

Standard rules

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



**Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales**

Standard rules SR2009No8 - the management of inert wastes and unpolluted soil resulting from the prospecting, extraction, treatment and storage of mineral resources and the working of quarries, at mines and quarries

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 undertake mining waste operations in respect of inert extractive waste and unpolluted soil on the site of a mine or quarry.

These rules do not allow any point source emissions to air, water or land from the mining waste operations.

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.

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 storage, treatment and disposal of inert extractive wastes and unpolluted soil resulting from the prospecting, extraction, treatment and storage of mineral resources and the working of quarries at a mine or quarry	Waste types shall conform to the description in the approved waste management plan.

2.2 Operating techniques

- 2.2.1 The activities shall, subject to these rules, be operated in accordance with an approved waste management plan, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales.
- 2.2.2 The operator shall review the waste management plan every five years from the date of initial approval.
- 2.2.3 Where the operator proposes to make an amendment to the approved waste management plan:
- (a) Natural Resources Wales shall be notified at least 14 days before implementing the amended waste management plan in place of the original; and
 - (b) the notification shall contain a description of the proposed amendment.

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.

3 – Emissions and monitoring

3.1 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits

- 3.1.1 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.

3.1.2 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.

3.1.3 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 Noise and vibration

3.2.1 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.

3.2.2 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.

3.3 Monitoring

3.3.1 The operator shall undertake the monitoring specified in the approved waste management plan.

3.3.2 The operator shall maintain records of all monitoring required by these standard rules.

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; and
- (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.

4.3 Notifications

- 4.3.1 Natural Resources Wales shall be notified without delay following the detection of:
- (a) any malfunction, breakdown or failure of equipment or techniques, accident or emission of a substance not controlled by an emission limit which has caused, is causing or may cause significant pollution; or
 - (b) any significant adverse environmental effects.
- 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 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.

"approved waste management plan" means a plan of the type described in Article 5(1) of Directive 2006/21/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 on the management of waste from extractive industries and amending Directive 2004/35/EC, approved as part of the grant or variation of an environmental permit and as revised from time to time.

"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.

"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.

“extractive waste” means waste resulting from the prospecting, extraction, treatment and storage of mineral resources and the working of quarries, excluding waste which does not directly result from these operations.

“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.

“inert waste” means waste that does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations. Inert waste will not dissolve, burn or otherwise physically or chemically react, biodegrade or adversely affect other matter with which it comes into contact in a way likely to give rise to environmental pollution or harm human health. The total leachability and pollutant content of the waste and the ecotoxicity of the leachate must be insignificant, and in particular not endanger the quality of surface water and/or groundwater. All of the criteria listed in Article 1 of Commission Decision 2009/359 must be fulfilled.

“Natural Resources Wales” means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) Order 2012. The Natural Resources Body for Wales (Functions) Order 2013 transferred the relevant functions of the Countryside Council for Wales, and functions of the Environment Agency and the Forestry Commission in Wales to the Natural Resources Body for Wales

“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.

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

End of standard rules