

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/FP3930PJ
The Operator is: Sun Valley Foods Limited
The Installation is: Sun Valley Foods Billbrook
This Variation Notice number is: EPR/FP3930PJ/V006

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 best available techniques (BAT) Conclusions.

We have reviewed the permit for this installation against the BAT Conclusions for the Food, Drink and Milk Industries published on 4th December 2019 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. It is our record of our decision-making process and shows how we have taken into account all relevant factors in reaching our position.

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 02/08/2022 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 4 December 2023, which will then ensure that operations meet the revised standards, or
- justifies why standards will not be met by 4 December 2023, 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 29/11/2022

We considered it was in the correct form and contained sufficient information for us to begin our determination of the permit review [but not that it necessarily contained all the information we would need to complete that determination].

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 have no reason to consider that the Operator will not be able to comply with the techniques and standards described in the BAT Conclusions.

2.3 Requests for further information during determination

Although we were able to consider the Regulation 61 Notice response generally satisfactory at receipt, we did in fact need more information in order to complete our permit review assessment, and issued further information request relating to BAT 5, BAT 9, BAT 10, MCP, Production Capacity, and Site Plan on 29/01/2024. A copy of the further information request was placed on our public register.

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 Food, Drink and Milk Industries, were published by the European Commission on 4 December 2019.

There are 37 BAT Conclusions.

BAT 1 – 15 are General BAT Conclusions (Narrative BAT) applicable to all relevant Food, Drink and Milk Installations in scope.

BAT 16 – 37 are sector-specific BAT Conclusions, including Best Available Techniques Associated Emissions Levels (BAT-AELs) and Associated Environmental Performance Levels (BAT-AEPLs):

BAT 16 & 17	BAT Conclusions for Animal Feed
BAT 18 – 20	BAT Conclusions for Brewing
BAT 21 – 23	BAT Conclusions for Dairies
BAT 24	BAT Conclusions for Ethanol Production
BAT 25 & 26	BAT Conclusions for Fish and Shellfish Processing
BAT 27	BAT Conclusions for Fruit and Vegetable Processing
BAT 28	BAT Conclusions for Grain Milling
BAT 29	BAT Conclusions for Meat Processing
BAT 30 – 32	BAT Conclusions for Oilseed Processing and Vegetable Oil Refining
BAT 33	BAT Conclusions for Soft Drinks and Nectar/Fruit Juice Processed from Fruit and Vegetables
BAT 34	BAT Conclusions for Starch Production
BAT 35 – 37	BAT Conclusions for Sugar Manufacturing

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

BATC No.	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Food, Drink and Milk Industries	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
GENERAL BAT CONCLUSIONS (BAT 1-15)			
1	<p>Environmental Management System - Improve overall environmental performance.</p> <p>Implement an EMS that incorporates all the features as described within BATc 1.</p>	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 1. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 1.</p> <p>The operator has an EMS externally accredited to the ISO14001 standard.</p>
2	<p>EMS Inventory of inputs & outputs. Increase resource efficiency and reduce emissions.</p> <p>Establish, maintain and regularly review (including when a significant change occurs) an inventory of water, energy and raw materials consumption as well as of waste water and waste gas streams, as part of the environmental management system (see BAT 1), that incorporates all of the features as detailed within the BATCs.</p>	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 2. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 2.</p> <p>The operator has an EMS externally accredited to the ISO14001 standard.</p>
3	<p>Monitoring key process parameters at key locations for emissions to water.</p> <p>For relevant emissions to water as identified by the inventory of waste water streams (see BAT 2), BAT is to monitor key process parameters (e.g. continuous monitoring of waste water flow, pH and temperature) 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>	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 3. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 3.</p> <p>The site monitors Ph, Electrical Conductivity, Suspended solids, COD, BOD settled 5 Day and phosphorus. In addition, the water utility provider completes unannounced testing for flow, temperature, pH, total suspended solids Total sulphides Total non volatile matter,</p>
4	<p>Monitoring emissions to water to the required frequencies and standards.</p> <p>BAT is to monitor emissions to water with at least the frequency given [refer to BAT 4 table in BATc] 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.</p>	N/A	<p>The only parameter relevant for discharges to sewer is chloride but this is not a parameter of concern for ready meals production and so is not applicable.</p> <p>We are therefore satisfied that BATc 4 is not applicable for this site.</p>

BATC No.	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Food, Drink and Milk Industries	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
5	<p>Monitoring channelled emissions to air to the required frequencies and standards.</p> <p>BAT is to monitor channelled emissions to air with at least the frequency given and in accordance with EN standards.</p>	N/A	<p>BATc 5 sets out air emissions monitoring requirements applicable to specific FDM sub-sectors. None of these monitoring requirements are applicable to this site as the activities undertaken (ready meal manufacture) are not specified in the sector and specific processes set out in BATc 5.</p> <p>We are therefore satisfied that BATc 5 is not applicable to this site.</p>
6	<p>Energy Efficiency</p> <p>In order to increase energy efficiency, BAT is to use an energy efficiency plan (BAT 6a) and an appropriate combination of the common techniques listed in technique 6b within the table in the BATc.</p>	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 6. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 6.</p> <p>Site has an Energy / Green House Gas (GHG) reduction plan in place which includes capital projects with associated timelines. KPI's are set at both site and corporate level. Improvement recommendations are part of ISO14001:2014 EMS management review outputs and inputs.</p> <p>Common techniques used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use of Solar Energy. - Process control systems - Energy efficient motors - Reducing air leaks - Site have commissioned an IGA audit. - ESOS Phase 2 Energy Assessment.
7	<p>Water and wastewater minimisation</p> <p>In order to reduce water consumption and the volume of wastewater discharged, BAT is to use BAT 7a and one or a combination of the techniques b to k given below.</p> <p>(a) water recycling and/or reuse</p> <p>(b) Optimisation of water flow</p>	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 7. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 7.</p> <p>Through Carbon Desktop, water usage is monitored. A trial is ongoing to increase the periods between hygiene</p>

BATC No.	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Food, Drink and Milk Industries	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
	(c) Optimisation of water nozzles and hoses (d) Segregation of water streams Techniques related to cleaning operations: (e) Dry cleaning (f) Pigging system for pipes (g) High-pressure cleaning (h) Optimisation of chemical dosing and water use in cleaning-in-place (CIP) (i) Low-pressure foam and/or gel cleaning (j) Optimised design and construction of equipment and process areas (k) Cleaning of equipment as soon as possible		periods. The condensers in the refrigeration plant have been replaced. Spiral freezers, fryers and oven have been specified with CIP systems which reduces the water consumption verses manual cleaning by hose. The CIP systems recirculate the water to reduce water and chemical usage.
8	Prevent or reduce the use of harmful substances In order to prevent or reduce the use of harmful substances, e.g. in cleaning and disinfection, BAT is to use one or a combination of the techniques given below. (a) Proper selection of cleaning chemicals and/or disinfectants (b) Reuse of cleaning chemicals in cleaning-in-place (CIP) (c) Dry cleaning (d) Optimised design and construction of equipment and process areas	CC	The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 8. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 8. The operator selects chemicals based on food safety risk, chosen from a single supplier. Monthly meetings are held to identify potential new chemicals. This is then managed through the Management of Change process and logged on the COSHH register.
9	Refrigerants In order to prevent emissions of ozone-depleting substances and of substances with a high global warming potential from cooling and freezing, BAT is to use refrigerants without ozone depletion potential and with a low global warming potential.	CC	The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 9. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 9. There are 2 ammonia refrigeration plant on site. There is an REFCOM registered company as an embedded contractor to carry out maintenance and leak testing. Competencies of individual engineers and leak tests are retained. The site has a Fgas audit included within the Internal Audit Programme of the EMS. Gases within equipment's is replaced with gases with a lower CO2e when possible or when required by legislation.
10	Resource efficiency	CC	The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 10. We have assessed the

BATC No.	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Food, Drink and Milk Industries	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>In order to increase resource efficiency, BAT is to use one or a combination of the techniques given below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Anaerobic digestion (b) Use of residues (c) Separation of residues (d) Recovery and reuse of residues from the pasteuriser (e) Phosphorus recovery as struvite (f) Use of waste water for land spreading 		<p>information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 10.</p> <p>The operator uses Anaerobic digestion and Separation of residues.</p>
11	<p>Waste water buffer storage</p> <p>In order to prevent uncontrolled emissions to water, BAT is to provide an appropriate buffer storage capacity for waste water.</p>	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 11. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 11.</p> <p>There are a series of pits and weirs leading to the effluent treatment tank. If required, water can be held with the DAF tank and removed from site by tankers.</p>
12	<p>Emissions to water – treatment</p> <p>In order to reduce emissions to water, BAT is to use an appropriate combination of the techniques given below.</p> <p>Preliminary, primary and general treatment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Equalisation (b) Neutralisation (c) Physical separate (eg screens, sieves, primary settlement tanks etc) <p>Aerobic and/or anaerobic treatment (secondary treatment)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) Aerobic and/or anaerobic treatment (eg activated sludge, aerobic lagoon etc) (e) Nitrification and/or denitrification (f) Partial nitrification - anaerobic ammonium oxidation <p>Phosphorus recovery and/or removal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (g) Phosphorus recovery as struvite (h) Precipitation (i) Enhanced biological phosphorus removal <p>Final solids removal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (j) Coagulation and flocculation (k) Sedimentation 	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 12. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 12.</p> <p>. Onsite treatment is by physical means - pH adjustment and Dissolved Air Flotation. Treated water is discharged to an off site collector pit before being pumped to the local waste water treatment plant.</p>

BATC No.	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Food, Drink and Milk Industries	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										
	(l) Filtration (eg sand filtration, microfiltration, ultrafiltration) (m) Flotation												
12	<p>Emissions to water – treatment BAT-associated emission levels (BAT-AELs) for direct emissions to a receiving water body</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="277 483 1086 805"> <thead> <tr> <th>Parameter</th> <th>BAT-AEL ⁽¹⁵⁾ ⁽¹⁶⁾ (daily average)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Chemical oxygen demand (COD) ⁽¹⁷⁾ ⁽¹⁸⁾</td> <td>25-100 mg/l ⁽¹⁹⁾</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total suspended solids (TSS)</td> <td>4-50 mg/l ⁽²⁰⁾</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total nitrogen (TN)</td> <td>2-20 mg/l ⁽²¹⁾ ⁽²²⁾</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total phosphorus (TP)</td> <td>0,2-2 mg/l ⁽²³⁾</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(15) The BAT-AELs do not apply to emissions from grain milling, green fodder processing, and the production of dry pet food and compound feed. (16) The BAT-AELs may not apply to the production of citric acid or yeast (17) No BAT-AEL applies for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD). As an indication, the yearly average BOD5 level in the effluent from a biological waste water treatment plant will generally be ≤ 20 mg/l. (18) The BAT-AEL for COD may be replaced by a BAT-AEL for TOC. The correlation between COD and TOC is determined on a case-by-case basis. The BAT-AEL for TOC is the preferred option because TOC monitoring does not rely on the use of very toxic compounds. (20) The lower end of the range is typically achieved when using filtration (e.g. sand filtration, microfiltration, membrane bioreactor), while the upper end of the range is typically achieved when using sedimentation only. (21) The upper end of the range is 30 mg/l as a daily average only if the abatement efficiency is ≥ 80 % as a yearly average or as an average over the production period. (22) The BAT-AEL may not apply when the temperature of the waste water is low (e.g. below 12 °C) for prolonged periods.</p>	Parameter	BAT-AEL ⁽¹⁵⁾ ⁽¹⁶⁾ (daily average)	Chemical oxygen demand (COD) ⁽¹⁷⁾ ⁽¹⁸⁾	25-100 mg/l ⁽¹⁹⁾	Total suspended solids (TSS)	4-50 mg/l ⁽²⁰⁾	Total nitrogen (TN)	2-20 mg/l ⁽²¹⁾ ⁽²²⁾	Total phosphorus (TP)	0,2-2 mg/l ⁽²³⁾	NA	<p>We are satisfied that this BAT - AEL is not applicable to this Installation.</p> <p>The BAT-AELs set out in BAT12 apply to direct discharges to a receiving body of water only. The operator discharges treated process effluent to the United Utilities foul sewer through emission point S1.</p>
Parameter	BAT-AEL ⁽¹⁵⁾ ⁽¹⁶⁾ (daily average)												
Chemical oxygen demand (COD) ⁽¹⁷⁾ ⁽¹⁸⁾	25-100 mg/l ⁽¹⁹⁾												
Total suspended solids (TSS)	4-50 mg/l ⁽²⁰⁾												
Total nitrogen (TN)	2-20 mg/l ⁽²¹⁾ ⁽²²⁾												
Total phosphorus (TP)	0,2-2 mg/l ⁽²³⁾												
13	<p>Noise management plan In order to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce noise emissions, BAT is to set up, implement and regularly review a noise 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 noise emissions monitoring; - a protocol for response to identified noise events, eg complaints; 	NA	<p>We are satisfied that BATc 13 is not applicable to this Installation.</p> <p>There is no existing permit requirement, and the site has no recent history of noise complaints therefore a noise management plan is not required.</p>										

BATC No	Summary of BAT Conclusion requirement for Food, Drink and Milk Industries	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 noise 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.		
14	<p>Noise management</p> <p>In order to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce noise emissions, BAT is to use one or a combination of the techniques given below.</p> <p>(a) Appropriate location of equipment and buildings</p> <p>(b) Operational measures</p> <p>(c) Low-noise equipment</p> <p>(d) Noise control equipment</p> <p>(e) Noise abatement</p>	CC	<p>The operator has provided information to support compliance with BATc 14. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 14.</p> <p>Prior to purchase, an evaluation of equipment is carried out for environmental compatibility, including noise. There are set hours of work for fork lift trucks which are all Liquefied petroleum Gas LPG. Chilled trailers are powered through the electricity rather than a generator.</p>
15	<p>Odour Management</p> <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. - a protocol for response to identified odour incidents eg complaints; - an odour prevention and reduction programme designed to identify the source(s); to measure/estimate odour exposure: 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 15. We have assessed the information provided and we are satisfied that the operator has demonstrated compliance with BATc 15</p> <p>Operator has an odour management plan which was last approved during their 2023 variation.</p>

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

Updating permit during permit review consolidation

- Activity name
- Introductory note (updated)
- Site plan
- Table S1.1 overhaul
 - Activity Reference (AR) renumbering
 - Updated listed activities
 - Addition of production capacity
 - Directly associated activities (DAAs) standardisation

We have updated permit conditions to those in the current generic permit template as a part of permit consolidation. The conditions will provide the same level of protection as those in the previous permit.

Capacity Threshold

The Environment Agency is looking to draw a “line in the sand” for permitted production capacity; a common understanding between the Operator and regulator for the emissions associated with a (maximum) level of production, whereby the maximum emissions have been demonstrated as causing no significant environmental impact.

We have included a permitted production level (capacity) within table S1.1 of the permit for the section 6.8 listed activity and we need to be confident that the level of emissions associated with this production level have been demonstrated to be acceptable.

The Operator has completed a H1 assessment of emissions for typical figures of production at the time of permitting.

The existing H1 assessment of emissions to water remains valid for the capacity threshold now placed within table S1.1 of the permit.

Emissions to Air

We asked the operator to list all emission points to air from the installation in the Regulation 61 notice. And to provide a site plan indicating the locations of all air emission points.

The operator has provided an up to date air emission plan.

Implementing the requirements of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive

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

The Operator provided the information in the table(s) below:

Boilers

1. Rated thermal input (MW) of the medium combustion plant.	0.6MWth	3.5MWth	7.1MWth	7.1MWth
2. Type of the medium combustion plant (diesel engine, gas turbine, dual fuel engine, other engine or other medium combustion plant).	Boiler	Boiler	Boiler	Boiler
3. Type and share of fuels used according to the fuel categories laid down in Annex II.	Natural Gas	Natural Gas	Natural Gas	Natural Gas
4. Date of the start of the operation of the medium combustion plant or, where the exact date of the start of the operation is unknown, proof of the fact that the operation started before 20 December 2018.	Dec. 2017	Mar. 1998	Jan. 2019	Jan. 2019

We have reviewed the information provided and we consider that the declared combustion plant qualify as 2x “existing” and 2x “new” medium combustion plant.

For existing medium combustion plant with a rated thermal input greater than 5 MW, the emission limit values set out in tables 2 and 3 of Part 1 of Annex II MCPD shall apply from 1 January 2025.

and

For existing MCP with a rated thermal input of less than or equal to 5 MW, the emission limit values set out in tables 1 and 3 of Part 1 of Annex II MCPD shall apply from 1 January 2030.

We have included the appropriate emission limit values for existing medium combustion plant as part of this permit review. See Table S3.1 in the permit. We have also included a new condition 3.1.4 within the permit which specifies the monitoring requirements for the combustion plant in accordance with the MCPD.

We have retained the previous emission limits values and monitoring requirements for boilers/MCP associated with emission points A2 and A3 as per variation EPR/FP3930PJ/V005

Emissions to Water and implementing the requirements of the Water Framework Directive

We asked the Operator to provide information on all emissions to water at the installation in the Regulation 61 Notice as follows;

- Identify any effluents which discharge directly to surface or groundwater;
- Provide an assessment of volume and quality, including results of any monitoring data available;
- and for any discharges to water / soakaway whether a recent assessment of the feasibility of connection to sewer has been carried out.

The operator has previously provided assessments for all emissions to water at the installation. The operator declares there has been no change to activities and subsequent effluents generated at the installation since this risk assessment was taken. Consequently, we agree that the original risk assessments remain valid at this time.

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 CE-PD-2230-RP01-SCR-Final dated 2023 during this variation application received on 29/11/2022. 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.

Hazardous Substances

Hazardous substances are those defined in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures

The operator has provided a short risk assessment on the hazardous substances stored and used at the installation. The risk assessment was a stage 1-3 assessment as detailed within EC Commission Guidance 2014/C 136/03.

The stage 1 assessment identified the hazardous substances used / stored on site. The stage 2 assessment identified if hazardous substances are capable of causing pollution. If they are capable of causing pollution they are then termed Relevant Hazardous Substances (RHS). The Stage 3 assessment identified if pollution prevention measures are fit for purpose in areas where hazardous substances are used / stored. This includes drains as well.

The outcomes of the three stage assessment identified that pollution of soil / groundwater to be possible and monitoring is required for these hazardous substances.

The operator is required to submit a relevant hazardous substances monitoring plan for review to the Environment Agency via improvement condition (IC2).

Climate Change Adaptation

The operator has considered if the site is at risk of impacts from adverse weather (flooding, unavailability of land for land spreading, prolonged dry weather / drought) .

The operator has identified the installation as likely to be or has been affected by [flooding/ prolonged dry weather/ drought], which we consider to be a severe weather event.

We do not consider the operator to have submitted a suitable climate change adaptation plan for the installation. We have included an improvement condition into the permit (IC3) to request a climate change adaptation plan is submitted by the operator for approval from the Environment Agency.

Containment

We asked the Operator via the Regulation 61 Notice to provide details of the each above ground tanks which contain potentially polluting liquids at the site, including tanks associated with the effluent treatment process where applicable.

The Operator provided details of all tanks;

- Tank reference/name
- Contents
- Capacity (litres)
- Location
- Construction material(s) of each tank
- The bunding specification including
 - Whether the tank is banded
 - If the bund is shared with other tanks
 - The capacity of the bund
 - The bund capacity as % of tank capacity
 - Construction material of the bund
 - Whether the bund has a drain point
 - Whether any pipes penetrate the bund wall
- Details of overfill prevention

- Drainage arrangements outside of bunded areas
- Tank filling/emptying mitigation measures (drips/splashes)
- Leak detection measures
- Details of when last bund integrity test was carried out
- Maintenance measures in place for tank and bund (inspections)
- How the bund is emptied
- Details of tertiary containment

and whether the onsite tanks currently meet the relevant standard in the Ciria “Containment systems for the prevention of pollution (C736)” report.

We reviewed the information provided by the operator. We are satisfied that the existing tanks and containment measures on site meet the standards set out in CIRIA C736.

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).

Previous improvement conditions marked as complete in the previous permit.

Superseded Improvement Conditions – Removed from permit as marked as “complete”	
Reference	Improvement Condition
IC1	<p>The operator shall undertake monitoring of odour concentrations from the point source emission point A3 in line with testing method BS EN 13725. The monitoring results shall be used to model/ assess the actual odour concentrations against the predictions presented in variation V004.</p> <p>A report shall be presented to the Environment Agency, in writing, summarising the assessment of the above. Where the results show an increased impact to those predicted, the Operator shall provide details of any necessary additional measures and controls and a timescale for their implementation. These measures and controls shall then be implemented to the timescale agreed with the Environment Agency.</p>

The following improvement conditions have added to the permit as a result of the variation.

Improvement programme requirements		
Reference	Reason for inclusion	Justification of deadline
IC2	<p>The operator shall produce a monitoring plan detailing how the management of relevant hazardous substances which did not screen out as low risk, based on the RHS baseline assessment, will be maintained and monitored to mitigate the risks of pollution. The plan shall be submitted for approval.</p> <p>The plan shall be implemented in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval, including timescales to undertake any infrastructure improvements.</p>	12 months from date of permit issue: 21/06/2025
IC3	<p>The operator shall produce a climate change adaptation plan, which will form part of the EMS. The plan shall include, but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of how the installation has or could be affected by severe weather; • The scale of the impact of severe weather on the operations within the installation; 	12 months from date of permit issue: 21/06/2025 or other date as agreed in

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• An action plan and timetable for any improvements to be made to minimise the impact of severe weather at the installation. <p>The Operator shall implement any necessary improvements to a timetable agreed in writing with the Environment Agency.</p>	writing with the Environment Agency
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