

Permitting Decisions - Environment Agency Initiated Variation

We have issued an Environment Agency initiated variation for Great Yarmouth Oil Reclamation Facility operated by C&L Waste Oil Collection Limited following a review of the permit in accordance with Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016, regulation 34(1).

The variation number is EPR/NP3038MB/V004.

The permit variation was issued on 24/06/2025.

We consider in reaching this decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the permit will ensure that the appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

Permit Review

This Environment Agency has a duty, under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (EPR), regulation 34(1), to periodically review permits. Article 21(3) of the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) also requires the Environment Agency to review conditions in permits to ensure that they deliver compliance with relevant standards, within four years of the publication of updated decisions on Best Available Techniques (BAT) Conclusions.

We have reviewed the permit for this regulated facility and varied the permit to make a number of changes to reflect relevant standards and best practice. These changes principally relate to the implementation of our technical guidance: [Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities](#) and the relevant requirements of the [BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment](#) which have been incorporated into our guidance.

In this decision document, we set out the reasoning for the 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 (operating techniques) against our technical guidance.

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.

Purpose of this document

This decision document provides a record of the decision making process. It:

- explains how the Environment Agency initiated variation has been determined;
- summarises the decision making process in the [decision considerations](#) section to show how the main relevant factors have been taken into account;
- highlights [key issues](#) in the determination.

Read the permitting decisions in conjunction with the environmental permit and the variation notice.

Key issues of the decision

The hazardous waste transfer activities under the Waste Management Licence EA WML 70536 has been combined with the Installation activity under EPR/NP3038MB (AR2) since both activities fall under the same Activity listed in Schedule 1 of the EP Regulations as Section 5.6 Part A(1)(a) Temporary storage of hazardous waste with a total capacity exceeding 50 tonnes.

The Operator confirmed the removal of waste codes 01 05 04, 16 01 15 and 16 10 02 from the hazardous waste transfer activities in (AR2). These codes have been removed from Table S2.3.

The Operator confirmed the presence of point source emissions to air from the storage tanks open vents with no abatement in place in the Regulation 61 Notice request for further information with proposed changes and confirmed to comply with the Chemical waste appropriate measures guidance. Table S3.1 Point source emissions to air – emission limits and monitoring requirements and Table S3.2 Process monitoring requirements have been included in the permit.

Environment Agency led variation – permit review

We have carried out an Environment Agency initiated variation to the permit following a permit review as required by legislation to ensure that permit conditions deliver compliance with relevant legislative requirements and appropriate standards to protect the environment and human health.

The Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) came into force on 7 January 2014 with the requirement to implement all relevant Best Available Techniques (BAT) Conclusions as described in the Commission Implementing Decision. Article

21(3) of the 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.

The BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment (the BREF) was published on 17 August 2018 following a European Union wide review of BAT, implementing decision (EU) 2018/1147 of 10 August 2018. Relevant existing facilities were expected to be in compliance with the BAT Conclusions within 4 years (i.e. by August 2022).

On 18 November 2020, Chemical Waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities guidance were published on gov.uk. This technical guidance explains the standards that are relevant to regulated facilities with an environmental permit to treat or transfer chemical waste, providing relevant standards (appropriate measures) for those sites and incorporating the relevant requirements of the BAT Conclusions.

We issued a notice under regulation 61(1) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (a Regulation 61 Notice) on 17/11/2021 requiring the operator to provide information to confirm that the operation of their facility currently meets, or how it will subsequently meet, the standards (appropriate measures) described in our technical guidance.

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 to ensure operations meet the relevant standards and by when, or
- Explains why they are not applicable to the facility in question, or
- Justifies why an alternative technique is appropriate and will achieve an equivalent level of environmental protection to the standards described in our guidance
- Confirms if they intend to cease operating any activity which would be in breach of the relevant new BAT Conclusion (BATC) after the compliance date, and the date by which they intend to cease operation;
- Confirms where there is a BAT-Associated Emission Level (BAT-AEL) specified in the BAT conclusion, with which they will not comply with by the compliance date and they wish to continue operating, they should request a derogation.

The standards described in our technical guidance are split into 7 chapters:

- General management appropriate measures
- Waste pre-acceptance, acceptance and tracking appropriate measures
- Waste storage, segregation and handling appropriate measures
- Waste treatment appropriate measures

- Emissions control appropriate measures
- Emissions monitoring and limits appropriate measures
- Process efficiency appropriate measures

We have set emission limit values (ELVs) and monitoring requirements for relevant substances in line with our technical guidance and the BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment, unless a tighter, i.e. more stringent, limit was previously imposed and these limits have been carried forward.

The Regulation 61 notice required the operator to confirm whether they could comply the standards described in each of these chapters. Table 1 below provides a summary of the response received and our assessment of it. The overall status of compliance with the standards (appropriate measures) is indicated in the table as:

NA – Not Applicable

CC – Currently Compliant

FC – Compliant in the future (through improvement conditions set in permit)

NC – Not Compliant

In accordance with Article 22(2) of the Industrial Emissions Directive, the Regulation 61 notice asked the operator to provide a soil and groundwater risk assessment, along with a baseline report or summary report confirming the current state of soil and groundwater contamination, where listed activities are undertaken that involve the use, production or release of relevant hazardous substances.

The Regulation 61 notice also asked the operator to confirm whether they operate a medium combustion plant or specified generator (as per Schedule 25A or 25B of EPR 2016) and whether they had considered how their operations could be affected by climate changes (e.g. through a climate change adaptation plan).

Our assessment of the responses received from the operator regarding soil and groundwater risk assessment, medium combustion plant and specified generators, and consideration of climate change are also summarised in Table 1.

The Regulation 61 notice response from the Operator was received on 25/02/2022.

We considered that the response did not contain sufficient information for us to commence determination of the permit review. We therefore issued a further information request to the operator. Suitable further information was provided by the operator on 04/03/2025.

we needed more information in order to complete our permit review assessment. We requested this by email and the operator provided further information on 11/04/2025 and 25/04/2025. We made a copy of this information available on our public register.

Table 1 – Summary of our assessment of the operator's Reg 61 response

Appropriate measures	Compliance status	Assessment of the installation's compliance with relevant standards (appropriate measures) and any alternative techniques proposed by the operator
General management appropriate measures	FC	<p>The operator confirmed that they currently meet the requirements of all appropriate measures in this section. Compliance with the appropriate measures in this section of the guidance has been incorporated into the varied permit through the updated operating techniques listed in Table S1.2.</p> <p>The Updated emissions inventory and H1 Assessment has not been provided as part of the review. The inclusion of Improvement Condition 8a and 8b in the permit requires the Operator to provide an update H1 Risk Assessment and Emissions Inventory for the site.</p>
Waste pre-acceptance, acceptance and tracking appropriate measures	CC	<p>The operator confirmed that they currently meet the requirements of the appropriate measures in this section. The operator stated that according to 6.2 under section 3.1 of the Chemical waste appropriate measures for waste pre-acceptance, it applies to the waste oils that is collected to the site and no pre-acceptance sampling is further carried out.</p> <p>Compliance with the appropriate measures in this section of the guidance has been incorporated into the varied permit through the updated operating techniques listed in table S1.2</p>
Waste storage, segregation and handling appropriate measures	CC	<p>The operator has stated in their Regulation 61 Notice that they are compliant with Section 4 of the Appropriate Measures. Compliance with the appropriate measures in this section of the guidance has been incorporated into the varied permit through the updated operating techniques listed in table S1.2</p>

Waste treatment appropriate measures	CC	The Operator confirmed compliance with this section of the Appropriate Measures in their Regulation 61 Notice Request for further information response on 04/03/2025
Emissions control appropriate measures	FC	<p>The Appropriate Measures require that Activity AR1 and AR2 (Storage/Treatment) are undertaken with emissions control measures (LEV with abatement) to address the risk of diffuse emissions to air from the activity.</p> <p>The operator has not provided evidence that adequately demonstrates that emissions control measures or an equivalent technique are not required for their activity, based on the risks posed.</p> <p>We have therefore included improvement conditions IC7, IC8a and IC8b that require that the risk of diffuse emissions to air from emission points A1, A2, A3 and A4 are assessed and, unless the risk is demonstrated to be insignificant, emissions control measures or an equivalent technique are implemented. We consider the ICs to perform two different functions in characterising and assessing the viability of monitoring at the facility.</p>
Emissions monitoring and limits appropriate measures	FC	<p>The Appropriate Measures require that Activity AR1 and AR2 (Storage/Treatment) are undertaken with emissions monitoring measures with abatement to address the risk of diffuse emissions to air from the activity.</p> <p>The Operator provided further information to suggest they are researching suitable abatement filters for installation to the site storage/treatment process tanks of the site.</p> <p>The operator has not provided evidence that adequately demonstrates that emissions monitoring measures or an equivalent technique are not required for their activity, based on the risks posed.</p> <p>We have therefore included improvement conditions IC7, IC8a, IC8b, IC9a and IC9b that require that monitoring of emissions to air from emission points A1, A2, A3 and</p>

		A4 are implemented.
Process efficiency appropriate measures	CC	<p>The Operator has confirmed that they comply with all appropriate items in the Appropriate Measures for process efficiency.</p> <p>The Operator has added detail to their Regulation 61 Notice Request for further information response no energy or chemical input is used in the gravity separation treatment process, no raw material is added to the treatment process and no water use at the site, stating that these are not relevant to the operation as water is only used for cleaning purposes and not in any treatment process but complies with the waste minimisation, recovery and disposal appropriate measure.</p>
Reg 61 requirement	Assessment of response received	
Soil and groundwater risk assessment	The operator has not included a site condition report in their submission. This was not required as part of the application as it was out of the scope of the permit review. The operator is required to submit 5 and 10 yearly monitoring of groundwater and soil contamination as per the conditions in the permit.	
Medium combustion plant and specified generators	No existing medium combustion plant or specified generators are present at this facility.	
Climate change	Submission of climate change risk assessment is no longer application requirement. It now forms a part of the operator's EMS and will be reviewed within compliance assessment.	
Summary of other changes made to the permit as a result of our assessment of the Reg 61 response		
Change to Activities Table S1.1	The Activities present in Table S1.1 of the permit have all been updated to reflect the requirements of the Appropriate Measures and a level of detail required to ensure adequate management of risk	

	<p>each of the Activities pose from the Installation operation. There are multiple changes to Table S1.1 Permitted Activities as a result of the review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updates include additional detail in the limits of each activity to list treatment and storage vessels, their capacities and where appropriate their composition. • Waste quantities and limits to each storage/treatment Activity have been added where possible to reflect procedures and capacities at the Installation. • hazardous waste transfer activities from the WML EA 70536 have been consolidated and combined with the installation activity in EPR/NP3038MB as AR2 (Section 5.6 Part A(1)(a) Temporary storage of hazardous waste with a total capacity exceeding 50 tonnes) in line with the chemical waste appropriate measures guidance. • The directly associated activity from the previous permit has been included as part of AR1 under Disposal or recovery of hazardous waste with the limit of specified activity described.
Change to Operating Techniques Table S1.2	The Operating Techniques for the site have been amended in line with the Installation confirming compliance with the Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities Version published 18 November 2020.
Addition of Table S1.3	New Improvement Conditions has been added to the permit.
Change to Schedule 2 Table for EWC Codes accepted at site	separate waste codes from the installation activity AR1 under table S2.2 and combined the installation and waste operation codes for storage under table S2.3.
Changes to Schedule 3 Table S3.1 Emissions to Air	<p>Point source emissions to air have been added as a result of this review and emission limits and monitoring requirements have been included for the storage/treatment tank open vents to air.</p> <p>BAT AELs have been assigned to the emissions points to Air, the previous permit had no limits or parameters assigned.</p>

	<p>The following are now in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Point A1 - treatment tank T1 vent - TVOC (30mg/m3)/SVOC • Point A2 - treatment tank T2 vent - TVOC (30mg/m3)/SVOC • Point A3 - Storage tank vent - No parameter and limit set • Point A4 - treatment tank T4 vent - TVOC (30mg/m3)/SVOC <p>Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCS) inserted for monitoring, no BAT AEL.</p> <p>The Table also has some alterations to the footnotes and additional parameter conditions present regarding the requirements for monitoring.</p>
<p>Removal of Point source emission to Sewer</p> <p>(formerly Table S4.2 in the existing permit)</p>	<p>Discharge of uncontaminated water to sewer.</p> <p>Emission Point S1 now has now been removed from the permit as there are no longer emissions to sewer. All liquid discharges are removed from site by tanker. We have therefore included improvement condition IC10 that requires the operator to review and resubmit their site drainage plan and demonstrate that adequate segregation of clean and dirty water control measures, impermeable surfacing and a sealed drainage system are in place for external areas of the site where waste is stored or handled in accordance with the Environment Agency's guidance Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities.</p>
Addition of Table S3.2	Table S3.2 Process monitoring requirements has now been added to the permit, in line with the requirements of BAT and the Appropriate Measures.
Addition of Table S4.1	Table S4.1 Reporting of monitoring data has now been added to the permit, in line with the requirements of BAT and the Appropriate Measures.
Changes to Table S4.2 (formerly Table S5.2 in the existing permit)	The Annual treatment and production Table 4.2 has had additional rows included, in line with the requirements of BAT and the Appropriate Measures.

Changes to Table S4.4 (formerly Table S5.4 in the existing permit)	Reporting forms Table S4.4 has had additional row included, in line with the requirements of BAT and the Appropriate Measures.
Schedule 7	Added new site plan

Decision Considerations

Confidential information

A claim for commercial or industrial confidentiality has not been made.

The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on confidentiality.

Identifying confidential information

We have not identified information provided as part of the Regulation 61 notice response that we consider to be confidential.

The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on confidentiality.

The regulated facility

We considered the extent and nature of the facility at the site in accordance with RGN2 'Understanding the meaning of regulated facility', Appendix 2 of RGN2 'Defining the scope of the installation', and Appendix 1 of RGN 2 'Interpretation of Schedule 1'.

The site

The operator has provided a plan which we consider to be satisfactory.

These show the extent of the site of the facility including the discharge points.

The plans show the location of the installation to which this permit applies on that site.

The plan is included in the permit.

Operating techniques

We have reviewed the techniques used by the operator and compared these with the relevant guidance notes and we consider them to represent appropriate techniques for the facility.

The operating techniques that the applicant must use are specified in S1.2 in the environmental permit.

Updating permit conditions during consolidation

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

Changes to the permit conditions

We have varied the permit as stated in the variation notice.

Management plans

We did not review any management plan under the scope of the permit review. Under the conditions of the permit, where we consider that activities are giving rise to pollution in the form of fugitive emissions, we will ask for the submission and implementation of a suitable management plan.

Improvement programme

We have included an improvement programme to ensure that the permit complies with the appropriate technical guidance for this facility, Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities. See Table 1.

Changes to EWC codes

The following waste codes have been deleted from the permit at the request of the operator

01 05 04	freshwater drilling muds and wastes
16 01 15	antifreeze fluids other than those mentioned in 16 01 14
16 10 02	16 10 02 aqueous liquid wastes other than those mentioned in 16 10 01

Emission limits

Emission Limit Values (ELV's) based on Best Available Techniques – Achievable Emission Levels (BAT-AELS) for Waste Treatment, have been added for the following substances:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOC)/SVOC,

The following limits are now in place for the emissions points pending completion of the Improvement conditions

- Point A1 - treatment tank T1 vent - TVOC (30mg/m³)/SVOC
- Point A2 - treatment tank T2 vent - TVOC (30mg/m³)/SVOC
- Point A3 - Storage tank vent - No parameter and limit set
- Point A4 - treatment tank T4 vent - TVOC (30mg/m³)/SVOC

Monitoring

We have decided that monitoring should be added for the following parameters, using the methods detailed and to the frequencies specified in table S3.3 based on efficiency assessment.

These monitoring requirements have been included in order to comply with Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities

We made these decisions in accordance with Waste Treatment BAT Conclusions, Chemical Waste: Appropriate Measures for Permitted Facilities.

Reporting

We have added reporting in the permit for the following parameters:

- point source emissions specified in tables S3.1.
- process monitoring specified in table S3.2.

We made these decisions in accordance with Waste Treatment BAT Conclusions, Chemical Waste: Appropriate Measures for Permitted Facilities

Growth Duty

We have considered our duty to have regard to the desirability of promoting economic growth set out in section 108(1) of the Deregulation Act 2015 and the guidance issued under section 100 of that Act in deciding whether to grant the variation of this permit.

Paragraph 1.3 of the guidance says:

“The primary role of regulators, in delivering regulation, is to achieve the regulatory outcomes for which they are responsible. For a number of regulators, these regulatory outcomes include an explicit reference to development or growth. The growth duty establishes economic growth as a factor that all specified regulators should have regard to, alongside the delivery of the protections set out in the relevant legislation.”

We have addressed the legislative requirements and environmental standards to be set for this operation in the body of the decision document above. The guidance is clear at paragraph 1.5 that the growth duty does not legitimise non-compliance and its purpose is not to achieve or pursue economic growth at the expense of necessary protections.

We consider the requirements and standards we have set in this permit are reasonable and necessary to avoid a risk of an unacceptable level of pollution. This also promotes growth amongst legitimate operators because the standards

applied to the operator are consistent across businesses in this sector and have been set to achieve the required legislative standards.