sulphide. These ELVs were derived from the operator's proposed emission limits from emission point A1 and have been retained with the exception of oxides of nitrogen. As part of the original application, the operator modelled against these emission limits and we consider the limits appropriate for a high level of environmental protection.</p> <p>In line with the requirement of BATc 34 Table 6.7, the operator reports that a recent study focused on the performance of the biofilter (A1) revealed that the residual odour leaving the biofilter does not currently meet the BAT-AEL for odour but does for ammonia.</p>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
			<p>Based on the above, we have included an improvement condition (IC2) in the permit to achieve compliance. The operator is required to complete the improvement condition and demonstrate compliance with the BAT 34 AELs in line with the Waste Treatment BREF and BAT Conclusions by the compliance date, 17 August 2022.</p> <p>As part of the Environment Agency approach to reduce emissions in the biowaste treatment sector, we have also included the following improvement conditions:</p> <p><u>Improvement condition for the review of effectiveness of abatement plant</u></p> <p>Improvement condition 6 (IC6) requires the operator to review abatement plant on site, in order to determine whether existing measures have been effective and adequate to prevent</p>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
			<p>and /or minimise emissions released to air. Where further improvements are identified, the operator is required to implement these measures.</p> <p><u>Improvement condition for the review of abatement plant design</u></p> <p>Improvement condition 7 requires the operator to review the design of the site ventilation system and abatement plant in order to determine whether it is fit for purpose and effective in controlling odorous compounds in the air streams from site processes. Where further improvements are identified, the operator is required to implement these measures.</p>
35	In order to reduce the generation of waste water and to reduce water usage, BAT is to use all of the techniques given below:	CC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 35.</p>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
	(a) Segregation of water streams; (b) Water recirculation; (c) Minimisation of the generation of leachate		We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 35.
36	<p>In order to reduce emissions to air and to improve the overall environmental performance, BAT is to monitor and/or control the key waste and process parameters.</p> <p>Monitoring and/or control of key waste and process parameters, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waste input characteristics (e.g. C to N ratio, particle size); • temperature and moisture content at different points in the windrow; • aeration of the windrow (e.g. via the windrow turning frequency, O₂ and/or CO₂ concentration in the windrow, temperature of air streams in the case of forced aeration); • windrow porosity, height and width. 	CC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator provided relevant information to the activities on-site to support compliance with BATc 36.</p> <p>The operator confirmed that this particular BAT point is more relevant to feedstock and process management for open windrow composting systems. We agree with this assessment.</p> <p>We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 36.</p>
37	In order to reduce diffuse emissions to air of dust, odour and bioaerosols from open-air treatment steps, BAT is to use one or both of the techniques given below:	N/A	<u>Environment Agency assessment</u>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
	(a) Use of semi permeable membrane covers; (b) Adaptation of operations to the meteorological conditions		This is a fully enclosed process so we consider that this BAT point is not applicable to this installation.
38	<p>In order to reduce emissions to air and to improve the overall environmental performance, BAT is to monitor and/or control the key waste and process parameters.</p> <p>This includes monitoring and/or control of key waste and process parameters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pH and alkalinity of the digester feed; • digester operating temperature; • hydraulic and organic loading rates of the digester feed; • concentration of volatile fatty acids (VFA) and ammonia within the digester and digestate; • biogas quantity, composition (e.g. H₂S) and pressure; • liquid and foam levels in the digester. 	N/A	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>This is for anaerobic treatment of waste and therefore, not applicable to this facility.</p>
39	<p>In order to reduce emissions to air, BAT is to use both of the techniques given below:</p> <p>(a) Segregation of the waste gas streams; (b) Recirculation of waste gas</p>	CC	<p><u>Environment Agency assessment</u></p> <p>The operator provided information to support compliance with BATc 39.</p>

BAT Conclusion No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Waste Treatment	Status NA/ CC / FC / NC	Assessment of the installation capability and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator to demonstrate compliance with the BAT Conclusion requirement
			We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 39.

Annex 2: Review and assessment of changes that are not part of the BAT Conclusions derived permit review

Existing Medium Combustion Plant

We asked the operator to provide information on all combustion plant on site in the Regulation 61 Notice as follows:

- Number of combustion plant (CHP engines, back-up generators, boilers);
- Size of combustion plant – rated thermal input (MWth)
- Date each combustion plant came into operation
- Confirmation as to whether or not the combustion plant is subject to a capacity market agreement (2014 or 2015 auction) or whether or not a Feed-in Tariff preliminary accreditation application was received prior to 1 December 2016

The operator confirmed there are no combustion plant or generator associated with the permitted activity.

Bioaerosols monitoring requirements

We asked the Operator to confirm the following aspects regarding the site operations in the Regulation 61 Notice:

- Whether or not the operational processes of biodegradable waste are in open processes within 250 metres of human receptors.
- Whether or not there is a channelled or point source release within 250 metres that are open sources e.g. biofilters within 250 metres of human receptors; and
- The existing permit contains bioaerosols monitoring requirements, the microbiological markers, associated bioaerosols limits and the monitoring standards

The Operator provided information regarding bioaerosols monitoring in their response to the Regulation 61 Notice. We carried out an assessment of the site location and the distance of site processes from sensitive receptors as part of this determination.

There are no external site operational processes and/or channelled /point sources within 250 metres of a sensitive receptor. Monitoring of bioaerosols is not required at the Installation.

Soil & groundwater risk assessment (baseline report)

The IED requires that the operator of any IED installation using, producing or releasing “relevant hazardous substances” (RHS) shall, having regarded the possibility that they might cause pollution of soil and groundwater, submit a “baseline report” with its permit application. The baseline report is an important reference document in the assessment of contamination that might arise during the operational lifetime of the regulated facility and at cessation of activities. It must enable a quantified comparison to be made between the baseline and the state of the site at surrender.

At the definitive cessation of activities, the Operator has to satisfy us that the necessary measures have been taken so that the site ceases to pose a risk to soil or groundwater, taking into account both the baseline conditions and the site's current or approved future use. To do this, the Operator has to submit a surrender application to us, which we will not grant unless and until we are satisfied that these requirements have been met.

The Operator submitted a site condition report "Appendix 1 of Application Site Report, Version A.0, 11/12/2007" during the original application received on 14/01/2009. The site condition report included a report on the baseline conditions as required by Article 22. We reviewed that report and considered that it adequately described the condition of the soil and groundwater at that time.

The Operator submitted a summary report which referenced the site condition report and baseline report. We have reviewed the information and we consider that that it adequately describes the condition of the soil and groundwater. Consequently, we are satisfied that the baseline condition has not changed.

Waste types

We have specified the permitted waste types, descriptions and quantities, which can be accepted at the regulated facility. The wastes are specified in Table S2.2 in the permit.

We are satisfied that the Operator can accept these wastes for the following reasons:

- they are suitable for the proposed activities
- the proposed infrastructure is appropriate
- the environmental risk assessment is acceptable.

Other wastes (non-standard waste codes)

The following waste in the current permit are not specified in the our revised biowaste treatment permit templates. We have retained this waste in the current permit provided the Operator undertakes a detailed characterisation of the waste prior to acceptance for treatment at the site in accordance with BATc 2a.

Waste code	Description
20 02 03	other non-biodegradable wastes

We consider that the Operator will be future compliant with BATc 2a. Improvement condition 3 has been included in the permit to achieve compliance (see Improvement condition in Annex 3 of this decision document).

Excluded wastes

We have excluded the following waste as it is not suitable for treatment by Mechanical and Biological Treatment as specified in our revised biowaste treatment permit templates.

Waste code	Description
18 01 04	wastes whose collection and disposal is not subject to special requirements in order to prevent infection (for example dressings, plaster casts, linen, disposable clothing, diapers)

We made these decisions with respect to waste types in accordance with Framework Guidance Note – *Framework for assessing suitability of wastes going to anaerobic digestion, composting and biological treatment* (July 2013).

Primary containment infrastructure design (tanks /vessels used for storage and/or treatment activities)

We assessed primary containment as part of the permit review. This information was not requested in the Regulation 61 Notice issued to the operator, however, it was considered prudent to address this aspect as part of the permit review process. In this instance, the required information relating to the review of primary containment infrastructure against CIRIA C535 was not previously submitted to the Environment Agency, nor was it included in the supporting documentation submitted by the operator in their Regulation 61 response.

We have therefore set an Improvement Condition (IC4) in the permit to address this aspect of the permit review. See Improvement condition in Annex 3 of this decision document.

Secondary containment design

We asked the operator via the Regulation 61 Notice to:

- describe any secondary containment and whether it currently meets the relevant standard in the “Containment systems for the prevention of pollution (C736)” report, where there are above-ground storage or primary containment on site; or
- explain why the current site infrastructure design and construction is fit for purpose, where it is concluded that secondary containment is not required or does not need to meet the standards in the C736 report, to enable a baseline standard so as to establish a quantified comparison; and
- describe how the construction of the lagoons meets the relevant standard in CIRIA C736 report, where there are storage lagoons used for the storage of digestate on site.

The operator confirmed that there are no storage lagoons on site. We consider this information to be correct. However, the operator did not provide sufficient information in response to the Regulation 61 Notice with respect to the existing site secondary containment.

We have set an improvement condition in the permit to address the deficiencies in the existing site secondary containment (IC5). See Improvement condition in Annex 3 of this decision document.

Annex 3: Improvement Conditions

Based on the information in the Operator's Regulation 61 Notice response and our own records of the capability and performance of the installation at this site, we consider that we need to set improvement conditions so that the outcome of the techniques detailed in the BAT Conclusions are achieved by the installation. These improvement conditions are set out below - justifications for them is provided at the relevant section of the decision document (Annex 1 or Annex 2).

If the consolidated permit contains existing improvement conditions that are not yet complete or the opportunity has been taken to delete completed improvement conditions then the numbering in the table below will not be consecutive as these are only the improvement conditions arising from this permit variation.

Improvement programme requirements		
Reference	Requirement	Date
Improvement condition for progress report to achieve BAT-AELs		
IC2	<p>The operator shall submit, for approval by the Environment Agency, a report setting out progress to achieving the Best Available Techniques Conclusion Associated Emission Levels (BAT-AELs) where BAT is currently not achieved, but will be achieved before 17 August 2022. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Current performance against the BAT-AELs. 2) Methodology for reaching the BAT-AELs. 3) Associated targets /timelines for reaching compliance by 17 August 2022. 4) Any alterations to the initial plan (in progress reports). <p>The report shall address the BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment with respect to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAT 34 Table 6.7 (compliance with BAT-AELs for channelled NH₃, odour, dust and TVOC emissions to air from the biological treatment of waste) <p>Refer to BAT Conclusions for a full description of the BAT requirement.</p>	<p>Progress reports at six monthly intervals from date of permit issue:</p> <p>29/03/2021 29/09/2021 29/03/2022</p>
Improvement condition for progress report to achieve Narrative BAT		
IC3	<p>The operator shall submit, for approval by Environment Agency, a report setting out progress to achieving the 'Narrative' BAT where BAT is currently not achieved, but will be achieved before 17 August 2022. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following:</p>	<p>Progress reports at six monthly intervals from date of permit issue:</p>

Improvement programme requirements		
Reference	Requirement	Date
	1) Methodology for achieving BAT 2) Associated targets /timelines for reaching compliance by 17 August 2022 3) Any alterations to the initial plan (in progress reports). The report shall address the BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment with respect to BAT 1, 2a, 3, 21 and 23.	29/03/2021 29/09/2021 29/03/2022
Improvement condition for primary containment		
IC4	<p>The operator shall submit a written 'primary containment plan' and shall obtain the Environment Agency's written approval to it. The plan shall contain the results of a review conducted, by a competent person, and shall compare the design specification of primary containment systems where all polluting liquids and solids are being stored, treated, and/or handled against the design standards within CIRIA C535 guidance or equivalent.</p> <p>The review shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical condition of all primary containment systems (storage and treatment vessels); • the suitability for providing primary containment when subjected to the dynamic and static loads caused by the vessels' contents; • any work required to ensure compliance with the standards set out in CIRIA C535 or equivalent; and • a preventative maintenance and inspection regime <p>The plan must contain dates for the implementation of individual improvement measures necessary for the primary containment to adhere to the standards detailed/referenced within CIRIA C535 guidance, or equivalent.</p> <p>The plan shall be implemented in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval.</p>	29/09/2021 or other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency
Improvement condition for secondary containment design		
IC5	<p>The operator shall submit a written 'secondary and tertiary containment plan' and shall obtain the Environment Agency's written approval to it. The</p>	29/09/2021 or other date as agreed in

Improvement programme requirements		
Reference	Requirement	Date
	<p>plan shall contain the results of a review conducted, by a competent person, in accordance with the risk assessment methodology detailed within CIRIA C736 (2014) guidance, of the condition and extent of secondary and tertiary containment systems where all polluting liquids and solids are being stored, treated, and/or handled.</p> <p>The review shall consider, but not limited to, the storage vessels, bunds, loading and unloading areas, transfer pipework/pumps, temporary storage areas, and liners underlying the site.</p> <p>The plan must contain dates for the implementation of individual improvement measures necessary for the secondary and tertiary containment systems to adhere to the standards detailed/referenced within CIRIA C736 (2014) guidance, or equivalent.</p> <p>The plan shall be implemented in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval.</p>	writing with the Environment Agency
Improvement condition for review of effectiveness of abatement plant		
IC6	<p>The operator shall carry out a review of the abatement plant on site, in order to determine whether the measures have been effective and adequate to prevent and where not possible minimise emissions released to air including but not limited to odour and ammonia.</p> <p>The operator shall submit a written report to the Environment Agency following this review for assessment and approval.</p> <p>The report shall include but not limited to the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full investigation and characterisation of the waste gas streams. • Abatement stack monitoring results (not limited to odour and ammonia) • Abatement process monitoring results (not limited to odour and ammonia) • Details of air quality quantitative impact assessment including modelling and a proposal for site-specific "action levels" (not limited to odour concentration, hydrogen sulphide and ammonia). • Odour monitoring results at the site boundary 	29/09/2021 or other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency

Improvement programme requirements		
Reference	Requirement	Date
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records of odour complaints and odour related incidents • Recommendations for improvement including the replacement or upgrading the abatement plant • Timescales for implementation of improvements to the abatement plant <p>The operator shall implement the improvements in line with the timescales as approved by the Environment Agency.</p>	
Improvement condition for review of abatement plant design		
IC7	<p>The operator shall submit to the Environment Agency a written review report of the design details of the site ventilation system and abatement plant and obtain the Environment Agency's written approval to it.</p> <p>The report shall include but not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ventilation design performance criteria for effective fugitive odorous emission control b) Design of the abatement systems that will ensure compliance with the odour condition 3.3. The report shall include a demonstration (whether by a detailed review of technical papers or by trial results) that all odorous chemical compounds and their loading rates expected in the relevant air streams have been considered in the design; and supporting evidence that the odorous compounds will be controlled and/or abated either by operating techniques or by the proposed abatement systems. c) Design alarms and triggers for each relevant scenario to alert the operator to the malfunction of both ventilation and abatement systems. The report should further list all relevant contingency mitigation actions to minimise risk of elevated odour pollution from the installation linked to each malfunction scenario and detail the actions to restore systems to normal operating conditions for effective odour control. 	29/09/2021 or other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency

Improvement programme requirements		
Reference	Requirement	Date
	Ventilation and abatement systems should be designed by suitably qualified named engineers who can supervise and sign-off on construction quality assurance.	