

Standard rules

Chapter 4, The Environmental Permitting
(England and Wales) Regulations 2016



Standard rules SR2009 No2 – Low Impact Part A Installation

Introductory note

This introductory note does not form part of these standard rules

When referred to in an environmental permit, these rules will allow the operator to operate a Part A Low Impact Installation (LII) at a specified location in accordance with the LII criteria specified in Natural Resources Wales's Environmental Permitting application form at the time the permit application is duly made and provided that:

- (a) the activities are not carried out on or immediately adjacent to a European Site¹, Ramsar Site, Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserve, Local Nature Reserve or Ancient Woodland; and
- (b) there is no direct discharge of aqueous waste within 10km upstream of a European Site, Ramsar site or a SSSI, within 100 metres upstream of a National Nature Reserve, Local Nature Reserve or Ancient Woodland, or within a National Park.

The only wastes allowed to be accepted as part of the operation of the installation are spent ion exchange resins.

The rules do not apply to installations with more than one operator.

¹A candidate or Special Area of Conservation (cSAC or SAC) and proposed or Special Protection Area (pSPA or SPA) in England and Wales.

Rules

1 – Management

1.1 General management

1.1.1 The operator shall manage and operate the activities:

- (a) in accordance with a written management system that identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, incidents, non-conformances, closure and those drawn to the attention of the operator as a result of complaints; and
- (b) using sufficient competent persons and resources.

1.1.2 Records demonstrating compliance with rule 1.1.1 shall be maintained.

1.1.3 Any person having duties that are or may be affected by the matters set out in these standard rules shall have convenient access to a copy of them kept at or near the place where those duties are carried out.

1.2 Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities

1.2.1 The operator shall take appropriate measures to ensure that:

- (a) the waste hierarchy referred to in Article 4 of the Waste Framework Directive is applied to the generation of waste by the activities; and
- (b) any waste generated by the activities is treated in accordance with the waste hierarchy referred to in Article 4 of the Waste Framework Directive; and
- (c) where disposal is necessary, this is undertaken in a manner which minimises its impact on the environment.

1.2.2 The operator shall review and record at least every four years whether changes to those measures should be made and take any further appropriate measures identified by a review.

1.3 Energy efficiency

1.3.1 The operator shall:

- (a) take appropriate measures to ensure that energy is used efficiently in the activities;
- (b) review and record at least every 4 years whether there are suitable opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of the activities; and
- (c) take any further appropriate measures identified by a review.

1.4 Efficient use of raw materials

1.4.1 The operator shall:

- (a) take appropriate measures to ensure that raw materials and water are used efficiently in the activities;
- (b) maintain records of raw materials and water used in the activities;

- (c) review and record at least every 4 years whether there are suitable alternative materials that could reduce environmental impact or opportunities to improve the efficiency of raw material and water use; and
- (d) take any further appropriate measures identified by a review.

2 – Operations

2.1 Permitted activities

2.1.1 The operator is only authorised to carry out the activities specified in table 2.1 below ("the activities").

Table 2.1 activities	
Description of activities	Limits of activities
The activity shall fall within a description in Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the EP Regulations, but shall not include any activity described in Sections 5.1, 5.2, 5.3 or 5.4 (with the exception of the regeneration of ion exchange resins as described in 5.4(b)) in Part 2 of Schedule 1.	The activities shall, subject to these rules, be operated in accordance with the Low Impact Installation criteria specified in Natural Resources Wales's Environmental Permitting application form at the time the permit application was duly made.
Directly Associated Activity	
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2.2 Waste acceptance

2.2.1 Waste shall only be accepted if:

- (a) it is of a type and quantity listed in table 2.2 below; and
- (b) it conforms to the description in the documentation supplied by the producer and holder.

Table 2.2 Permitted waste types and quantities for the production of biodiesel	
Waste code	Description
11 01 16*	Spent ion exchange resins
19 08 06*	Spent ion exchange resins
19 09 05	Spent ion exchange resins

2.3 The site

2.3.1 The activities shall not extend beyond the site, being the land shown edged in green on the site plan attached to the permit.

2.3.2 The activities shall not be carried out on or immediately adjacent to a European Site, SSSI, National Nature Reserve, Local Nature Reserve, Ancient Woodland or National Park.

3 – Emissions and monitoring

3.1 Emissions to air, water or land

- 3.1.1 Substances from point source emissions to water or air shall not be released at a rate that is greater than that determined as “insignificant”, as set out in Environment Agency’s H1 Environmental Risk Assessment.
- 3.1.2 There shall be no direct discharge of aqueous waste within 10km upstream of a European Site or a SSSI; within 100 metres upstream of a National Nature Reserve, Local Nature Reserve or Ancient Woodland, or within a National Park.

3.2 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits

- 3.2.1 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits (excluding odour) shall not cause pollution. The operator shall not be taken to have breached this rule if appropriate measures, including, but not limited to, those specified in any approved emissions management plan, have been taken to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, those emissions.
- 3.2.2 The operator shall:
- (a) if notified by Natural Resources Wales that the activities are giving rise to pollution, submit to Natural Resources Wales for approval within the period specified, an emissions management plan;
 - (b) implement the approved emissions management plan, from the date of approval, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales.
- 3.2.3 All liquids in containers, whose emission to water or land could cause pollution, shall be provided with secondary containment, unless the operator has used other appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, leakage and spillage from the primary container.

3.3 Odour

- 3.3.1 Emissions from the activities shall be free from odour at levels likely to cause pollution outside the site, as perceived by an authorised officer of Natural Resources Wales, unless the operator has used appropriate measures, including, but not limited to, those specified in any approved odour management plan, to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, the odour.
- 3.3.2 The operator shall:
- (a) if notified by Natural Resources Wales that the activities are giving rise to pollution outside the site due to odour, submit to Natural Resources Wales for approval within the period specified, an odour management plan;
 - (b) implement the approved odour management plan, from the date of approval, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales.

3.4 Noise and vibration

- 3.4.1 Emissions from the activities shall be free from noise and vibration at levels likely to cause pollution outside the site, as perceived by an authorised officer of Natural Resources Wales, unless the operator has used appropriate measures, including, but not limited to, those specified in any approved noise and vibration management plan, to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, the noise and vibration.
- 3.4.2 The operator shall:

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- (a) if notified by Natural Resources Wales that the activities are giving rise to pollution outside the site due to noise and vibration, submit to Natural Resources Wales for approval within the period specified, a noise and vibration management plan;
 - (b) implement the approved noise and vibration management plan, from the date of approval, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales.

4 – Information

4.1 Records

4.1.1 All records required to be made by these standard rules shall:

- (a) be legible;
- (b) be made as soon as reasonably practicable;
- (c) if amended, be amended in such a way that the original and any subsequent amendments remain legible or are capable of retrieval; and
- (d) be retained, unless otherwise agreed by Natural Resources Wales, for at least 6 years from the date when the records were made, or in the case of the following records until permit surrender:
 - (i) off-site environmental effects; and
 - (ii) matters which affect the condition of land and groundwater.

4.1.2 The operator shall keep on site all records, plans and the management system required to be maintained by these standard rules, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales.

4.2 Reporting

4.2.1 The operator shall send all reports and notifications required by these standard rules to Natural Resources Wales using the contact details supplied in writing by Natural Resources Wales.

4.2.2 A report on the performance of the activities over the previous year shall be submitted to Natural Resources Wales by 31 January (or other date agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales) each year. The report shall include as a minimum, a review of the results of the actual and anticipated operation of the installation against the low impact criteria issued by Natural Resources Wales at the time of the review.

4.3 Notifications

4.3.1 In the event

- (a) that the operation of the activities give rise to an incident or accident that significantly affects or may significantly affect the environment, the operator must immediately:
 - (i) inform Natural Resources Wales
 - (ii) take the measures necessary to limit the environmental consequences of such an incident or accident, and
 - (iii) take the measures necessary to prevent further incidents or accidents.
- (b) of a breach of any permit condition the operator must immediately –
 - (i) inform Natural Resources Wales, and

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- (ii) take the measure necessary to ensure that compliance is restored within the shortest possible time
- (c) of a breach of permit condition which poses an immediate danger to human health or threatens to cause an immediate significant adverse effect on the environment, the operator must immediately suspend the operation of the activities or the relevant part of it until compliance with the permit conditions has been restored.
- 4.3.2 Written confirmation of actual or potential pollution incidents and breaches of emission limits shall be submitted within 24 hours.
- 4.3.3 Where Natural Resources Wales has requested in writing that it shall be notified when the operator is to undertake monitoring and/or spot sampling, the operator shall inform Natural Resources Wales when the relevant monitoring and/or spot sampling is to take place. The operator shall provide this information to Natural Resources Wales at least 14 days before the date the monitoring is to be undertaken.
- 4.3.4 Natural Resources Wales shall be notified within 14 days of the occurrence of the following matters except where such disclosure is prohibited by Stock Exchange rules:
- a) Where the operator is a registered company:
- any change in the operator's trading name, registered name or registered office address; and
 - any steps taken with a view to the operator going into administration, entering into a company voluntary arrangement or being wound up.
- b) Where the operator is a corporate body other than a registered company:
- any change in the operator's name or address; and
 - any steps taken with a view to the dissolution of the operator.
- c) In any other case:
- the death of any of the named operators (where the operator consists of more than one named individual);
 - any change in the operator's name(s) or address(es); and
 - any steps taken with a view to the operator, or any one of them, going into bankruptcy, entering into a composition or arrangement with creditors, or, in the case them being in a partnership, dissolving the partnership.
- 4.3.5 Where the operator has entered into a climate change agreement with the Government, Natural Resources Wales shall be notified within one month of:
- (a) a decision by the Secretary of State not to re-certify the agreement;
- (b) a decision by either the operator or the Secretary of State to terminate the agreement; and
- (c) any subsequent decision by the Secretary of State to re-certify such an agreement.

4.4 Interpretation

- 4.4.1 In these standard rules the expressions listed below shall have the meaning given.
- 4.4.2 In these standard rules references to reports and notifications mean written reports and notifications, except when reference is being made to notification being made "immediately", in which case it may be provided by telephone.

“accident” means an accident that may result in pollution.

“authorised officer” means any person authorised by Natural Resources Wales under section 108(1) of The Environment Act 1995 to exercise, in accordance with the terms of any such authorisation, any power specified in Section 108(4) of that Act.

“EP Regulations” means The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations SI 2016 No.1154 and words and expressions used in this permit which are also used in the Regulations have the same meanings as in those Regulations.

“emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits” means emissions of substances to air, water or land from the activities, either from emission points specified in these standard rules or from other localised or diffuse sources, which are not controlled by an emission limit.

“European Site” means Special Area of Conservation or candidate Special Area of Conservation or Special Protection Area or proposed Special Protection Area in England and Wales, within the meaning of Council Directives 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds and 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. Internationally designated Ramsar sites are dealt with in the same way as European sites as a matter of government policy and for the purpose of these rules will be considered as a European Site.

“groundwater” means all water, which is below the surface of the ground in the saturation zone and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.

“Local Nature Reserve” means an area designated by a local authority under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

“National Nature Reserve” means an area that has been designated by Natural England or the Countryside Council for Wales under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as among the best examples of a particular habitat. National Nature Reserves are of national importance.

“SSSI” means Site of Special Scientific Interest within the meaning of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000).

“waste code” means the six digit code referable to a type of waste in accordance with the list of wastes established by Commission Decision 2000/532/EC as amended from time to time (the ‘List of Wastes Decision’) and in relation to hazardous waste, includes the asterisk.

“year” means calendar year commencing on 1st January.

End of standard rules