We have decided to issue an Environment Agency initiated variation for Ampthill Metal Recycling at Station Road Industrial Estate operated by Ampthill Metal Company 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/MP3790NU/V004.

**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 for [WEEE treatment and transfer](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/technical-guidance-for-regulated-industry-sectors-environmental-permitting#waste-treatment-and-transfer-%E2%80%93-waste-electrical-and-electronic-equipment-(weee)) and [Treating metal waste in shredders](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/technical-guidance-for-regulated-industry-sectors-environmental-permitting#waste-treatment-and-transfer-%E2%80%93--treating-metal-waste-in-shredders), including the relevant requirements of the [BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment](https://eippcb.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reference/waste-treatment-0) 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](#Decision_Considerations) section to show how the main relevant factors have been taken into account;
* highlights [key issues](#Key_Issues) in the determination.

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

Key issues of the decision

**Shredder residue storage**The lighter, low-density material arising from the metal shredding process is known as ‘shredder residue fines’ and ‘shredder residue’ material, which has a heavier density.

Under the ‘Treating metal waste in shredders: appropriate measures for permitted facilities’, Measure 4.1, Point 3 states that “You must store shredder non-metallic fractions under cover”.

The site has three locations for the shredder non-metallic fractions, as illustrated on ‘Site Plan with Zones and Sampling locations’ Drawing No: K83.1~20~005. This refers to:

* Light fraction shredder residue stored in a single building;
* Shredder residue fines, stored in a 10 tonne bay; and
* Shredder residue fines, stored in a 25 tonne bay.

The operator has confirmed they are not in compliance with this requirement and have proposed alternative measures that provide an equivalent level of environment protection. We did not agree that this will provide an equivalent level of environmental protection due to the potential for wind whipping and leachate from percolation from rainfall. However, we have agreed the following interim measures prior to full coverage of the storage of non-metallic fractions:

The operators interim measures consist of the following:

* A damp shredding process is carried out by injecting water into the shredder chamber, adjusted by the shredder operator in accordance with the waste type. This ensures that the shredder non-metallic fraction remains damp during the process and during deposition;
* A water ‘deduster’ system is used which traps dust collected by the cyclone abatement system, reducing the potential for fugitive dust emissions;
* The end of the conveyor belt which deposits the shredder residue into the bay is fitted with a fixed sprinkler system, maintaining the dampness of the material as it collects within the stockpile.
* The Operator has access to two mobile sprinkler systems, for use when meteorological conditions have the potential to increase dust emissions. This is fed by a 30,000 litre water tank adjacent to the shredder.
* A ‘check sheet’ is used to ensure that the site maintains a high level of housekeeping around the shredder and the storage bays.
* Light fraction shredder residue has a maximum turnaround time of 24 hours.
* Shredder residue fines have a maximum turnaround time of approximately 3 weeks.
* Shredder residue fines are moved in a way to reduce excess movement using a telehandler.
* The provision of two shredder residue fines bay provides flexibility so that during strong winds, the transfer of fines from one bay to another can be delayed, or the amount of fines can be shared evenly across the two bays to limit to stockpile size.
* Wagons that shredder residue is loaded into for removal off-site are fitted with dust netting prior to moving from the loading area.

We have reviewed the proposed interim measures and are satisfied these will provide a short-term equivalent level of environmental protection to storing shredder residue and shredder residue fines under cover. This is also subject to the completion of the following improvement conditions:

* Improvement Condition 10 has been included in Table S1.3 for infrastructural repairs to the roof that houses the light fraction shredder residue to ensure they are covered.
* Improvement Condition 11 has been included for the operator to submit and agree proposals and timescales for the shredder non-metallic fraction to be covered.
* Improvement Condition 12 (a) and (b) have been included in Table S1.3 for a detailed ambient air monitoring programme from various monitoring locations, in order to justify that diffuse emissions from the locations marked on the layout plan ‘Site Plan with Zones and Sampling locations’ (Drawing No: K83.1~20~005) are not posing a significant risk to the environment.

**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 13th July 2022 our WEEE (waste electrical and electronic equipment) appropriate measures guidance was published on gov.uk. This guidance includes additional appropriate measures for WTEE (waste temperature exchange equipment).

This technical guidance explains the standards (appropriate measures) that are relevant to regulated facilities with an environmental permit to treat or transfer WEEE (including WTEE) and incorporates the relevant requirements of the BAT Conclusions.

On 20th October 2021 our Treating metal waste in shredders appropriate measures guidance was published on gov.uk. This technical guidance explains the standards that are relevant to regulated facilities with an environmental permit to mechanically treat metal waste in shredders and incorporates 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 17/12/2021 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

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 of 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 18/04/2022.

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 24/10/2024, 06/11/2024, 27/11/2024, 31/01/2025, and 24/04/2025.

**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** | CC | Treating Metal Waste In Shredders: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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.ELV: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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. |
| **Waste pre-acceptance, acceptance and tracking appropriate measures** | CC | Treating Metal Waste In Shredders: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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. ELV: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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. |
| **Waste storage, segregation and handling appropriate measures** | FC | Treating Metal Waste In Shredders: Appropriate MeasuresThe operator confirmed that they currently meet the requirements of the appropriate measures in this section with the exception of:* Section 4.1, Point 3, which requires non-metallic shredder residue to be stored under cover.

We have not accepted the operator’s alternative measures and have included an improvement condition (IC11) to cover them. See key issues for further information. Compliance with the other 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.ELV: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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. |
| **Waste treatment appropriate measures** | FC | Treating Metal Waste In Shredders: Appropriate MeasuresThe operator confirmed that they currently meet the requirements of the appropriate measures in this section with the exception of:* Section 5.2, Point 3 which requires shredder non-metallic fractions to be processed undercover.

The operator has stated within their Regulation 61 Notice Response that this is partly achieved due to the majority of conveyor belts post-shredding but full compliance will be achieved by reviewing and covering the remaining conveyor belts and drop points. We have included an improvement condition (IC7) that requires compliance with this measure. See Improvement Programme for further details.* Section 5.5, point 1 which requires the minimisation of the release of diffuse emissions to air from shredding or granulation. This includes the use of enclosed equipment, negative pressure, appropriate abatement, and water/foam injection into the mill.

The operator has stated they comply with the use of water injection into the mill and collecting and directing the emissions to an appropriate abatement system via a cyclone/wet scrubber. However, as flame events cannot be 100% ruled out, full enclosure of the shredder in impractical. The operator stated that a review would be carried out and completed by April 2025 to ensure that diffuse emissions were minimised. However, we have included two improvement conditions (IC12a and IC12b) that shall identify appropriate monitoring for diffuse emissions, report the results and conclusions of the investigation, and implement effective improvements where necessary.ELV: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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. |
| **Emissions control appropriate measures** | FC | Treating Metal Waste In Shredders: Appropriate MeasuresThe operator confirmed that they currently meet the requirements of the appropriate measures in this section with the exception of:* Section 6.1, Point 2 which requires the operator to identify the main chemical constituents of the site’s point source emissions as part of the site’s inventory of emissions to air.

We have included an improvement condition (IC8) which requires the completion of an emissions inventory and H1 Risk Assessment for the point source emissions to air. See Improvement Programme for further details.* Section 6.1, Point 3 which requires the operator to assess the fate and impact of substances emitted to air.

We have included an improvement condition (IC8a and IC8b) which requires the completion of an emissions inventory and H1 Risk Assessment for the point source emissions to air.* Section 6.2, Point 7 which requires the storage and handling of shredder residue within a building
* Section 6.2, Point 8 which requires fully enclosed material transfer and storage systems and equipment
* Section 6.2, Point 9 which recommends the operator to keep enclosed buildings and equipment under adequate negative pressure.

The site uses storage sheds that have large open air access points, which makes negative pressure impossible. We have included two improvement conditions (IC12a and IC12b) that shall identify appropriate monitoring for diffuse emissions, report the results and conclusions of the investigation, and implement effective improvements where necessary.* Section 6.2, Point 30 which requires a deflagration management plan.

The operator has stated that this point is not applicable within their Regulation 61 Notice Response. However, in accordance with BAT 27, one is required for the mechanical treatment in shredders of metal waste. We have therefore include an improvement condition (IC9) for the submission of a deflagration management plan. See Improvement Programme for further details.* Section 6.4, Point 1 which requires the operator to identify the main chemical constituents of the site’s point source emissions as part of the site’s inventory of emissions to water and sewer.

We have included an improvement condition (IC8a and 8b) which requires the completion of an emissions inventory and H1 Risk Assessment for the point source emissions to water and sewer. See Improvement Programme for further details.* Section 6.4, Point 2 which requires the operator to assess the fate and impact of substances emitted to water and sewer.

We have included an improvement condition (IC8a and IC8b) which requires the completion of an emissions inventory and H1 Risk Assessment for the point source emissions to water and sewer.ELV: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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. |
| **Emissions monitoring and limits appropriate measures** | FC | Treating Metal Waste In Shredders: Appropriate MeasuresThe operator confirmed that they currently meet the requirements of the appropriate measures in this section with the exception of:* Section 7.1, Point 1 which requires the operator to have an emissions inventory which characterises the parameters of the point source emissions to air.

We have included an improvement condition (IC8a and IC8b) which requires the completion of an emissions inventory and H1 Risk Assessment for the point source emissions to air. See Improvement Programme for further details.ELV: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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. |
| **Process efficiency appropriate measures** | CC | Treating Metal Waste In Shredders: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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.ELV: Appropriate MeasuresThe 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. |
| **Reg 61 requirement** | **Assessment of response received** |
| **Soil and groundwater risk assessment** | In response to a Request For Information dated 24/10/2024, the operator has provided confirmation of a Phase II intrusive site investigation report which assesses the existing baseline data and a baseline report of the condition of the site. |
| **Medium combustion plant and specified generators** | N/A. The operator confirmed that there are no combustion plant or generators associated with the permitted activity. |
| **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** |
| Added condition 3.1.3 | The following condition has been added to the permit as part of the permit review:“ 3.1.3 - Periodic monitoring shall be carried out at least once every 5 years for groundwater and 10 years for soil, unless such monitoring is based on a systematic appraisal of the risk of contamination.” |
| Amendment of Directly Associated Activity (DAA) | The new permit has amended the previous DAA (AR3) from the ‘Storage of waste for the purpose of recycling’ to the ‘Storage of non-hazardous waste pending treatment’. |
| Removal of Directly Associated Activity (DAA) | The new permit has been amended to remove the previous DAA (AR6) ‘Discharge of surface water’.AR6 has been removed because the permit previously listed the site interceptor for surface water runoff as a Directly Associated Activity (DAA). Following a review against our guidance (RGN 2: Understanding the Meaning of Regulated Facility), we have determined that the use of the interceptor does not meet the criteria for a DAA. The use of an interceptor is considered a standard pollution control measure rather than a separate activity that is technically connected to and directly associated with the waste treatment operation. It does not process waste or generate emissions itself, but rather provides a passive means of protecting controlled waters from contamination. Therefore, it is more appropriately captured within the emissions control requirements of the permit, particularly within the emissions to water table and relevant infrastructure conditions. The interceptor will continue to be regulated through conditions requiring control of emissions to sewer, and the operator remains responsible for ensuring it is maintained and performs effectively to prevent pollution.  |
| Addition of Directly Associated Activity | The new permit has been amended to add a DAA (AR5) for surface and process water collection and storage.The operator has confirmed that there are 3 connected holding tanks with a combined capacity of 12,000 litres. These collect site surface water that runs off the storage of outdoor and uncovered waste.The process water is collected for removal off-site. |
| Removal of WEEE waste operation | The operator has confirmed in an email dated 25/03/2025 that they wish to remove the WEEE waste operation (AR8) as this waste operation is no longer in use. We have included reference within the introductory note to highlight this change.The following condition have been removed from the permit:* Condition 2.6 – WEEE Storage.

The following have been amended in the permit:* Condition 4.2.5 – This condition has been modified from each quarter, to each year when reporting information specified on the relevant form relating to the site and the waste accepted.
* Table S4.2 – Annual production/treatment - has been amended to remove reference to ‘WEEE processed’ and ‘Other fractions recovered’.
 |
| Removal of waste code 19 01 02 | 19 01 02 – ferrous materials removed from bottom ash was queried due to the conflict with the exclusions on Table S2.4 of the permit that states “Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted – consisting solely or mainly of dusts, powders, or loose fibres”. Due to the increased risk of dust from this waste type, we asked for evidence of management techniques for reducing this risk. In an email dated 06/11/2024, the operator requested the removal of this waste code from the permit. |
| Addition of hazardous waste codes | We have added the following hazardous waste code to Table S2.2:* 16 01 21\*

We have added the following hazardous waste codes to Table S2.3:* 16 01 21\*
* 17 04 10\*

The operator has been utilising Regulatory Position Statement (RPS) 276 which allows for the acceptance of hazardous waste cable, due to the re-categorisation of these wastes potentially being hazardous unless proven otherwise.We have added the dual hazardous codes in order for the operator to continue accepting these waste codes when the RPS expires. |

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

There is no change to the site plan as a result of this variation. 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.

Changes to the permit conditions

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

Improvement programme

The below improvement conditions have been removed from the permit as confirmed as complete on 08/01/2025 from local area:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Reference | Requirement | Date |
| IC1 | The operator shall submit a written procedure to the Environment Agency for approval for the use of Best Available Techniques to trace and inspect baled wastes delivered to the site. This shall include, but not be limited to, detailed monitoring and management of:1. bale suppliers and processing;
2. flame events and audible events associated with processing of baled waste; and
3. concealed items, non-metallic materials, undepolluted End of Life Vehicles, cylinders/sealed containers or heavy non-shreddable items.

The procedure shall include risk-based inspection of individual bales which includes pre-treating, opening or breaking of bales as appropriate. The operator shall implement the procedure in accordance with the Environment Agency’s written approval. | 3 months from permit issue |
| IC2 | The operator shall submit a written management system to the Environment Agency. The management system must ensure that all Installation Activity reference A1 in Table S1.1 are undertaken in accordance with Best Available Techniques The Management system shall include: 1. a clearly documented and auditable waste acceptance procedure which details:
2. assessment of potential in-feed including pre-acceptance checks to ensure that the wastes received are suitable for shredding,
3. procedures for the identification, confiscation and repatriation of gas cylinders and other prohibited items,
4. a dedicated waste reception area with suitably trained staff controlling inspection, reception and validation of wastes
5. a dedicated quarantine area for wastes that are prohibited, awaiting full inspection, testing or removal
6. clearly documented and auditable material handling procedures that ensure emissions including dust and noise from material handling are prevented or where that is not practicable minimised, and
7. clearly documented and auditable procedures for the management of shredder residues which ensure that:
8. all residues are stored on impermeable surface with sealed drainage in a way that prevents or where that is not practicable, minimises emissions and prevents wind-blown dispersion
9. all residues are characterised and assessed for appropriate further processing, recovery or disposal

The operator shall implement the management system in accordance with the Environment Agency’s written approval. | 3 months from permit issue |
| IC3 | The operator shall submit proposals to the Agency that demonstrate they are preventing, or where that is not practicable, minimising emissions of dust and particulates by the movement and handling of materials by conveyor belt. This should include as appropriate: 1. covering of conveyors, transfer points and drop points downstream of the shredder; and
2. spraying and misting shall be used in dry or windy conditions
 | 6 months from permit issue |
| IC4 | The operator shall submit a revised noise management plan to the Environment Agency for written approval. The plan must contain dates for implementation of individual measures. | 6 months from permit issue |
| IC5 | The operator shall submit a written plan to the Environment Agency for approval that includes:1. proposals to undertake representative monitoring of the air discharged from point A1including the parameters to be monitored, frequencies of monitoring and methods to be used;
2. proposals to undertake representative monitoring of the ambient air including the sampling locations, parameters to be monitored, frequencies of monitoring and methods to be used;
3. confirmation that a written report will be submitted to the Environment Agency for approval that includes:
4. the results of an assessment of the impact of the emission to air from the site using the Environment Agency’s ‘H1 Environmental Risk Assessment’ tool (or equivalent as agreed with the Environment Agency) based on the parameters monitored in (a) above; and
5. proposals for appropriate measures to mitigate the impact of the emission where the assessment determines they are significant, including emissions limits and monitoring and dates for implementation of individual measures; and
6. details of appropriate measures for the operation and maintenance of the abatement system to ensure that where emission limits are proposed they are met or, where emission limits are not required, emissions remain insignificant.

The operator shall carry out the monitoring in accordance with the Environment Agency’s written approval. | 6 months from permit issue |
| IC6 | The Operator shall submit a written proposal to the Environment Agency to carry out tests to determine the size distribution of the particulate matter in the exhaust gas emissions to air from emission point A1 identifying the fractions within the PM10, and PM2.5 ranges. The proposal shall include a timetable for approval by the Environment Agency to carry out such tests and produce a report on the results. On receipt of written agreement by the Environment Agency to the proposal and the timetable, the Operator shall carry out the tests and submit to the Environment Agency a report on the results. | 6 months from permit issue |

We have included an improvement programme to ensure that the permit is in accordance with the relevant appropriate measures and guidance.

Improvement Condition 7 requires the operator to carry out a full review of the processing shredder non-metallic fraction under cover, store and handle that waste within an enclosed building, and review the conveyors and belts that process shredder non-metallic fractions to ensure they are under cover show a suitable alternative measure that demonstrates an equivalent level of protection.

Improvement Condition 8a and 8b requires the operator to submit a written report for an updated emissions inventory and H1 assessment for air and surface water, as new parameters have been introduced into the permit as per the requirements of this permit review and BAT.

Improvement Condition 9 requires the operator to produce and maintain a deflagration management plan in accordance with BAT 27.

Improvement Condition 10 requires the operator to carry out infrastructural repairs to the roof that houses the shredder residue, marked as ‘Dirt Shed’. The repairs must provide full coverage to the structure forming the upper covering of the building. A deadline for completion has been agreed for the 01/04/2026. The extended deadline is due to confirmation from the operator via email on 24/04/2025 that the plant would not be able to run during the time required to replace the roof and fixings and would have a significant negative commercial impact. Therefore, the operator will carry out the repairs in line with the 2026 maintenance schedule, where the operator has planned shutdown for maintenance of the site.

Improvement Condition 11 requires the operator to comply with section 4.1, point 3 of the appropriate measures to store shredder non-metallic fractions under cover. See key issues for further detail.

Improvement Condition 12a and 12b requires the operator to submit a written report that proposes a monitoring programme to assess the facility’s diffuse emissions to air. The operator must also demonstrate a review of those diffuse emissions monitoring to air and proposals for ongoing monitoring or further assessment where necessary. In the case that further abatement is required, proposals are required for timescales and implementation to reduce fugitive emissions to air.

Improvement Condition 13 requires the operator to review and resubmit their site drainage plan to demonstrate the feasibility of segregating clean and dirty water. The operator has confirmed that this does not currently occur on site, and therefore the feasibility to separate and segregate must be explored in order to meet compliance with BAT 19f.

**Changes to EWC codes**

The following EWC codes has been removed from Table S2.2. This is following clarification from the operator regarding the wastes accepted under the waste operation for the ELV operation:

|  |
| --- |
| **Table S2.2 Permitted waste types and quantities for Vehicle storage, depollution and dismantling (authorised treatment) facility.** |
| **Maximum Quantities** | * The total quantity of waste accepted at the site shall not exceed 150,000 tonnes per year.
* The total quantity of waste accepted for activities AR6, AR7, & AR8 shall not exceed 75,000 tonnes per year for non-hazardous wastes and 500 tonnes per year for hazardous wastes.
 |
| **Exclusions** | Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted:* Consisting solely or mainly of dusts, powders or loose fibres
 |
| **Waste code** | **Description** |
| **16**  | **WASTES NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN THE LIST**  |
| **16 01**  | **end-of-life vehicles from different means of transport (including off-road machinery) and wastes from dismantling of end-of-life vehicles and vehicle maintenance (except 13, 14, 16 06 and 16 08)**  |
| 16 01 07\*  | oil filters  |
| 16 01 11\*  | brake pads containing asbestos  |
| 16 01 12  | brake pads other than those mentioned in 16 01 11  |
| 16 01 17  | ferrous metal  |
| 16 01 18  | non-ferrous metal  |
| 16 01 19  | plastic  |
| 16 01 20  | glass  |

The following EWC code has been removed from Table S2.4 (now S2.3). This is following clarification from the operator regarding the wastes accepted under the waste operation for the sorting and separating of metal for metal recycling (AR7)

| Table S2.3 Permitted Waste types and quantities for Metal Recycling  |
| --- |
| Maximum Quantities | * The total quantity of waste accepted at the site shall not exceed 150,000 tonnes per year.
* The total quantity of waste accepted for activities AR6 and AR7 shall not exceed 75,000 tonnes per year for non-hazardous wastes and 500 tonnes per year for hazardous wastes.
 |
| Exclusions | Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted: * Consisting solely or mainly of dusts, powders or loose fibres
* Wastes that are in a form which is either sludge or liquid
 |
| **Waste Code** | **Description** |
| **19** | **WASTES FROM WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES, OFF-SITE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND THE PREPARATION OF WATER INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND WATER FOR INDUSTRIAL USE** |
| **19 01** | **wastes from incineration or pyrolysis of waste** |
| 19 01 02 | ferrous materials removed from bottom ash |

The following EWC table has been removed from the permit. This is following confirmation that the operator wishes to remove the WEEE waste operation (previously AR8):

| **Table S2.3 Permitted Waste types and quantities for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment authorised treatment facility**  |
| --- |
| **Maximum Quantities** | * The total quantity of waste accepted at the site shall not exceed 150,000 tonnes per year.
* The total quantity of waste accepted for activities A7, A8 & A9 shall not exceed 75,000 tonnes per year for non-hazardous wastes and 500 tonnes per year for hazardous wastes.
 |
| **Exclusions** | Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted: * Consisting solely or mainly of dusts, powders or loose fibres
* Wastes that are in a form which is either sludge or liquid
 |
| **Waste Code** | **Description** |
| **16** | **WASTES NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN THE LIST** |
| **16 02** | **Wastes from electrical and electronic equipment** |
| 16 02 14 | discarded equipment other than those mentioned in 16 02 09 to 16 02 13 |
| **16 06** | **batteries and accumulators** |
| 16 06 01\* | lead batteries |
| 16 06 05 | other batteries and accumulators (Excl. NI-Cd, Mercury containing and alkaline batteries) |
| **20** | **MUNICIPAL WASTES (HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND SIMILAR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL WASTES) INCLUDING SEPARATELY COLLECTED FRACTIONS** |
| **20 01** | **separately collected fractions (except 15 01)** |
| 20 01 33\* | batteries and accumulators included in 16 06 01, 16 06 02 or 16 06 03 and unsorted batteries and accumulators containing these batteries |

The following waste code has been amended in its restriction in Table S2.3:

* 16 02 14 – discarded equipment other than those mentioned in 16 02 09 to 16 02 13.

The restriction has been amended from ‘(ferrous and non-ferrous only)’ to ‘(cookers, washing machines, dishwashers and tumble dryers, excluding heat pump tumble dryers)’.

The operator is only bulking and transferring LDA under this waste code. Therefore, the restriction has been amended to allow the operator to accept a broader range of waste under this waste code that makes it suitable for bulking and transferring. This was previously carried out under the WEEE waste operation. However, as the WEEE waste operation has been removed, the bulking for transfer of LDA has been moved to the metal recycling waste operation. No material change will occur on site as a result of this amendment.

Emission limits

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

* Total Suspended Particulates (now ‘Dust’)

This substance, listed under the emission points A1 in Table S3.1 of the permit, has been amended in line with the current requirements of BAT. The AEL for this substance was 20 mg/m3. The revised AEL is 5 mg/m3.

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 VOCs
* Brominated flame retardants
* Dioxin-like PCBs
* Metals (As, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Mn, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Tl, V)
* Dioxins and furans (PCDD/F)

The above substances, listed under the emission points A1, have been added in line with the current requirements of BAT.

Emissions limits have been added for direct emissions to water (other than sewer) and land as a result of this variation based on Best Available Techniques – Achievable Emission Levels (BAT-AELs) for Waste Treatment:

* Oil or grease
* TOC
* COD
* Total suspended solids
* Hydrocarbon oil index
* Cadmium
* Chromium
* Copper
* Lead
* Nickel
* Zinc
* Mercury
* PFOA
* PFOS
* Deca BDE

The above substances, listed under the emission points W1 and W2 in Table S3.2 of the permit, have been added in line with the current requirements of BAT.

Monitoring

We have decided that monitoring should be added for the following parameters, using the methods detailed and to the frequencies specified:

* All mechanical treatment of WEEE by process stream: LDA
* Total VOCs
* Brominated flame retardants
* Dioxin-like polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
* Metals (As, Cd, Co, Cr, Cu, Mn, Ni, Pb, Sb, Se, Tl, V)
* Dioxins and furans (PCDD/F)
* TOC
* COD
* Total suspended solids
* Hydrocarbon oil index
* Cadmium
* Chromium
* Copper
* Lead
* Nickel
* Zinc
* Mercury
* PFOA
* PFOS
* Deca BDE

We made these decisions in accordance with Best Available Techniques for Waste Treatment.

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.