

Ellesmere Port WwTW

Environmental Permit Variation Application

2. Non-Technical Summary

This application is for an Environmental Permit for the screening, thickening and anaerobic digestion of indigenous and imported sewage sludges at the Ellesmere Port Wastewater Treatment Works (the works). The works are operated by United Utilities Water Limited (Uuw).

The Ellesmere Port Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) permit EPR/ZP3031LJ currently permits the operation of the biogas combustion plant and flare as waste activities as per Table S1.1 of the permit.

This variation is for re-designation of the facility to an installation undertaking treatment of sewage sludge for recovery, including anaerobic digestion of sewage sludge for recovery under Section 5.4 A(1)(b)(i). The waste treated consists of sludges imported from other WwTWs and indigenous sludges produced from Ellesmere Port WwTW (on-site) from the urban wastewater flow.

Additional associated activities include:

- Pre-treatment of sludge by gravity belt thickening
- De-watering of digested sludge by centrifuge
- Pre-treatment of surplus activated sludge by rotating drum thickening (when commissioned)
- Sludge and digested sludge cake storage
- Raw material storage
- Odour abatement

The changes to the permitted activities require a change to the current permit boundary and a new layout and emissions point plan for the site.

There are no emissions to land, water or sewer. New point source emissions to air are from the installation's odour control units and the biogas tank and digesters pressure release valves (PRV). Existing permitted emissions are from the combined heat and power (CHP) engines, boilers and emergency flare.