

## Permitting Decisions - Environment Agency Initiated Variation

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We have issued an Environment Agency initiated variation for Stewartby Waste Management Facility operated by Veolia ES UK 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/QP3237SC/V004.

The permit variation was issued on 21/10/2026.

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

The 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:

- <https://www.gov.uk/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.
- [End of life vehicles \(ELVs\): appropriate measures for permitted facilities](#) and the relevant requirements of the [BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment](#) which have been incorporated into our guidance
- [Waste electrical and electronic equipment \(WEEE\): appropriate measures for permitted facilities](#) and the relevant requirements of the [BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment](#) which have been incorporated into our guidance.

- [Healthcare 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

## Storage of non-infectious healthcare waste

The operator has proposed alternative measures to the below point of the [Healthcare waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities](#) guidance which states the following:

- Measure 4.9 – *‘You must store and handle all pharmaceutical, chemical, anatomical and palletised wastes securely within designated areas of a secure building. A building is a covered structure enclosed on all vertical sides that provides sheltered cover and contains emissions of, for example, noise particulate matter, odour and litter.’*

The aim of this appropriate measure is to ensure that medicines and other healthcare wastes are stored in a suitably secured area to prevent theft and control potential emissions.

As part of the determination process, the operator provided alternative measures to the above guidance that they believe provide an equivalent level of security and environmental protection. The operator has proposed storing non-infectious healthcare waste (expired medicines, dressings, and chemicals) externally, rather than in a building. They have outlined the following operating techniques to demonstrate the low risk of emissions and theft:

- 1) The site has no emissions to sewer or water. All surface water is collected and tankered off-site for treatment.
- 2) The external storage bays are covered by secure gazebo structures.
- 3) The bays are bunded.
- 4) All containers will be weatherproofed to protect from any potential rainwater ingress.
- 5) The waste will not include any infectious wastes.
- 6) The site has two boundary fences, which are over 6 ft high and are topped with barbed/razor wire fencing.
- 7) The site has boundary and internal CCTV in operation at all times with guard responses. The CCTV is linked to a 24-hour manned monitoring station.
- 8) The waste bays have thermal camera monitoring.

Based on the operating techniques outlined above, we have determined that both the environmental risk and risk of theft is low and therefore can accept the alternative measures to that which is outlined in measure 4.9 of the healthcare waste appropriate measures.

They key reasons we have accepted this are as follows:

- There are no discharges to water of any kind, significantly reducing the risk of contamination of the environment.
- The site security is thorough with two layers of perimeter fencing to deter break ins.
- The high level of CCTV and guard response outlined suitable measures in place to swiftly deal with any potential break-ins.
- The storage bays are covered and containers weatherproofed which means unnecessary contamination of otherwise clean rainwater is unlikely.

On this basis, we consider that the proposed measures provide an equivalent level of environmental and security protection to that intended by storing the waste within a secure building.

## **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 was 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.

The following Appropriate Measures guidance is also applicable to the permitted activities being varied under this permit review and has been included in the operating techniques table.

- Healthcare waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities - published 13 July 2020.
- Non-hazardous and inert waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities - published 12 July 2021.
- Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE): appropriate measures for permitted facilities – published July 2022.
- End of life vehicles (ELVs): appropriate measures for permitted facilities – published 19 October 2023.

We issued a notice under regulation 61(1) of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 (a Regulation 61 Notice) on 15/11/2021 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 with 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

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.

### **Regulation 61 Response**

The Regulation 61 notice response from the Operator was received on 14/05/2025.

We considered that the response did contain sufficient information for us to commence determination of the permit review.

Although we were able to consider the Regulation 61 notice response generally satisfactory at receipt, we needed more information in order to complete our permit review assessment. We requested this by email and the operator provided further information on their on-site processes and operations, waste codes, and emissions abatement on 16/01/2026. 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| General management appropriate measures                            | CC                | <p><b><u>Chemical Waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities:</u></b></p> <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>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Waste pre-acceptance, acceptance and tracking appropriate measures | CC                | <p><b><u>Chemical Waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities:</u></b></p> <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>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Waste storage, segregation and handling appropriate measures       | CC                | <p><b><u>Chemical Waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities:</u></b></p> <p>The operator confirmed that they currently meet the requirements of all appropriate measures in this section, other than those with agreed alternative measures and those subject to an improvement condition as listed below. 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>We have agreed alternative measures to those outlined in the appropriate measures guidance with the operator for the following sections:</p> <p><b>Measure 4.9</b> – ‘<i>You must store wastes in sealed metal containers under cover if they have the potential for self-heating or self-reactivity. You must monitor the containers for heat build-up. Such wastes include rags and filter materials contaminated with metal swarf, low boiling point oils, or low flash points.</i>’</p> <p>The operator has provided the following alternative techniques and justified why these techniques provide an equivalent level of environmental protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wastes with the potential for self-heating or self-reactivity will be stored within UN approved</li> </ul> |

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|  |  | <p>containers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These wastes will be stored in bays monitored by thermal cameras.</li> <li>• These wastes will be stored under cover.</li> </ul> <p>We have reviewed the operator justification, and we are satisfied that the proposed techniques adequately demonstrate that waste storage risk control measures represent appropriate measures for their activity, based on the risks posed and will provide an equivalent level of environmental protection.</p> <p><b>Measure 4.24</b> – <i>‘You must stack bags and boxes of waste no more than 1m high on a pallet. You must not stack pallets more than 2 high.’</i></p> <p>The operator has provided the following alternative techniques and justified why these techniques provide an equivalent level of environmental protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bags will not be stacked above 1 metre.</li> <li>• Boxes will be stacked less than 2 metres in height.</li> <li>• Dynamic risk assessments will be used to assess stack stability and integrity.</li> <li>• Access routes will be maintained and checked regularly.</li> </ul> <p>We have reviewed the operator justification, and we are satisfied that the proposed techniques adequately demonstrate that waste storage risk control measures represent appropriate measures for their activity, based on the risks posed and will provide an equivalent level of environmental protection.</p> <p><b>Measure 4.77</b> – <i>‘You should store aluminium canisters separately from steel canisters (Especially rusting canisters). This will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Prevent thermite sparks during storage, handling, and treatment.</i></li> <li>• <i>Allow the different metals to be more easily recovered.</i></li> </ul> <p>The operator has provided the following alternative techniques and justified why these techniques provide an equivalent level of environmental protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canisters will be stored for less than 3 months.</li> </ul> |
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|                                               | FC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily visual checks on canisters for signs of rusting or damage.</li> <li>• Maximum capacity of canister storage to be 8 tonnes (40m<sup>3</sup>).</li> <li>• Aerosols will be stored in covered and vented cages.</li> <li>• Canisters will not be physically manhandled to reduce contact between items.</li> </ul> <p>We have reviewed the operator justification, and we are satisfied that the proposed techniques adequately demonstrate that waste storage risk control measures represent appropriate measures for their activity, based on the risks posed and will provide an equivalent level of environmental protection.</p> <p><b>Measure 4.43</b> – <i>‘You should vent bulk storage tanks and silos through suitable abatement’.</i></p> <p>We have included improvement conditions 7, 8A, 8b, and 9 to ensure the operators processes are compliant with this appropriate measure.</p> <p><b>Measure 4.86</b> – <i>‘Repackaging or mixing must only take place in a dedicated area or store which has the plant and equipment needed to deal with the specific risks of that process. For example, this could include abatement or local exhaust ventilation’.</i></p> <p>We have included improvement conditions 7, 8A, 8b, and 9 to ensure the operators processes are compliant with this appropriate measure.</p> |
| <b>Waste treatment appropriate measures</b>   | CC | <p><b><u>Chemical Waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities:</u></b></p> <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>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Emissions control appropriate measures</b> | FC | <p><b><u>Chemical Waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities:</u></b></p> <p>The operator confirmed that they currently meet the requirements of all appropriate measures in this section, other than those subject to an improvement condition as listed below. Compliance with the</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

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|                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>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><b>Measure 6.1.1</b> - <i>'You must contain storage tanks, silos and waste treatment plant (including shredders) to make sure you collect, extract and direct all process emissions to an appropriate abatement system for treatment before release'.</i></p> <p>We have included improvement conditions 7, 8A, 8b, and 9 to ensure the operators processes are compliant with this appropriate measure.</p> |
| <b>Emissions monitoring and limits appropriate measures</b> | CC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p><b><u>Chemical Waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities:</u></b></p> <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>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Process efficiency appropriate measures</b>              | CC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <p><b><u>Chemical Waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities:</u></b></p> <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>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Reg 61 requirement</b>                                   | <b>Assessment of response received</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Soil and groundwater risk assessment</b>                 | <p>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.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Climate change</b>                                       | <p>Submission of climate change risk assessment is no longer an application requirement. It now forms a part of the operator's EMS and will be reviewed within compliance assessment.</p>                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

| <b>Healthcare waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities</b>                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <b>Waste storage, segregation and handling appropriate measures</b>                                     | <p>The appropriate measures (measure 4.9) require the storage of pharmaceutical and chemical wastes in a secure building.</p> <p>The operator has provided alternative techniques (outlined above in key issues section of this document) and justified why the techniques provide an equivalent level of environmental protection.</p> <p>We have reviewed the operator's justification and we are satisfied that the proposed techniques adequately demonstrate that waste storage, segregation and handling measures represent appropriate measures for their activities, based on the risks posed.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Summary of other changes made to the permit as a result of our assessment of the Reg 61 response</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Alterations to R&amp;D codes for activities in Table S1.1</b>                                        | <p><b>AR1</b> – Hazardous mixing and blending. R3 (Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents) replaced with R12 (exchange of waste for submission to any of the operations numbered R1 to R11). We have replaced R3 with R12 because this activity is not restricted to one particular type of waste, as shown by the waste codes accepted in table S2.2. Therefore, R12 is a more suitable waste code.</p> <p><b>AR2</b> - Repackaging of hazardous waste. R3 (Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents) replaced with R12 (exchange of waste for submission to any of the operations numbered R1 to R11). We have replaced R3 with R12 because this activity is not restricted to one particular type of waste, as shown by the waste codes accepted in table S2.2. Therefore, R12 is a more suitable waste code.</p> |
| <b>Removal of DAA A4 'Drum contamination and crushing' from the permit.</b>                             | The operator has confirmed this DAA no longer occurs on site and can be removed from the permit to ensure the permitted activities accurately reflect the waste processing happening on site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Removal of activity AR9 treatment of non-hazardous paints.</b>                                       | Operator confirmed this treatment process no longer happens on site and can be removed from permit to ensure the permitted activities accurately reflect the waste processing happening on site.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Addition of Physico-chemical treatment of non-hazardous water-based paints by</b>                    | This activity has been added to accurately reflect on-site operations. This had previously been permitted under the existing AR8 activity but is more suitably permitted under its own waste operation activity.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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| <b>crushing under AR9.</b>                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Alteration of clinical waste codes to updated wording in waste code tables.</b> | As part of the permit review process and assessing site compliance against the Healthcare waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities guidance, the waste descriptions for healthcare waste codes have been updated to more accurately reflect the different types of wastes that may be accepted under these waste codes. The waste codes that have been included, altered, and removed with agreement from the operator can be seen in the EWC code section below.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Separation of waste code tables.</b>                                            | <p>As part of the permit review process, we are separating EWC code tables for each scheduled activity to more accurately reflect the treatment processes each waste type is subject to on-site. The updated waste code tables in the permit are as follows:</p> <p><b>S2.2</b> – Hazardous waste codes accepted onto site for treatment under mixing and blending of hazardous waste (AR1).</p> <p><b>S2.3</b> – Hazardous waste codes accepted onto site for repackaging of hazardous waste (AR2) and the storage of hazardous waste (AR3).</p> <p><b>S2.4</b> – Non-hazardous waste codes accepted onto site for the storage of non-hazardous waste (AR6) and repackaging of non-hazardous waste (AR8).</p> <p><b>S2.5</b> – Non-hazardous waste codes accepted onto site for treatment under mixing and blending of non-hazardous waste (AR7)</p> |

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| <p><b>Addition of Table S3.1 for emission points to air for existing emission point A1 and prospective emission points upon the completion of IC7, 8a, and 8b.</b></p> | <p><b>Addition of A1</b> – The operator confirmed in their first RFI response that the ‘lab smalls sort area’ has a carbon scrubber that is used when mixing/blending volatile organics and solvent wastes. This area is also used for repackaging. Therefore, in table S3.1 for emission point A1, we have included 3 separate monitoring scenarios. BAT-AEL limits and requirements when mixing and blending or repackaging solvent-based wastes, when mixing and blending or repackaging wastes with calorific value, and when mixing and blending or repackaging water-based liquid wastes. Specific BAT-AELs and monitoring requirements can be seen in the sections below. We have included repackaging with monitoring requirements as this process is done in the same area as mixing/blending and uses the same LEV equipment when necessary.</p> <p><b>Prospective emission point for storage tanks T1 and T2</b> – The Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities guidance measure 4.43 requires storage tanks to be suitably enclosed and abated. However, due to the type of wastes stored in these tanks, the operator believes enclosure is not necessary as no emission from these wastes is present. Therefore, we have included IC 7, 8a, and 8b. These improvement conditions will provide the operator an opportunity to prove, through monitoring, that no emission is present from the wastes stored in these tanks. If the monitoring proves an emission is present, then enclosure and abatement will be required and IC8a and IC8b will need to be completed.</p> <p><b>Prospective emission point for the mixing and blending ‘prep area’</b> – As shown on the site plan in Schedule 7 of the permit, this area is used for mixing and blending but currently does not have suitable abatement such as LEV found in the ‘lab smalls sort area’. Similarly to the emission point above, we have included IC 7, 8a, and 8b to provide the operator an opportunity to prove, through monitoring, that no emission is present from the wastes mixed and blended in this area. If the monitoring proves an emission is present, then enclosure and abatement will be required and IC8a and IC8b will need to be completed. Similarly to A1, we have included 3 separate monitoring scenarios depending on what wastes are being mixed/blended: mixing/blending of solvent-based wastes, wastes with calorific value, or water-based liquid wastes.</p> |
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## **Decision Considerations**

### **Confidential information**

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

### **Identifying confidential information**

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

### **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', Appendix 1 of RGN 2 'Interpretation of Schedule 1', guidance on waste recovery plans and permits.

### **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 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 operator 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.

### **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.

### **IC6 – Fire prevention**

This improvement condition requires the operator to submit a Fire Prevention Plan (FPP) to the Environment Agency for approval that takes into account all the appropriate measures for fire prevention specified in the Environment Agency's guidance Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities and Fire prevention plans: environmental permits. We have included this improvement condition because currently, the site does not operate under an Environment Agency approved FPP and the site accepts a range of combustible wastes. Therefore, we would expect this to be in place.

### **IC7 – Updated emissions inventory and H1 Risk Assessment**

This improvement condition requires the operator to submit a written report to the Environment Agency for approval that includes an emissions inventory and H1 assessment of all emissions to air to ensure no emissions present a risk to the environment. This improvement condition also provides scope for the operator to evidence that no emissions are present from waste storage tanks T1 and T2 and the mixing and blending 'prep-area'.

### **IC8a and IC8b – Enclosure, extraction and collection and/or abatement**

These joint improvement conditions require the operator to submit a plan to the Environment Agency for approval that details the enclosure, extraction and collection, installation and maintenance and operation of an abatement system to reduce any present emissions to air that are determined as a result of IC7. If the report produced by IC7 proves that no emission is present from tanks T1 and T2, 'prep-area' or the RUNI machine, then these joint improvement conditions do not need to be completed.

### **IC9 – Waste storage, segregation, and handling procedures**

This improvement condition requires the operator to review and update their waste storage, segregation, and handling procedures to ensure that they meet the requirements of the Environment Agency's chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities guidance. We have included this improvement condition as currently the site is not compliant with all appropriate measures in this section of the appropriate measure guidance: [Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities - Guidance - GOV.UK](#).

### **IC10 – Emissions control procedures**

This improvement condition requires the operator to review and update their emission control procedures to ensure that they meet the requirements of the Environment Agency's chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities guidance. We have included this improvement condition as currently the site is not compliant with all appropriate measures in this section of the appropriate measure guidance: [Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities - Guidance - GOV.UK](#).

## Changes to EWC codes

**We have excluded the following wastes for the following reasons**

- 18 02 02\*
  - infectious waste, not contaminated with chemicals or medicines (may contain sharps).
  - Infectious anatomical waste not chemically preserved.
  - Infectious gypsum wastes (for example, plaster casts and moulds).
- 18 01 01 and 18 01 09 dual code
  - Non-infectious sharps from vaccines delivered in mass vaccination centres, in the community and in care homes
- 18 01 04
  - Non-infectious offensive waste – human healthcare
  - Non-infectious gypsum wastes (for example, plaster casts and moulds)
- 18 02 03
  - Non-infectious anatomical waste, not chemically preserved
  - Non-infectious offensive waste
  - Non-infectious gypsum waste (for example, plaster casts and moulds)

These waste codes have been removed with agreement from the operator as they are not needed in the permit.

## Emission limits

Emission Limit Values (ELVs) and equivalent parameters or technical measures, based on Best Available Techniques – Associated Emission Levels (BAT-AELs) for Waste Treatment, have been added for the following substances:

### **Emission point A1:**

Emission limits when repackaging or mixing and blending solvent-based wastes:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs) – 30 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds – No limit set
- Specific (organic) substances from risk assessment – Limit determined from completion of H1 risk assessment under IC7

Emission limits when repackaging or mixing and blending wastes with calorific value:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs) – 30 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds – No limit set
- Specific (organic) substances from risk assessment – Limit determined from completion of H1 risk assessment under IC7

Emission limits when repackaging or mixing and blending water-based liquid wastes:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs) – 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Hydrogen Chloride – 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Ammonia – No limit set

#### **Storage tank emission points:**

Emission point and abatement to be determined upon completion of IC8a and IC8b.

No emission limits to be set on these emission points. Process monitoring of abatement as outlined in Table S3.2 in the permit.

#### **‘Prep-area’ emission points:**

Emission point and abatement to be determined upon completion of IC8a and IC8b. The following limits will be applicable:

Emission limits when repackaging or mixing and blending solvent-based wastes:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs) – 30 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds – No limit set
- Specific (organic) substances from risk assessment – Limit determined from completion of H1 risk assessment under IC7

Emission limits when repackaging or mixing and blending wastes with calorific value:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs) – 30 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds – No limit set

- Specific (organic) substances from risk assessment – Limit determined from completion of H1 risk assessment under IC7

Emission limits when repackaging or mixing and blending water-based liquid wastes:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs) – 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Hydrogen Chloride – 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Ammonia – No limit set

### **Runi Machine emission point:**

Emission point and abatement to be determined upon completion of IC8a and IC8b. The following limits will be applicable:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs) – 20 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Hydrogen Chloride – 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup>
- Ammonia – No limit set

## **Monitoring**

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

### **Emission point A1:**

Monitoring requirements when repackaging or mixing and blending solvent-based wastes are in line with relevant guidance:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs)
- Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds
- Specific (organic) substances from risk assessment

Monitoring requirements when repackaging or mixing and blending wastes with calorific value are in line with relevant guidance:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs)
- Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds
- Specific (organic) substances from risk assessment

Monitoring requirements when repackaging or mixing and blending water-based liquid wastes are in line with relevant guidance:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs)
- Hydrogen Chloride
- Ammonia

#### **Storage tank emission points:**

Process monitoring of abatement required as specified in Table S3.2 in the permit. No substance limits set.

#### **‘Prep-area’ emission points:**

Monitoring requirements when repackaging or mixing and blending solvent-based wastes are in line with relevant guidance:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs)
- Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds
- Specific (organic) substances from risk assessment

Monitoring requirements when repackaging or mixing and blending wastes with calorific value are in line with relevant guidance:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs)
- Speciated Volatile Organic Compounds
- Specific (organic) substances from risk assessment

Monitoring requirements when repackaging or mixing and blending water-based liquid wastes are in line with relevant guidance:

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs)
- Hydrogen Chloride
- Ammonia

#### **RUNI Machine:**

- Total Volatile Organic Compounds (TVOCs)
- Hydrogen Chloride
- Ammonia

These monitoring requirements have been included in order to ensure the appropriate operation of required abatement systems and BAT-AEL limits are

complied with as outlined in Chemical waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities guidance.

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

## **Reporting**

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

- Reporting for emissions to air
- Reporting for process monitoring

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.