

# Standard rules SR2018 No 7

## The Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016

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### SR2018 No 7 standard rules for new, low risk, stationary Medium Combustion Plant between 1 to less than 20MWth (in operation on or after 20/12/2018)

#### Introductory note

This introductory note does not form a part of these standard rules.

When referred to in an environmental permit these rules will allow the operator to operate one or more new medium combustion plant (MCP) between  $\geq 1$  to  $< 20$  MWth which were put in operation on or after 20/12/2018 at a specified location which may be in an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA).

These standard rules only cover the following activities;

Activities		
Activity reference	Description of specified activity	Limits of specified activity
New Medium Combustion Plant	Combustion plant burning the following fuels, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gas oil</li> <li>- Natural gas</li> <li>- Biogas</li> <li>- Gaseous fuels other than natural gas</li> </ul>	$\geq 1$ to $< 20$ MWth MCP  Less than 50 MWth of aggregated MCPs at the specified location  Single fuel combustion  Does not include any activities subject to Schedule 24 (Energy Efficiency Directive) of the EP Regulations.  Minimum distances set from any MCP to SAC, SPA, Ramsar or SSSI depending on type of fuel/technology  The MCP may be located within an AQMA  The specified activities may include Limited Operating Hours MCPs. The MCP should not generate electricity as a Generator unless as an excluded 'back-up generator'.

<b>Activities</b>		
<b>Activity reference</b>	<b>Description of specified activity</b>	<b>Limits of specified activity</b>

**End of introductory note**

## Record of changes

Version	Date	Change
1.0	April 2018	Published for SRP consultation May 2018
1.0	August 2018	Published for use August 2018
2.0	Spring 2019	Published for SRP consultation March 2019

# 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, so far as is reasonably practicable, including those risks arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, incidents, non-conformances 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 or the permit shall have convenient access to a copy of the permit and the rules.

## 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.

<b>Table 2.1 activities</b>		
<b>Activity reference</b>	<b>Description of specified activity</b>	<b>Limits of specified activity</b>
New Medium Combustion Plant	Combustion plant burning the following fuels, <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Gas oil</li><li>- Natural gas</li><li>- Biogas</li><li>- Gaseous fuels other than natural gas</li></ul>	<p>≥1 to &lt; 20 MWth MCP</p> <p>Less than 50 MWth aggregated at the specified location</p> <p>Single Fuel Combustion for Engines and Turbines</p> <p>Dual fuel combustion on Boilers only where Gas Oil is used as back-up fuel for &lt; 500hrs per year</p> <p>Does not include any activities subject to Schedule 24 (Energy Efficiency Directive) of the EP Regulations.</p> <p>Minimum distances set from any MCP to SAC, SPA, Ramsar or SSSI for specified fuel and technology.</p> <p>The MCP may be located within an AQMA</p> <p>The specified activities may include Limited Operating Hours MCPs. The MCP should not generate electricity as a Generator unless as an excluded 'back-up generator'.</p>

## 2.2 The site

- 2.2.1 Only the MCPs listed in the permit can be operated at the site. No MCP shall be operated beyond the site of the grid reference specified for it in the permit.
- 2.2.2 The activities authorised by the permit shall only be carried out in accordance with the limits given in Table 2.2 below
- 2.2.3 Where a SAC, SPA, Ramsar or SSSI site is within the minimum screening distance specified in Table 2.2 the minimum stack height requirements must be met.

<b>Table 2.2 - Habitats Requirements</b>		
<b>Technology &amp; fuel of MCP</b>	<b>Minimum release height</b>	<b>Minimum distance from any MCP to a SAC, SPA, Ramsar or SSSI</b>
Engine or turbine fired on Natural Gas	3 m	2000m
Engine or turbine fired on Biogas	3 m	5000m
Engine or turbine fired on gaseous fuels other than natural gas	3 m	3500m
Engine or turbine combusting biogas operating as a back-up generator (50 hours annual limit)	3 m	200 m
Boilers combusting natural gas only	15 m and at least 2 m above nearest building	900 m
Boilers combusting natural gas with gas oil as a back-up fuel for less than 500hrs	15 m and at least 2 m above nearest building	900 m
Boilers combusting gas oil	15 m and at least 2 m above nearest building	1400 m
Boilers combusting gaseous fuels other than natural gas	15 m and at least 2 m above nearest building	2000m
Boilers combusting biogas	15 m and at least 2 m above nearest building	3500m
Engine combusting natural gas and other gaseous fuels, except biogas operating as a	3 m	100m

back-up generator (50 hours annual limit)		
Engine combusting gas oil ultra-low sulphur (10 ppm sulphur) (50 hours annual limit)	3 m	500 m
Engine combusting biogas operating as a back-up generator (50 hours annual limit)	3 m	200m

## 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.

<b>Table 2.3 Operating techniques</b>
(a) Each MCP must be operated in accordance with its manufacturer's instructions and records must be made and retained to demonstrate this.
(b) The operator must keep periods of start-up and shut down of each MCP as short as possible
(c) The operator should keep periods operating dual fuel boilers on more polluting back-up fuel as short as possible
(d) There must be no persistent emission of 'dark smoke' as defined in section 3(1) of the Clean Air Act 1993
(e) A Limited Operating Hours MCP which is an excluded generator may only be operated for the sole purpose of maintaining power supply to a site during an on-site emergency and it may not participate in any balancing services including Triad Avoidance operations.
(f) A Limited Operating Hours MCP which is an excluded generator may only be operated for the sole purpose of testing no more than 50 hours a year.

## 3 Emissions and monitoring

### 3.1 Emissions to air,

3.1.1 There shall be no point source emissions to air except from the applicable sources and emission points listed in tables 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3.

3.1.2 The limits given in the applicable tables 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 shall not be exceeded

<b>Table 3.1 Point source emissions to air – emission limit values and monitoring requirements for MCPs other than engines and gas turbines</b>						
Pollutant	Fuel Gas oil mg/Nm3	Fuel Natural Gas mg/Nm3	Fuel Biogas mg/Nm3	Gaseous fuels other than natural gas mg/Nm3	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method

Sulphur Dioxide	N/A	N/A	100	35	Once every 3 years  Not Applicable for dual fuel boilers during operation on back up fuel only	All limits are defined at a temperature of 273.15 K, a pressure of 101.3 kPa and after correction for the water vapour content of the waste gases at a standardised O <sub>2</sub> content of 3%.
Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO <sub>2</sub> expressed as NO <sub>2</sub> )	200	100	200	200		
Carbon monoxide	No limit	No limit	No limit	No limit		

<b>Table 3.2 Point source emissions to air – emission limit values and monitoring requirements for MCPs which are engines and gas turbines (MCP should not generate electricity as a Generator unless as an excluded 'back-up generator')</b>							
Pollutant	Type of MCP	Fuel Gas oil mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	Fuel Natural Gas mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	Fuel Biogas mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	Gaseous fuels other than natural gas mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method
Sulphur Dioxide	Engine & gas turbine	N/A	N/A	40	15	Once every 3 years	All limits are defined at a temperature of 273.15 K, a pressure of 101.3 kPa and after correction for the water vapour content of the waste gases at a standardised O <sub>2</sub> content of 15%.
Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO <sub>2</sub> expressed as NO <sub>2</sub> )	Engine	190	95	190	190		
	Gas turbine (limit applies at above 70% load)	75	50	75	75		
Carbon monoxide	Engine & gas turbine	No limit	No limit	No limit	No limit		

<b>Table 3.3 Point source emissions to air – monitoring requirements for Limited Operating Hours MCPs</b>						
Pollutant	Fuel Gas oil	Fuel Natural Gas	Fuel	Gaseous fuels other than	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method

	mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	Biogas mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>	natural gas mg/Nm <sup>3</sup>		
Sulphur Dioxide	N/A	N/A	No limit	No limit	Once every 1500 hours of operation with a minimum frequency of once every five years	Monitoring requirements are defined at a temperature of 273.15 K, a pressure of 101.3 kPa and after correction for the water vapour content of the waste gases at a standardised O <sub>2</sub> content of 15% for engines and gas turbines and 3% all other MCPs
Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO <sub>2</sub> expressed as NO <sub>2</sub> )	No limit	No limit	No limit	No limit		
Carbon monoxide	No limit	No limit	No limit	No limit		

3.1.3 Limited Operating Hours MCPs shall:

- (a) not exceed 500 hours operation in a 12 month period as a rolling average over a 3 year period, and thereafter annually.
- (b) No more than 750 hours may be operated by a Limited Operating hours MCP in any single year

## 3.2 Monitoring

- 3.2.1 The operator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency, undertake monitoring for the parameters, at the locations and at not less than the frequencies from the issue date of the permit, specified in the applicable tables 3.1, 3.2 or 3.3.
- 3.2.2 The first monitoring measurements shall be carried out within four months of the issue date of the permit or the date when the MCP is first put into operation, whichever is later.
- 3.2.3 The stack emissions monitoring programme shall be carried out in accordance with EA TGN M5, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
- 3.2.4 Monitoring shall not take place during periods of start up or shut down.
- 3.2.5 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.

## 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 in writing by the Environment Agency, for at least 6 years from the date when the records were made,

- 4.1.2 The operator shall maintain convenient access, in either electronic or hard copy, to the records, plans and management system required to be maintained by these rules.
- 4.1.3 The operator shall maintain a record of the type and quantity of fuel used and the total annual hours of operation for each MCP.
- 4.1.4 The operator shall maintain a record of any events of non-compliance and the measures taken to ensure compliance is restored in the shortest possible time

## 4.2 Reporting

- 4.2.1 The operator shall send all reports and notifications required by these standard rules to the Environment Agency using the contact details supplied in writing by the Environment Agency.
- 4.2.2 Where monitoring is undertaken in accordance with rule 3.2.1, and/or 3.2.2 the operator shall submit to the Environment Agency within 28 days of undertaking the monitoring, using the form made available for the purpose, the information specified on the form relating to that monitoring.

## 4.3 Notifications

4.3.1 In the event:

- (a) of a breach of any of the standard rules the operator must immediately—
- (i) inform the Environment Agency, and
  - (ii) take the measures necessary to ensure that compliance is restored within the shortest possible time;
- (b) of a breach of any of the standard rules which causes a significant degradation of local air quality, the operator must immediately suspend the operation of the activities or the relevant part of them until compliance with the rules has been restored.

4.3.2 In the event of a breach of rule 3.1.3 the notification shall include a summary of compliance with the 3 year rolling average rule 3.1.2.

4.3.3 Any information provided under standard rule 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 shall be confirmed in writing within 24 hours.

4.3.4 The Environment Agency shall be notified within 14 days of the occurrence of the following matters, except where such disclosure is prohibited by Stock Exchange rules:

Where the operator is a registered company:

- (a) any change in the operator's trading name, registered name or registered office address; and
- (b) any steps taken with a view to the operator going into administration, entering into a company voluntary arrangement or being wound up.

Where the operator is a corporate body other than a registered company:

- (c) any change in the operator's name or address; and
- (d) any steps taken with a view to the dissolution of the operator.

In any other case:

- (e) the death of any of the named operators (where the operator consists of more than one named individual);
- (f) any change in the operator's name(s) or address(es); and

- (g) 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 of them being in a partnership, dissolving the partnership.

4.3.5 The operator shall notify the Environment Agency, as soon as is practicable, in writing of any change of new medium combustion plant at the site.

## 4.4 Interpretation

4.4.1 In these standard rules the expressions listed below shall have the meaning given in that table.

4.4.2 In these standard rules references to reports and notifications mean written reports and notifications, except where reference is made to notification being made immediately, in which case it may be provided by telephone.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Means</b>
Accident	an accident that may result in pollution
Back-up Generator	A generator that is operated for the sole purpose of providing power at a site during an onsite emergency from the 1 January 2019.
Diesel engine	an internal combustion engine which operates according to the Diesel cycle and uses compression ignition to burn fuel;
EA TGN M5	The guidance with that title published on Gov.UK on August 2018, or any subsequent version which makes only editorial changes
Engine	a gas engine or diesel engine
EP Regulations	The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 SI No.1154 and words and expressions used in these rules or the permit which are also used in the Regulations have the same meanings as in those Regulations.
First put into operation	The date when the fuel is first combusted in the MCP
Gas engine	an internal combustion engine which operates according to the Otto cycle and uses spark ignition to burn fuel
Gas Oil	Defined in article 3 (19) of the Directive 2015/2193/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants
Limited Operating Hours MCP	An MCP that meets the requirements of paragraph 8 of Part 2 of Schedule 25A of the EP Regulations
MCP	Medium combustion plant

Operating hours	the time, expressed in hours, during which a combustion plant is operating and discharging emissions into the air, excluding start-up and shut-down periods
SAC, SPA, Ramsar or SSSI	Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsar Sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest
Year	calendar year ending 31 December.

**End of standard rules**