

Standard rules

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



Standard rules SR2012 No4

Composting in closed systems

Part A Installation – treatment capacity more than 75 tonnes per day

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 installation involving the storage, physical treatment and composting of specified biodegradable wastes. The types of waste that can be accepted include green wastes, animal manures and cooked food waste and animal wastes that are covered by the Animal By-Products Regulations. Any wastes controlled by the Animal By-Products Regulations must be handled and treated in accordance with any requirements imposed by those Regulations. The total quantity of waste that can be accepted at a site under these rules must be less than 75,000 tonnes a year. These rules are for facilities that fall within the scope of the Industrial Emissions Directive in that they have the capacity to biologically treat more than 75 tonnes waste in any one day.

Composting can only be carried out under predominantly aerobic conditions and the sanitisation stage can only be carried out in closed systems, such as closed composting reactors or in closed vessels/buildings fitted with bio-filters. This allows the temperature and residence time to be controlled so that composting destroys harmful pathogens. Composting cannot be carried out under deliberately anaerobic conditions. These rules do not permit the burning of any wastes, either in the open, inside buildings or in any form of incinerator.

These rules do not allow any point source emission into surface waters or groundwater. However, under the emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits rule:

- Liquids may be discharged into a sewer subject to a consent issued by the local water company;
- Liquids may be taken off-site in a tanker for disposal or recovery;
- Clean surface water from roofs, or from areas of the site that are not being used in connection with storing and treating waste, may be discharged directly to surface waters, or to groundwater by seepage through the soil via a soakaway.

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

End of introductory note

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.
- 1.1.4 The operator shall comply with the requirements of an approved competence scheme.

1.2 Energy efficiency

- 1.2.1 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.

1.3 Efficient use of raw materials

- 1.3.1 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

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

- 1.4.1 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.
- 1.4.2 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.

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			
Activity reference	Activity listed in Schedule 1 of the EP Regulations	Description of specified activity and WFD Annex I and II operations	Limits of specified activity and waste types
A1	S5.4 A(1) (b) (i)	Recovery or a mix of recovery and disposal of non hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 75 tonnes per day involving biological treatment. R3: Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents.	Recovery activities only. Physical treatment, biological treatment and composting, including sanitisation, stabilisation and maturation of the types of waste listed in table 2.2 Treatment of animal waste shall not exceed 10 tonnes per day.
Directly Associated Activity			
A2	Storage	R13: Storage of waste pending any of the operations numbered R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced).	Secure storage of waste types listed in Table 2.2
A3	Pre-treatment of waste prior to composting including shredding, and screening	R3: Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents	Physical treatment prior to biological treatment activity, including shredding and screening

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.

2.2.2 Records demonstrating compliance with rule 2.2.1 shall be maintained

Table 2.2. Waste types and quantities	
Maximum Quantities	
The total quantity of waste accepted at the site shall be less than 75,000 tonnes a year.	
Exclusions	
Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consisting solely or mainly of dusts, (except sawdust), powders or loose fibres; • Hazardous wastes; • Wastes containing treated wood; • Wastes containing wood-preserving agents or other biocides; • Wastes containing persistent organic pollutants; • Wastes containing Japanese Knotweed. 	
Waste Code	Description
02	WASTES FROM AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, AQUACULTURE, FORESTRY, HUNTING AND FISHING, FOOD PREPARATION AND PROCESSING
02 01	wastes from agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, forestry, hunting and fishing
02 01 02	animal tissue waste

02 01 03	plant-tissue waste
02 01 06	animal faeces, urine and manure (including spoiled straw)only
02 01 07	wastes from forestry (biodegradable only)
02 01 99	wastes not otherwise specified (spent mushroom compost and fully biodegradable bedding only)
02 02	wastes from the preparation and processing of meat, fish and other foods of animal origin
02 02 01	sludges from washing and cleaning (biodegradable only)
02 02 02	animal tissue waste.
02 02 03	materials unsuitable for consumption or processing
02 03	wastes from fruit, vegetables, cereals, edible oils, cocoa, coffee, tea and tobacco preparation and processing; conserve production; yeast and yeast extract production, molasses preparation and fermentation
02 03 01	sludges from washing, cleaning, peeling, centrifuging and separation
02 03 04	materials unsuitable for consumption or processing (biodegradable only)
02 03 05	sludges from on-site effluent treatment (biodegradable only)
02 04	wastes from sugar processing
02 04 01	soil from cleaning and washing beet
02 04 03	sludges from on-site effluent treatment (biodegradable only)
02 05	wastes from the dairy products industry
02 05 01	materials unsuitable for consumption or processing (biodegradable only)
02 05 02	sludges from on-site effluent treatment (biodegradable only)
02 06	wastes from the baking and confectionery industry
02 06 01	materials unsuitable for consumption or processing (biodegradable only)
02 06 03	sludges from on-site effluent treatment (biodegradable only)
02 07	wastes from the production of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages (except coffee, tea and cocoa)
02 07 01	wastes from washing, cleaning and mechanical reduction of raw materials (biodegradable only)
02 07 02	wastes from spirits distillation (biodegradable only)
02 07 04	material unsuitable for consumption or processing (biodegradable only)
02 07 05	sludges from on-site effluent treatment (biodegradable only)
02 07 99	wastes not otherwise specified (malt husks, malt sprouts, yeast and yeast-like residues only)
03	WASTES FROM WOOD PROCESSING AND THE PRODUCTION OF PANELS AND FURNITURE, PULP, PAPER AND CARDBOARD
03 01	wastes from wood processing and the production of panels and furniture
03 01 01	waste bark and cork
03 01 05	sawdust, shavings cuttings, wood and particle board other than those mentioned in 03 01 04 only
03 03	wastes from pulp, paper and cardboard production and processing
03 03 01	waste bark and wood
03 03 10	fibre rejects , fibre-, filler- and coating-sludges from mechanical separation
03 03 11	Sludges from on-site effluent treatment other than those mentioned in 03 03 10
04	WASTES FROM THE LEATHER, FUR AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES
04 01	wastes from the leather and fur industry
04 01 01	fleshings and lime split wastes
04 02	waste from the textile industry
04 02 10	organic matter from natural products (un-dyed and untreated only)
07	WASTES FROM ORGANIC CHEMICAL PROCESSES
07 02	Wastes from the MFSU of plastics, man-made rubber and synthetic fibres
07 02 13	Waste plastic (compostable plastic only, unused and uncontaminated excess production only)
15	WASTE PACKAGING; ABSORBENTS, WIPING CLOTHS, FILTER MATERIALS AND PROTECTIVE CLOTHING NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED
15 01	packaging (including separately collected municipal packaging waste)
15 01 01	paper and cardboard packaging (excluding veneers, plastic coatings or laminates)
15 01 02	plastic packaging (compostable plastics only)

15 01 03	wooden packaging
15 01 05	composite packaging (only biodegradable organic packaging)
15 01 09	textile packaging (made entirely from biodegradable fibres only)
16	WASTES NOT OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN THE LIST
16 10	Aqueous liquid waste destined for off site treatment
16 10 02	Liquor/leachate from a composting process that accepts waste input types listed in these standard
17	CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTES (INCLUDING EXCAVATED SOIL FROM CONTAMINATED SITES)
17 02	wood, glass and plastic
17 02 01	wood
17 05	soils (excluding excavated soils from contaminated sites), stones and dredging spoil
17 05 06	dredging spoil other than those mentioned in 17 07 05 (from inland waters only)
19	WASTES FROM WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES, OFF-SITE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND PREPARATION OF WATER INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION/INDUSTRIAL USE
19 02	wastes from physic/chemical treatments of waste (including dechromatation, decyanidation, neutralisation
19 02 03	premixed wastes composed only of non-hazardous wastes (waste types listed within these standard rules only)
19 02 06	sludges from physico/chemical treatment other than those mentioned in 19 02 05 (only if derived solely from physical treatment and/or pH adjustment of waste input types listed within these standard rules)
19 05	wastes from the aerobic treatment of solid wastes
19 05 03	off-specification compost (from a composting process that accepts waste input types listed in these standard rules only)
19 05 99	wastes not otherwise specified (liquor/leachate from a composting process that accepts waste input types listed in these standard rules only)
19 06	waste from the anaerobic treatment of waste
19 06 03	liquor from anaerobic treatment of municipal waste (derived from source segregated municipal waste only)
19 06 04	digestate from anaerobic treatment of municipal waste (derived from source segregated municipal waste only)
19 06 05	Liquor from anaerobic treatment of animal and vegetable waste
19 06 06	Digestate from anaerobic treatment of animal and vegetable waste
19 08	waste from waste water treatment plants
19 08 05	sludges from treatment of urban waste water
19 12	wastes from the mechanical treatment of waste (for example sorting, crushing, compacting, pelletising) not otherwise specified
19 12 01	paper and cardboard (excluding veneers or plastic coatings).
19 12 07	wood other than that mentioned in 19 12 06
19 12 12	other wastes (including mixtures of materials) from mechanical treatment of wastes other than those mentioned in 19 12 11 (and only including wastes types listed in these standard rules)
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 01	paper and cardboard ((excluding veneers, plastic coatings or laminates)
20 01 08	biodegradable kitchen and canteen waste
20 01 25	edible oil and fat
20 01 38	wood other than that mentioned in 20 01 37
20 01 39	plastics (compostable plastics only)
20 02	garden and park wastes (including cemetery waste)
20 02 01	biodegradable waste
20 03	other municipal wastes
20 03 02	waste from markets (biodegradable only)

2.3 Operating techniques

2.3.1 The activities shall be operated using the techniques and in the manner described in Table 2.3 below.

Table 2.3 Operating techniques

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The storage, physical treatment and composting of wastes shall take place on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage system.2. Each composting batch shall undergo an identifiable sanitisation and stabilisation stage.3. The sanitisation of wastes shall take place in a closed system incorporating a bio-filter and/or equivalent abatement system.4. The bio-filter and/or equivalent abatement system shall be specifically designed, operated and maintained to minimise the release of odour, bioaerosols and micro-organisms.5. The storage, physical treatment and composting of wastes under anaerobic conditions shall be prevented. |
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2.4 The site

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

2.4.2 The activities shall not be carried out within:

- (a) 500 metres of a European Site or a SSSI;
- (b) groundwater source protection zone 2, or if a source protection zone has not been defined then within 250 metres of any well, spring or borehole used for the supply of water for human consumption. This must include private water supplies;
- (c) 10 metres of any watercourse;
- (d) 250 metres of the nearest sensitive receptor.

3 Emissions and monitoring

3.1 Emissions to air, water or land

3.1.1 There shall be no point source emissions to air, water or land, except from the sources and emission points listed in table 3.1.

Table 3.1 Point source emissions to air

Emission Point and Source

Outlets from bio-filters and/or equivalent abatement systems, emitting treated air from closed systems

3.1.2 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.

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.

3.2.4 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.

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) maintain and implement an odour management plan;
- (b) 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 specified period, a revised odour management plan;
- (c) implement any approved revised 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:

- (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.

3.5 Monitoring

3.5.1 The operator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales, undertake monitoring for the parameters, at the locations and at not less than the frequencies specified in table 3.5

3.5.2 The operator shall maintain records of all monitoring required by these standard rules including records of the taking and analysis of samples, instrument measurements (periodic and continual), calibrations, examinations, tests and surveys and any assessment or evaluation made on the basis of such data.

Table 3.5 Activities - Monitoring requirements

Monitoring point	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring method	Other specifications
Internal for each composting batch during sanitisation	Temperature	At least daily	Temperature probe	Monitoring equipment shall be available on-site and used as required to maintain aerobic conditions and ensure compliance with these standard rules. Equipment shall be calibrated on a 4 monthly basis or as agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales
	Moisture	None specified		
Internal for each composting batch during stabilisation stage	Temperature	At least weekly	Temperature probe	
	Moisture	None specified		
Bio-filter and/or equivalent abatement	Temperature, moisture and thatching/	As required	Temperature probe, not Specified for	Bio-filter and/or equivalent abatement system shall be regularly checked and maintained

system	compaction		other parameters	to ensure appropriate temperature and moisture content.
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3.6 Pests

- 3.6.1 The activities shall not give rise to the presence of pests which are likely to cause pollution, hazard or annoyance outside the boundary of the site. The operator shall not be taken to have breached this condition if appropriate measures, including, but not limited to, those specified in any approved pests management plan, have been taken to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise the presence of pests on the site.
- 3.6.2 The operator shall:
- (a) if notified by Natural Resources Wales, submit to Natural Resources Wales for approval within the period specified, a pests management plan which identifies and minimises risks of pollution, hazard or annoyance from pests;
 - (b) implement the pests 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 Within one month of the end of each quarter, the operator shall submit to Natural Resources Wales using the form made available for the purpose, the information specified on the form relating to the site and the waste accepted and removed from it during the previous quarter.
- 4.2.3 The operator shall submit to Natural Resources Wales a bi-annual report of the efficiency of the bio-filter in the first year of compost operations. This shall include but not be limited to, the assessment of the efficiency to reduce odours, the summary of maintenance and any recommissioning planned or conducted, assessment of back pressure, venting and cracking. Thereafter the operator shall submit the report within one month of the end of each year, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales.

4.3 Notifications

- 4.3.1 (a) In the event that the operation of the activities gives rise to an incident or accident which 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 possible incidents or accidents;
 - (b) in the event of a breach of any permit condition the operator must immediately
 - (i) inform Natural Resources Wales, and
 - (ii) take the measures necessary to ensure that compliance is restored within the shortest possible time;
 - (c) in the event 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 Any information provided under condition 4.3.1 [(a)(i), or 4.3.1 (b)(i) where the information relates to the breach of a limit specified in the permit,] shall be confirmed by sending the information listed in schedule 5 to this permit within the time period specified in that schedule.
- 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.

4.4 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 "without delay", in which case it may be provided by telephone.

"accident" means an accident that may result in pollution.

"Animal By-Products Regulations" means The Animal By-Products Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2011 (SI 2011 No.881) and the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (Wales) Regulations 2011 (SI 2011 No.600 W.88).

"animal waste" means any waste consisting of animal matter that has not been processed into food for human

consumption. This does include, blood, feathers, uncooked butchers waste and any other animal waste that is not catering waste or former foodstuffs. This does not include faecal matter from animals (e.g. chicken litter or farmyard manure).

“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.

“building” means a construction that has the objective of providing sheltering cover and minimising emissions of noise, particulate matter, odour and litter.

“compost” means a solid particulate material that is the result of composting, which has been *sanitised* and *stabilised*, and which confers beneficial effects when added to soil, used as a component of growing media or used in another way in conjunction with plants.

“compostable plastics” means plastics that are certified to meet the standards of EN 13432, EN 14995 or equivalent.

“composting” means the managed biological decomposition of biodegradable waste organic materials, under conditions that are predominantly aerobic and that allow the development of thermophilic temperatures as a result of biologically produced heat and that result in compost.

“closed system” means a closed composting reactor or closed area (such as a building) in which waste is fully contained, and efficient air management abatement systems are demonstrated. This may cover a wide range of technology and, where necessary, is in compliance with Animal By-Products Regulations.

“composting batch” means an identifiable quantity of material that progresses through the composting system and when fully processed has similar characteristics throughout. For composting systems that operate on a continuous- or plug-flow basis, batches will be taken to mean a series of “portions of production”.

“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.

“emissions to land” include emissions to groundwater.

“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.

“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 (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994. 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.

“groundwater source protection zone” has the meaning given in the document titled “Groundwater protection: Principles and practice” published by the Environment Agency in 2012.

“hazardous property” has the meaning in Annex III of the Waste Framework Directive.

“hazardous substance” means a substance classified as hazardous as a consequence of fulfilling the criteria laid down in parts 2 to 5 of Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008.

“hazardous waste” has the meaning given in the Hazardous Waste (Wales) Regulations 2005 (as amended).

“impermeable surface” means a surface or pavement constructed and maintained to a standard sufficient to prevent the transmission of liquids beyond the pavement surface, and should be read in conjunction with the term “sealed drainage system” (below).

“nearest sensitive receptor” means the nearest place to the permitted activities where people are likely to be for prolonged periods. This term would therefore apply to dwellings (including any associated gardens) and to many types of workplaces. We would not normally regard a place where people are likely to be present for less than 6 hours at one time as being a sensitive receptor. The term does not apply to the operators of the permitted facility,

their staff when they are at work or to visitors to the facility, as their health is covered by Health and Safety at Work legislation. N.B. The term would apply to dwellings occupied by an operator's family.

"Pests" means Birds, Vermin and Insects.

"pollution" means emissions as a result of human activity which may—

- (a) be harmful to human health or the quality of the environment,
- (b) cause offence to a human sense,
- (c) result in damage to material property, or
- (d) impair or interfere with amenities and other legitimate uses of the environment.

"quarter" means a calendar year quarter commencing on 1 January, 1 April, 1 July or 1 October.

"R" means a recovery operation provided for in Annex IIB to Directive 2006/12/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2006 on Waste.

"sanitisation" means the actively managed and intensive stage of composting, lasting for at least five days, characterised by high oxygen demand and temperatures of over 55⁰C, during which biological processes, together with conditions in the composting mass, eradicate human and animal pathogens or reduce them to acceptably low levels.

"sealed drainage system" in relation to an impermeable surface, means a drainage system with impermeable components which does not leak and which will ensure that:

- (a) no liquid will run off the surface otherwise than via the system;
- (b) except where they may lawfully be discharged to foul sewer, all liquids entering the system are collected in a sealed sump.

"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).

"stable, stabilised" means the degree of processing and biodegradation at which the rate of biological activity has slowed to an acceptably low and consistent level and will not significantly increase under favourable, altered conditions.

"stabilisation stage" means the stage of composting following sanitisation, during which biological processes, together with conditions in the composting mass, give rise to compost that is nominally stable.

"treated wood" is any wood that has been chemically treated (e.g. to enhance or alter the performance of the original wood). Treatments may include penetrating oils, tar oil preservatives, waterborne preservatives, organic-based preservatives, boron and organo-metallic based preservatives, boron and halogenated flame retardants and surface treatments (including paint and veneer).

"waste code" means the six digit code referable to a type of waste in accordance with the List of Wastes (England) Regulations 2005, or List of Wastes (Wales) Regulations 2005, as appropriate, and in relation to hazardous waste, includes the asterisk.

"year" means calendar year commencing on 1st January.

End of standard rules