Notice of variation with introductory note

The Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016

Veolia Energy & Utility Services UK Plc

Royal Victoria Infirmary Energy Centre

Queen Victoria Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4LP

Variation application number

EPR/NP3935LC/V004

Permit number

EPR/NP3935LC

Royal Victoria Infirmary Energy Centre
Permit number EPR/NP3935LC

Introductory note

This introductory note does not form a part of the notice

The following notice gives notice of the variation of an environmental permit.

The permit has been reviewed against the requirements of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCPD) for 2025 and relevant conditions and monitoring requirements have been added.

The installation includes nine Medium Combustion Plant (MCP), four of which are natural gas-fired boilers, with gas oil as a backup fuel. The two CHP engines are natural gas, and the three backup generators are gas oil powered engines. The four boilers have a thermal input of 9.06 MWth each, the two CHP engines have a thermal input of 4.8 MWth each and the three backup generators have a thermal input of 5.7 MWth each. The five engines and four boilers were first put into operation in 2002 and therefore are classed as existing MCP.

The installation is situated in a predominantly residential urban area. The installation covers an area of 2000 m^2.

The primary materials used in the generation process, and the associated consumption rates are:

- natural gas (12 million m^3 / year);
- lubrication oil;
- light fuel oil (23,000 ltrs / year); and
- water.

The generation process is fully automated. The main steps of the process are supply of mains natural gas, combustion of the gas in the spark ignition engines of the CHP units and the boilers, and subsequent supply of the outputs to the infirmary, via pipe or cable. The points of change in responsibility are marked on the steam and LTHW pipes.

There are a number of directly associated activities connected with the technical unit, including the following:

- Storage and handling of light fuel oil and lubrication oil;
- Boiler water treatment and condensate return handling; and
- Waste storage and handling.

The main environmental impacts of the installation are the emission of exhaust gases from the combustion plant and the consumption of non-renewable fuels for power generation.

There are no Sites of Special Scientific Interest [SSSI's] within 2 km of the Installation, nor are there any European designated sites (e.g., Special Protection Areas [SPA's] for birds) within 10 km.

The installation has not been regulated under the IPC regime, as it was not applicable.

The site has an accredited environmental management system.

An ETS Direct Participant Agreement is in place for the installation.

The following Permit is issued under Regulation 10 of the Pollution Prevention and Control (England and Wales) Regulations 2000 (S.I.2000 No.1973), as amended, ("the PPC Regulations") to operate an installation carrying out activities covered by the description in Section 1.1 A(1)(a) or (b) in Part 1 to Schedule 1 of the PPC Regulations, to the extent authorised by the Permit:

> Section 1.1 A(1)(a) - "Burning any fuel in an appliance with a rated thermal input of 50 megawatts or more"

Aspects of the operation of the installation which are not regulated by conditions of the Permit are subject to the condition implied by Regulation 12(10) of the PPC Regulations, i.e. the Operator shall use the best available techniques for preventing or, where that is not practicable, reducing emissions from the installation.

Techniques include both the technology used and the way in which the installation is designed, built, maintained, operated and decommissioned.

In some sections of the Permit conditions require the Operator to use Best Available Techniques (BAT), in each of the aspects of the management of the installation, to prevent and where that is not practicable to reduce emissions. The conditions do not explain what is BAT. In determining BAT, the Operator should pay particular attention to relevant sections of the IPPC Sector guidance, appropriate Horizontal guidance and other relevant guidance.

The schedules specify the changes made to the original permit.

The status log of a permit sets out the permitting history, including any changes to the permit reference number.

Status log of the permit		
Description	**Date**	**Comments**
Application EPR/NP3935LC/A001	Duly made 06/04/06	
Additional information requested	11/07/06	Additional information received 04/09/06
Permit determined	11/12/06	
Variation EPR/NP3935LC/V002 determined	17/07/09	
Notified of change of company name and company registered address	16/12/14	Company name and company registered address changed from Dalkia Utilities Services Plc, Elizabeth House, 56-60 London Road, Staines, Middlesex, TW18 4BQ to Veolia Energy & Utility Services

Status log of the permit		
Description	**Date**	**Comments**
		UK Plc, 210 Pentonville Road, London, N1 9JY
Variation issued EPR/NP3935LC/V003	29/01/15	Varied permit issued to Veolia Energy & Utility Services UK Plc
Application EPR/NP3935LC/V004 (variation and consolidation)	Regulation 61 Notice response received 19/08/2024	Environment Agency initiated variation and consolidation following Medium Combustion Plant permit review.
Variation determined and consolidation issued EPR//NP3935LC/V004	10/01/2025	Varied and consolidated permit issued

End of introductory note

Notice of variation

The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

The Environment Agency in exercise of its powers under regulation 20 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 varies

Permit number

EPR/NP3935LC

Issued to

Veolia Energy & Utility Services UK Plc ("the operator")

whose registered office is

210 Pentonville Road
London
N1 9JY

company registration number **02585759**

to operate a regulated facility at

Royal Victoria Infirmary Energy Centre
Queen Victoria Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4LP

to the extent set out in the schedules.

The notice shall take effect from 10/01/2025

Name	Date
Beccy Brough	**10/01/2025**

Authorised on behalf of the Environment Agency

Schedule 1 – conditions to be deleted

None

Schedule 2 – conditions to be amended

The following conditions are amended as detailed, following an Environment Agency initiated variation

- Table S1.1, as referenced by condition 2.1.1, is amended with the addition of activity reference numbers and details of MCP:

Table S1.1 activities			
Activity reference	**Activity listed in Schedule 1 of the PPC Regulations**	**Description of specified activity**	**Limits of specified activity**
AR1	Section 1.1 A (1) (a): Burning any fuel in an appliance with a rated thermal input of 50 megawatts or more	2 x 4.8 MWth natural gas fired CHP engines (A1-A2). 4 X 9.06 MWth natural gas-fired boiler with gas oil back-up fuel (A3-A6). 3 x 5.7 MWth gas oil Back-up generator (A7). Note 1 These are all existing MCP.	From receipt of natural gas and light fuel oil to emission of combustion gases, incorporating the directly associated activities below.
	Directly Associated Activity		
AR2	Directly associated activity	Raw materials and waste storage and handling.	Receipt of raw materials to final dispatch of wastes

Table S1.1 activities			
Activity reference	**Activity listed in Schedule 1 of the PPC Regulations**	**Description of specified activity**	**Limits of specified activity**
AR3	Directly associated activity	Water treatment	From dispense of water treatment chemicals and receipt of water / condensate to hot well, to delivery of treated water to boilers
AR4	Directly associated activity	Condensate return	From receipt of condensate to delivery to hot well.
AR5	Directly associated activity	Electricity generation	Electricity generation systems.

Note 1: Must not exceed 500 hours operation in a 12 month period as a rolling average over a 5 year period or operate for more than 750 hours in any single year.

- Table S4.1, as referenced by conditions 3.1.1, 3.6.1 and 3.6.4 is amended to update emission limit values and monitoring requirements for MCP

Table S4.1 Point source emissions to air – emission limits and monitoring requirements						
Emission point ref. & location	**Parameter**	**Source**	**Limit (including unit)**	**Reference period**	**Monitoring frequency**	**Monitoring standard or method**
A1 - A2 [Point A1 - A2 on site plan in schedule 2]	Oxides of Nitrogen	Spark Ignition Engines	190 mg/m^3	Periodic	Annual	MCERTS BS EN 14792
	Carbon Monoxide		1000 mg/m^3			MCERTS BS EN 15058 (ISO 10849)
	Oxides of Nitrogen	Dual Fuel Boiler Plant on gas	250 mg/m^3	Periodic	Annual	MCERTS BS EN 14792

Table S4.1 Point source emissions to air – emission limits and monitoring requirements						
Emission point ref. & location	**Parameter**	**Source**	**Limit (including unit)**	**Reference period**	**Monitoring frequency**	**Monitoring standard or method**
A3 - A6 [Point A3 - A6 on site plan in Schedule 2]	Carbon Monoxide		50 mg/m^3			MCERTS BS EN 15058 (ISO 10849)
A3 - A6 [Point A3 - A6 on site plan in Schedule 2]	Oxides of Nitrogen	Dual Fuel Boiler Plant on oil	200 mg/m^3	Periodic	Annual	MCERTS BS EN 14792
	Carbon Monoxide		50 mg/m^3			MCERTS BS EN 15058 (ISO 10849)
A7 [Point A7 on site plan in Schedule 2]	Oxides of Nitrogen	Oil generator	No limit set	Periodic	Every 3 years from date of acceptance of first monitoring measurements under condition 3.6.6	MCERTS BS EN 14792
	Carbon Monoxide		No limit set			MCERTS BS EN 15058

Note 1: Monitoring requirements are defined at a temperature of 273.15 K, a pressure of 101.3 kPa and after correction for the water vapour content of the waste gases at a standardised O2 content of 6% for solid fuels, 15% for engines and gas turbines and 3% all other MCPs

- Table S5.1 as referenced by condition 4.2.2 is amended as follows:

Table S5.1 Reporting of monitoring data

Parameter	Emission or monitoring point/reference	Reporting period	Period begins
Emissions to air (MCP) Parameters as required by condition 3.6.1	A1 – A6	Annual	1 January
Emissions to air (MCP) Parameters as required by condition 3.6.1	A7	After 500 operating hours have elapsed and no less frequent than every 5 years from date of acceptance of first monitoring measurements under condition 3.6.6	1 January

- Table S5.4, as referenced by condition 4.2.1 and 4.2.2 is amended to reference updated reporting forms:

Table S5.4 Reporting forms

Media/parameter	Reporting format	Date of form
Point source emissions to air	Emissions to Air Reporting Form, or other form as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency	Version 1, 08/03/2021
Water usage	Form water usage1	11/12/06
Energy usage	Form energy 1	11/12/06

Other performance indicators	Form performance 1	11/12/06
Waste recovery & disposal	Form WMS1	10/11/05

- Schedule 6, as referenced by condition 4.4.1 is amended to include additional interpretation as follows:

  “Compliance date” means 01/01/2025 for existing MCPs with net rated thermal input of greater than 5MWth or 01/01/2030 for existing MCPs with a net rated thermal input of less than or equal to 5MWth.

  “Existing medium combustion plant” means an MCP in operation before 20 December 2018.

  “gas oil” includes diesel and is defined in Article 3(19) of the MCPD.

  “limited operating hours MCP” means an MCP that meets the requirements of paragraph 8 of Part 2 of Schedule 25A of the EP Regulations.

  “Medium combustion plant” or” MCP” means a combustion plant with a net rated thermal input equal to or greater than 1 MW but less than 50 MW.

  “Medium Combustion Plant Directive” or “MCPD” means Directive 2015/2193/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants, into the air from medium combustion plants, as read in accordance with Schedule 1A to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

  “Operating hours” means the time, expressed in hours, during which a combustion plant is operating and discharging emissions into the air, excluding start-up and shut-down periods.

Schedule 3 – conditions to be added

The following conditions are added following an Environment Agency initiated variation:

- 2.3.3 For the following activities referenced in Schedule 1 Table S1.1 (AR1):
  a. the operator must keep periods of start-up and shut down of the combustion plant as short as possible.
  b. there shall be no persistent emission of ‘dark smoke’ as defined in section 3(1) of the Clean Air Act 1993.
- 3.6.6 For the following activities referenced in Schedule 1 Table S1.1 (AR1): For existing MCP Monitoring measurements shall be carried out within four months of the issue date of this notice.
- 3.6.7 Monitoring of MCP shall not take place during periods of start-up or shut down.
- 4.1.4 The operator shall maintain a record of the type and quantity of fuel used and the total annual operating hours for each MCP.
- 4.3.7 The operator shall notify the Environment Agency, as soon as is practicable, in writing of any change of MCP at the specified location.