

Standard rules SR2010 No14 V6.0

The Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016

Composting in open and closed systems

Waste Recovery Operation – treatment capacity no more than 75 tonnes per day, no more than 500 tonnes on site at any time

Introductory note

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

The Environmental Permitting Regulations 2010 were amended to incorporate the Industrial Emissions Directive. This limits the quantity of waste in treatment for waste activities to under 75 tonnes per day.

These standard rules will allow the operator to carry out a composting activity involving the acceptance, storage, physical and biological treatment by composting of specified biodegradable wastes in either an open or a closed (in-vessel) composting system. The types of waste that can be accepted and the operating techniques that can be used depend on whether an open or a closed composting system is used. In either case, composting can only be carried out under aerobic conditions and no hazardous wastes are allowed.

The total quantity of waste that can be in storage, physical treatment and composting at any one time under these standard rules may not exceed 500 tonnes. The site must not be capable of an operational biological treatment capacity of greater than 75 tonnes per day.

Any wastes controlled by the Animal By-Products Regulations must be treated and handled in accordance with any requirements imposed by those Regulations.

The subsequent storage of all residual material that has been composted and the non-composted fraction must be considered within the operational capacity of the facility and be actively managed to prevent pollution and fires. This requires the operator to take all appropriate measures to ensure full recovery and prevention of odour, noise and other fugitive emissions.

Consideration must be given to operational and there must be adequate storage capacity available during periods of time when land is not available for the spreading of compost, so that compliance with the rules and their limits is maintained throughout. The operator shall have contingency measures in place to slow waste acceptance if necessary.

These rules do not allow 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 air, land, surface waters or groundwater, except:

- liquids may be discharged into a foul 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, should be harvested or may be discharged directly to surface waters, or to groundwater by seepage through the soil
- point source emissions listed to air that are from designed and maintained abatement systems

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

End of Introductory Note

Conditions

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, 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 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.

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").

2.1.2 The activities shall be undertaken in accordance with appropriate measures.

Table 2.1 Activities	
Description of activities	Limits of activities
<p>R13: Storage of wastes pending the operation numbered R3</p>	<p>Secure storage of wastes listed in table 2.3A and 2.3B. Storage of animal by-products or catering waste must be no longer than 48 hours prior to treatment. Storage periods of other waste shall be minimised prior to treatment.</p> <p>The total quantity of waste at the facility shall not exceed 500 tonnes at any time.</p> <p>Secure storage of quarantined waste - which shall be in covered skips or covered piles, and limited to no longer than 5 days.</p> <p>Storage and treatment of leachate and liquors and dirty water arising from the process shall take place in covered lagoons or tanks.</p>
<p>R3: Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents</p>	<p>Physical treatment and composting of the types of waste listed in table 2.3A and 2.3B to produce compost.</p> <p>The maximum quantity of waste in biological treatment, that is sanitisation, stabilisation, and maturation, shall not exceed 75 tonnes per day.</p> <p>The treatment capacity of catering waste and other wastes containing animal by-products covered by the Animal By-Products Regulations (except waste code 02 01 06) shall not exceed 10 tonnes per day.</p>

2.2 The site

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

2.2.2 The activities shall not be carried out within:

- (a) 250 metres of the nearest sensitive receptor;
- (b) 500 metres of a European site (or a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), including candidate or proposed sites or a Marine Conservation Zone.
- (c) 50 metres of the presence of great crested newts, where it is linked to the breeding ponds of the newts by good habitat.
- (d) 10 metres of any watercourse;
- (e) 50 metres of any well, spring or borehole used for the supply of water for human consumption. This must include private water supplies
- (f) 50 metres of a Local Nature Reserves (LNR), Local Wildlife Site (LWS), Ancient woodland or Scheduled Ancient Monument;
- (g) 50 metres of a site that has relevant species or habitats protected under the Biodiversity Action Plan that the Environment Agency considers at risk because of to this activity.

2.3 Waste acceptance

2.3.1 Waste shall only be accepted if:

- (a) it is of a type in table 2.3A below for open or closed systems, or it is of a type in table 2.3B below for closed systems only; and
- (b) it conforms to the description in the documentation supplied by the producer and holder.

- (c) The facility has sufficient free capacity to store and treat the waste in accordance with the design capacity of the site.

2.3.2 Records demonstrating compliance with rule 2.3.1 shall be maintained.

Table 2.3A Waste types – open or closed systems	
Waste must only be accepted where there is sufficient free capacity to store or treat the waste in such a way as to prevent odour and other emissions and in line with an odour management and pre-acceptance procedure.	
Exclusions – open systems	
Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted in open systems:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catering waste and other wastes containing animal by-products covered by the Animal By-Products Regulations (except waste code 02 01 06); • Wastes in liquid form. 	
Exclusions – open or closed systems	
Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted in open or closed systems:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste that is not biodegradable; • Biodegradable waste that is significantly contaminated with non-biodegradable contaminants like plastic and litter beyond incidental level of 0.5% ; • Wastes consisting solely or mainly of dusts (except sawdust), powders or loose fibres; • Hazardous wastes; • Wastes containing treated wood or post-consumer wood; • Wastes containing wood-preserving agents or other biocides; • Wastes containing persistent organic pollutants; • Wastes containing Japanese Knotweed, or other invasive plant species listed in the Invasive Alien Species Regulations 2014; • Manures, slurries and spoiled bedding and straw from farms where animals have notifiable diseases as stipulated in the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2011. 	
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 03	plant-tissue waste
02 01 06	animal faeces, urine and manure (including spoiled bedding and straw) only from non-infected animals.
02 01 07	waste from forestry
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 (virgin timber only)
03 01 05	sawdust, shavings, cuttings, wood and particle board other than those in 03 01 04 only (virgin timber only)
03 03	wastes from pulp, paper and cardboard production and processing
03 03 01	waste bark and wood (virgin timber 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 (only where no non-biodegradable coating or preserving substance present) meeting EN 13432 or equivalent certified compostable packaging only.
15 01 03	wooden packaging – virgin wood only
17	CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTES (INCLUDING EXCAVATED SOIL FROM CONTAMINATED SITES)
17 05	soils (excluding excavated soils from contaminated sites), stones and dredging spoil
17 05 06	dewatered dredging spoil and plant tissue waste (other than those containing dangerous substances)

	from inland waters
19	WASTE FROM WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES, OFF-SITE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND THE PREPARATION OF WATER INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND WATER FOR 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 Table 2A of these standard rules only)
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 within Table 2A of these standard rules only)
19 12	wastes from the mechanical treatment of waste (for example sorting, crushing, compacting, pelletising) not otherwise specified
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 within Table 2A of these standard rules)
20	MUNICIPAL WASTES (HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND SIMILAR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL WASTES) INCLUDING SEPARATELY COLLECTED FRACTIONS
20 01	separately collected fractions
20 01 01	paper and cardboard (excluding veneers, plastic coatings or laminates) meeting EN 13432 or equivalent certified compostable packaging only.
20 02	garden and park wastes (including cemetery waste)
20 02 01	biodegradable waste (plant matter only)

Table 2.3B Waste types – closed systems only in addition to Table 2.3A

Exclusions

Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted in closed systems:

- Waste that is not biodegradable;
- Biodegradable waste that is significantly contaminated with non-biodegradable contaminants like plastic and litter beyond incidental level;
- Wastes consisting solely or mainly of dusts (except sawdust), powders or loose fibres;
- Hazardous wastes;
- Wastes containing treated wood or post-consumer wood;
- Wastes containing wood-preserving agents or other biocides;
- Wastes containing persistent organic pollutants;
- Wastes containing Japanese Knotweed, or other invasive plant species listed in the Alien Invasive Species Regulations 2014;
- Manures, slurries and spoiled bedding and straw from farms where animals have notifiable diseases as stipulated in the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2011.

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 02	wastes from the preparation and processing of meat, fish and other foods of animal origin
02 02 02	animal tissue waste (excluding animal blood)
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 04	biodegradable materials unsuitable for consumption or processing (compostable only)
02 05	wastes from the dairy products industry
02 05 01	materials unsuitable for consumption or processing
02 06	wastes from the baking and confectionery industry

02 06 01	biodegradable materials unsuitable for consumption or processing
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 spent grains or hops only
02 07 02	wastes from spirits distillation (compostable only)
19	WASTE FROM WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES, OFF-SITE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANTS AND THE PREPARATION OF WATER INTENDED FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND WATER FOR INDUSTRIAL USE
19 06	waste from anaerobic treatment of waste
19 06 04	digestate from anaerobic treatment of source segregated biodegradable waste - from a process that accepts waste input types listed in these standard rules or anaerobic digestion and made up of previously pasteurised and stabilised batches only.
19 06 06	digestate from anaerobic treatment of animal and vegetable waste - from a process that accepts waste input types listed in these standard rules or anaerobic digestion and made up of previously pasteurised and stabilised batches only.
20	MUNICIPAL WASTES (HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND SIMILAR COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL WASTES) INCLUDING SEPARATELY COLLECTED FRACTIONS
20 01	municipal wastes (household waste and similar commercial, industrial and institutional wastes) including separately collected fractions
20 01 08	biodegradable kitchen and canteen waste (mixed with biodegradable compostable cutlery and EN 13432 or equivalent certified compostable packaging only).
20 03	other municipal wastes
20 03 02	wastes from markets biodegradable only

2.4 Operating techniques

2.4.1 The activities shall, subject to the other rules in this set, be operated using the techniques and in the manner described in Table 2.4 below.

Table 2.4 Operating techniques

Open Systems

1. The acceptance, storage, physical treatment and composting of wastes shall take place on hard standing subject to paragraph 2 below.
2. When located within groundwater Source Protection Zone 1 or 2, the acceptance, storage, physical treatment and composting of wastes shall take place only on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage system that meets the recommendations of a CIRIA 736 report or equivalent approved standard.

Closed Systems

3. The acceptance, storage and physical treatment of wastes shall take place only on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage system that adheres to recommendations of a CIRIA 736 report or equivalent approved standard
4. The sanitisation of wastes shall take place in a closed system incorporating an emissions abatement system.
5. The emissions abatement system shall be specifically designed to minimise the release of odour, bioaerosols and micro-organisms and be suitable for the operation.

Open and closed systems

6. All biological and physical treatment and storage activities shall be carried out so as to prevent anaerobic conditions.
7. Each composting batch shall undergo an identifiable sanitisation and stabilisation stage.

8. All above ground storage tanks and containers must be bunded in line with recommendations of a CIRIA 736 report or equivalent approved standard.
9. All lagoon storage shall comply with CIRIA 759 or equivalent approved standard.

Improvement condition - applying to existing facilities located in Ground water protection zones 1 and 2. that is those with permits issued before the (date of issue of this revision to the standard rules to be inserted)

The operator shall undertake an inspection and works programme to ensure that all primary and secondary containment is fit for purpose.

- (a) An inspection of all primary and secondary containment shall be undertaken by a chartered engineer. All secondary containment shall be assessed in line with CIRIA 736 and CIRIA 739 for lagoons
- (b) A written report of the findings shall be submitted to the Environment Agency for approval by 1 July 2020. Where the report does not demonstrate that the primary and secondary containment is fit for purpose the report shall contain detailed proposals to bring the containment up to the required standard including timescales for the implementation of (individual measures/the measures).
- (c) Where it contains proposals for works the report shall be implemented by the Operator in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval.

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, land and water

Emission Point and Source
Clean surface water from roofs, or from areas of the site that are not being used in connection with storing and treating waste, discharged directly to surface waters, or to groundwater by seepage through the soil via a soakaway.
Outlets from emissions abatement systems, emitting treated air from closed systems.

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 the Environment Agency that the activities are giving rise to pollution, submit to the Environment Agency 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 the Environment Agency.

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 the Environment Agency, 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 the Environment Agency that the activities are giving rise to pollution outside the site due to odour, submit to the Environment Agency 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 the Environment Agency.

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 the Environment Agency, 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 the Environment Agency that the activities are giving rise to pollution outside the site due to noise and vibration, submit to the Environment Agency 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 the Environment Agency.

3.5 Monitoring

3.5.1 The operator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Environment Agency, undertake monitoring 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 and evaluation made on the basis of such data.

Table 3.5 Activities – Process Monitoring requirements				
Monitoring point	Parameter	Monitoring Frequency	Monitoring Method	Other specifications
Meteorological conditions	Wind speed, Air temperature, Wind direction	Continuous	As specified in management system	Weather station or anemometer and wind sock
Feedstock piles	Temperature	Daily or as agreed with the Environment Agency.	Temperature probe	Manage and turn if indicated as per management system.
	Flies and infestation	At least daily in storage prior to preparation and sanitation,	Visual inspection	Ensure areas are kept free of debris.

		weekly in stabilising stockpiles		
Representative internal core for each composting batch during sanitisation and stabilisation	Temperature	Daily	Temperature probe should record core waste temperature and probe placement must be sufficient to record temperature uniformly.	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 the Environment Agency. The operator must demonstrate a clear batch sanitisation phase. Monitoring shall be carried out to ensure aerobic conditions are maintained and to prevent waste becoming anaerobic.
	Moisture	Daily	Industry standard grab sample or drying oven.	
Representative internal core for each composting batch during further maturation stage	Temperature	Weekly	Temperature probe should record core waste temperature and probe placement must be sufficient to record temperature uniformly.	All composted waste shall be monitored to ensure it is sanitised and stabilised after treatment and maturation.
	Moisture	Weekly	Industry standard grab sample or drying oven.	
Outlets from abatement systems	Odour	As per Odour Management Plan	EN 13725	As per Odour Management Plan
Biofilter packing material.	Moisture	Daily		Monitoring shall be carried out to ensure the bio-filter and/or equivalent abatement system is in good working order and remains fit for purpose as documented in the odour management plan.
	Temperature			

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) only use approved products for pest control;
- (b) treat pest infestations promptly;
- (c) reject pest-infested incoming waste.
- (d) if notified by the Environment Agency, submit to the Environment Agency for approval within the period specified, a pests management plan which identifies and minimises risks of pollution from pests;
- (e) implement the pests management plan, from the date of approval, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency;

3.7 Fire prevention

3.7.1 The operator shall take all appropriate measures to prevent fires on site and minimise the risk of pollution from them including but not limited to those specified in a fire prevention plan. Where a fire prevention plan has been approved by the Environment Agency that will be the plan that will be implemented.

3.7.2 The operator shall:

- (a) if notified by the Environment Agency that the activities are giving rise to a risk of fire, submit to the Environment Agency for approval within the period specified, a fire prevention plan which prevents fires and minimises the risk of pollution from fires;
- (b) implement the fire prevention plan, from the date of approval, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.

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 the Environment Agency, 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 the Environment Agency.

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 Within one month of the end of each quarter, the operator shall submit to the Environment Agency 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 demonstrate the efficiency of treatment and recovery by keep records of non-waste materials leaving the site - including the type of material, the batch number, the date of export off-site, and the tonnage exported on that date. These records shall be retained for at least 2 years.

4.3 Notifications

- 4.3.1 The Environment Agency 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;
- (b) the breach of a limit specified in these standard rules; or
- (c) 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 Following the detection of an issue listed in 4.3.1, the operator shall review and revise the management system, and implement any changes as necessary to minimise the risk of reoccurrence of the issue.

- 4.3.4 Where the Environment Agency has requested in writing that it shall be notified when the operator is to undertake monitoring and/or spot sampling, the operator shall inform the Environment Agency when the relevant monitoring and/or spot sampling is to take place. The operator shall provide this information to the Environment Agency at least 14 days before the date the monitoring is to be undertaken.

- 4.3.5 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:

- 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.

“*Accident management plan*” means a plan that identifies risks and failures which can have an impact on the environment or have environmental consequences. This includes measures to prevent and control fires on site (see fire prevention plan).

“*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).

‘appropriate measures’ means the available techniques which are the best for preventing or minimising emissions and impacts on the environment. It includes both the technology used and the way your facility is designed, built, maintained, operated and decommissioned. It allows consideration of the risks, costs and advantages of a technique, and whether it is reasonably available to you. It requires you to take account of relevant guidance, including for example Best Available Technique Reference (BREF) documents.

“*authorised officer*” means any person authorised by the Environment Agency 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.

“*BAP*” means Biodiversity Action Plan. This is a non-statutory plan created by the UK Biodiversity Partnership and the UK Government, in response to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) signed in 1992. It describes the UK’s biological resources, and commits a detailed plan for the protection of these resources.

“*Biodegradable*” means a material is capable of undergoing biological anaerobic or aerobic degradation leading to the production of CO₂, H₂O, methane, biomass, and mineral salts, depending on the environmental conditions of the process.

“*capacity*” means the potential capacity and not historical or actual production levels or throughput. Biological treatment of waste usually takes place over more than one day, so the physical daily capacity can be calculated by dividing the maximum quantity of waste that could be subject to biological treatment at any one time by the minimum residence time.

“*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 Regulations²

“*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 and is capable of breaking down by microbial digestion to create compost.

“*composting*” means the managed biological decomposition of biodegradable waste, 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.

“*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”.

“*contained system*” means any system where wastes are enclosed and emissions to air are passed through a bio-filter or other designed abatement system.

“*Direct discharge*”- means discharge to a receiving water body

“*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 a European site within the meaning of Regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017’.

good habitat” means rough (especially tussocky) grassland, scrub and woodland.

“*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: Policy and practice” published by the Environment Agency in 2012.

“*guidance*” refers to the guidance in the waste treatment BAT Reference document, and relevant guidance published by the Environment Agency or the UK Government.

“*hardstanding*” is a compacted solid surface capable of withstanding the operation and the loading/unloading of wastes.

“*impermeable surface*” means a surface or pavement constructed to CIRIA 736 or demonstrated equivalent 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).

“*incidental contamination*” means low levels of incidental waste, for example plastic, that may be contained within the feedstock waste.

“*maturation*” — means a stage in composting when the majority of the easily digestible organic material (available carbon and nitrogen) has been used up, the rate of heat produced will decrease and the material will move into the curing/maturation phase. When agitated and turning the compost no longer demonstrates reheating and the monitored temperature falls to ambient without the compost being too dry or anaerobic.

“*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 those controlling 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, but would apply to dwellings occupied by the family of those controlling the composting facility.

‘operator’ means in relation to a regulated facility, -

(a) the person who has control over the operation of the regulated facility,

(b) if the regulated facility has not yet been put into operation, the person who will have control over the regulated facility when it is put into operation, or

(c) if a regulated facility authorised by an environmental permit ceases to be in operation, the person who holds the environmental permit

pests” means birds, vermin and insects.

“*open system*” means a composting system, such as outdoor, turned windrowing, where the waste and the resulting emissions are not fully contained during sanitisation. It includes other technologies such as aerated static piles.

“*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.

“*Post-consumer wood*” – means manufactured treated wooden materials and products that have been discarded

“*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.

“*representative internal*” means representative monitoring at a point inside the windrows that will give a representative assessment of internal temperature. Note: larger windrows will require more bespoke temperature equipment to assess temperature profiles accurately.

“*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 55°C, during which biological processes, together with conditions in the composting mass, eradicate human and animal pathogens or reduce them to acceptably low levels.

Secure storage’ – means that all reasonable precautions are taken to ensure that the waste cannot escape and that members of the public are unable to gain access to the waste.

“*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.

“Secondary containment” means a system that is capable of containing loss from all above ground and underground storage tanks and that complies with CIRIA standard 736 or equivalent standard of design and construction.

“*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*” or “*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 sanitization, 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 and in relation to hazardous waste, includes the asterisk. ‘List of Wastes’ means the list of wastes established by Commission Decision 2000/532/EC replacing Decision 94/3/EC establishing a list of wastes pursuant to Article 1(a) of Council Directive 75/442/EEC on waste and Council Decision 94/904/EC establishing a list of hazardous waste pursuant to Article 1(4) of Council Directive 91/689/EEC on hazardous waste, as amended from time to time.

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

End of standard rules