

Environment Agency

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

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

The Permit number is: EPR/FP3131SF
The Operator is: Qinetiq Limited
The Installation is: Avocet Incinerator
This Variation Notice number is: EPR/FP3131SF/V005

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 of updated decisions on best available techniques (BAT) conclusions.

1 Our decision

We issued a Notice under Regulation 61(1) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (a Regulation 61 Notice) on 07/12/22 requiring the Operator to provide information to demonstrate how the operation of their installation currently meets, or will subsequently meet, the revised standards described in the incineration BAT Conclusions document. The Notice also required that where the revised standards are not currently met, the operator should provide information that:

The Regulation 61 Notice response from the Operator was received on 07/12/22 and then a revised response on 12/04/23.

The operator requested to amend the permit to a small waste incineration plant (SWIP) due to the plant capacity being less than 10 tonnes per day of hazardous waste. The operator's justification was as follows:
The plant cannot incinerate more than 10 tonnes per day. Data on waste throughput was provided. Data on the daily quantity of waste explosive processed including packaging, pallets, boxes and banding wire all of which is removed before incineration was provided and even this weight does not exceed the 10 tonne daily limit thereby demonstrating that the actual quantity incinerated is nowhere near the limit.

As a SWIP the BAT conclusions do not apply, but IED chapter IV requirements do. We have amended the permit accordingly.