

**From:** [Helen Watson \(R\)](#)  
**To:** [Di Stefano, Francesco](#); [Adam.H.Young](#)  
**Cc:** [SM-Defra-RESP-notifications \(DEFRA\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Application Variation EPR/UP3230LR/V021 Duly making request for additional information CRM:0261504  
**Date:** 18 March 2024 13:26:56  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)

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Francesco,

The concentrations of metals in the proposed PTU wastewater are assumed to be total metals as at this stage there is no information available to differentiate between the total and dissolved metals in the proposed effluent. This is considered to represent a worst case for the purposes of the assessment.

In terms of existing effluent, the concentrations provided are given as total metals. Effluent sampling and analysis is carried out in the Phillips 66 labs and the test method involves digesting the full sample without filtering first and then using inductively-coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry to measure the metals content, therefore the dissolved metals content cannot be differentiated from the total. As such, we understand that without this information, the Monte Carlo simulation that you propose to carry out will return a conservative risk assessment.

We trust that this information provides clarity over the questions raised, and also that you have all the information you need to enable you to conclude the duly making checks. However, please don't hesitate to contact me if any further clarification is required.

Kind regards,

Helen

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**From:** Di Stefano, Francesco [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2024 12:03 PM  
**To:** Adam.H.Young [REDACTED]; Helen Watson (R) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** RESP-notifications <[RESP-notifications@defra.gov.uk](mailto:RESP-notifications@defra.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: Application Variation EPR/UP3230LR/V021 Duly making request for additional information CRM:0261504

Good morning,

I've just realised I incorrectly used a 'no-reply' system address in my trailer email. Please respond to this email instead, keeping [resp-notifications@defra.gov.uk](mailto:resp-notifications@defra.gov.uk) copied, when providing the additional information requested. Apologies for any inconvenience.

Best Regards

Francesco

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**From:** Di Stefano, Francesco  
**Sent:** Monday, March 11, 2024 11:56 AM  
**To:** Adam Young [REDACTED]; Helen Watson [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** SM-Defra-RESP-noreply (DEFRA) <[RESP-noreply@defra.gov.uk](mailto:RESP-noreply@defra.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Application Variation EPR/UP3230LR/V021 Duly making request for additional information CRM:0261504  
**Importance:** High

Dear Adam and Helen,

I've briefly discussed the progress of the duly making checks with Helen this morning. Most of the checks have been satisfactory and the only pending duly making issue at this stage relates to the interpretation of effluent quality data used to populate the H1 environmental risk assessment in relation to the proposed discharges. In relation to this, we have formulated the requests for information below:

1. Please advise whether the concentrations of metals in the combined wastewater effluent and PTU

effluent presented in the Main Supporting Document and H1 Tool submitted with the application are in a total or dissolved form.

2. If the concentrations of metals presented in the application documents are total, provide an estimate of the dissolved concentrations of the metals (if available).

*Background:*

*The concentrations of metals for the PTU effluent presented in Table 5.3 of the Main Supporting Document are stated to correspond to the composition breakdown of the catalyst fines in this effluent, hence it is our understanding that these might be total metals, but we are seeking to confirm our understanding with you. No information is provided in the application on whether the metals are total or dissolved for the existing effluent from the refinery.*

*Our guidance [Surface water pollution risk assessment for your environmental permit - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/surface-water-pollution-risk-assessment-for-your-environmental-permit) requires total and dissolved metals data to be provided in the characterisation of the effluent. In particular, dissolved metals data are necessary for any pollutants that don't screen out and therefore need modelling, when bioavailability considerations play a role. If you are not able to advise the dissolved metals and total metals are used as inputs of the modelling, the outcome of the assessment might return a pessimistic picture of the environmental risk.*

Please provide an answer to these requests for information as soon as practically possible and however no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of March 2024. A timely answer will enable us to conclude the duly making checks and progress with the time critical consultations on your application.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need to discuss my request.

Best Regards  
Francesco

**Francesco Di Stefano** CEng MIChemE  
Principal Permitting Officer, Installations, National Permitting Service  
**Environment Agency** | Horizon House, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS1 5AH

Pronouns: He/Him/His [\(why is this here?\)](#)

No need to thank me! – I'm saving carbon



**Do you operate a medium combustion plant or specified generator?**

**[Click here to find out if you need to meet the regulations](#)**

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**From:** SM-Defra-RESP-noreply (DEFRA) <[RESP-noreply@defra.gov.uk](mailto:RESP-noreply@defra.gov.uk)>

**Sent:** Thursday, February 22, 2024 3:33 PM

**To:** Adam Young [redacted] Helen Watson [redacted]

**Cc:** Di Stefano, Francesco [redacted]

**Subject:** RE: EPR/UP3230LR/V021 Duly making of Environmental Permitting Application CRM:0261504

Dear Adam and Helen,  
I just wanted to confirm that I've been allocated your application and I'm carrying out the duly making

checks. At this stage I don't think I need to talk to you, as I'm already familiar with your application from the extensive pre-application engagement.

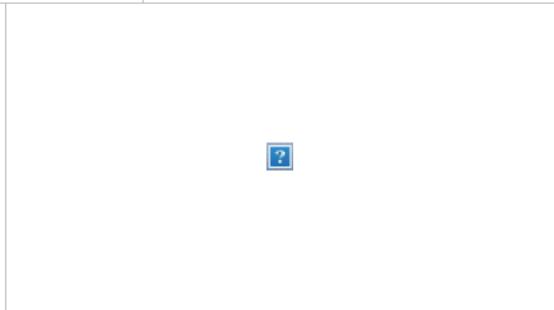
However, please do not hesitate to contact me if you feel you need to discuss any aspects of your application.

I aim at getting back to you with an update on the duly making process by the 11th of March.

Best Regards  
Francesco

**Francesco Di Stefano** CEng MICHemE  
Principal Permitting Officer, Installations, National Permitting Service  
**Environment Agency** | Horizon House, Deanery Road, Bristol, BS1 5AH  
Pronouns: He/Him/His ([why is this here?](#))

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[Click here to find out if you need to meet the regulations](#)

----- Original Message -----

**From:** ea-resp-noreply <[RESP-noreply@defra.gov.uk](mailto:RESP-noreply@defra.gov.uk)>;  
**Received:** Fri Feb 09 2024 12:30:02 GMT+0000 (Greenwich Mean Time)  
**To:** Adam Young [redacted];  
**Subject:** EPR/UP3230LR/V021 Receipt of Environmental Permitting Application CRM:0261504



Dear Adam Young

**Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016**  
**Application reference:** EPR/UP3230LR/V021  
**Operator:** PHILLIPS 66 LIMITED  
**Facility:** Humber Refinery EPR/UP3230LR, Eastfield Road, South Killingholme, DN40 3DW

Thank you for your application, received 30/01/2024. We received your application fee on 05/02/2024.

If your application is for an activity related to a project that has, or will apply for, a Development Consent Order (DCO) please email [NSIPpermit@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:NSIPpermit@environment-agency.gov.uk) quoting your permit reference number.

### **What happens next?**

#### **Allocation**

Your application has been added to our work queue to be allocated to a Permitting Officer to be checked. A Permitting Officer will contact you as soon as they pick up your application.

Our current queues are large and we are taking longer than usual to allocate work for checks. The time it takes us to allocate an application depends on a number of factors, including the complexity of the specific application and the availability of a member of our team with the right skills to assess it. Your application should be allocated within 6 months, less complex applications (such as medium combustion plant applications that do not require complex air quality modelling) may be allocated sooner than this. You may be contacted sooner where we identify missing information in your application.

When your application is allocated, a permitting officer will check that all relevant information requested in the application forms and [application guidance](#) is provided. If there is information missing, this will delay the progress of your application. You can avoid incurring delays by reviewing your application and checking you have provided everything we need. If you need to add something, please send it to us at [PSC@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:PSC@environment-agency.gov.uk), quoting your application reference.

If you have used our enhanced pre application advice service, you must ensure you have paid all associated fees before your application can progress.

We aim to respond to all customer enquiries, however at busy times this can have a significant impact on our ability and capacity to progress applications. Please rest assured that we will contact you as soon as there is any update on your application. For urgent enquiries, you can contact our National Customer Contact Centre on 03708 506 506.

#### **Duly made checks**

Once your application is allocated, the permitting officer will check your application. When we are satisfied we have the necessary information to begin our assessment and decision making, your application is considered 'duly made'. We will then begin our technical assessment of your application, we call this the determination stage.

If we need any more information from you at the duly making stage, we will contact you to tell you what additional information you need to submit.

If we are still unable to progress your application any further, we will return it to you. Please note that we will retain part of your application charge where we have spent time reviewing your application and requesting information. Further details can be found in our [charging scheme](#).

When we decide that your application is duly made, we will confirm this by email or letter.

Please note, if you have provided evidence of technical competence which is due to expire soon, send an up-to-date continuing competency certificate when available to [PSC@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:PSC@environment-agency.gov.uk), quoting your application reference. Without current evidence your application will not be duly made and sending this in advance can help avoid delays.

#### **Exemptions**

Waste exemptions allow low-risk waste management operations to be carried out without an environmental permit. Waste exemptions are intended to be operated as discrete activities and the rules around exemptions will be changing soon.

Future reforms to waste exemptions will mean exemptions cannot be registered at or adjacent to (where there is a direct link) permitted waste operations. Waste exemptions cannot currently be used on a permitted installation.

For further details please read [Waste Exemptions – Getting Ready for Change](#). As part of this work, we are also asking operators to deregister any exemptions no longer used or needed. Once your application has been allocated to a permitting officer, please ask if you have questions about how exemptions you already have registered or are proposing to register may affect your permitted site.

#### **Determination**

The officer determining your application will contact you when they begin this work. They will be your main contact for the remainder of the process, up to the point we notify you of our final decision.

For more complex applications, the officer may need further information to complete their assessment. Unless the information can easily be obtained by a phone conversation or exchange of emails, they will send you a notice explaining what you need to submit.

### Consultation

If your application needs consultation with the public and other organisations we use an online consultation tool where we will add all application documents. [Environmental permits: when and how we consult](#) explains which applications we are required to consult on and how long this will take.

Yours sincerely,

### Danny Dunstan

Regulated Industry Permitting Support Team Advisor, National Permitting Service Sheffield

**Environment Agency** | NPS Sheffield, Quadrant 2, 99 Parkway Avenue, Sheffield, S9 4WF

Mobile: 07826910216 | External: 02077140696 | Internal: 20696

Regulated Industry Team Phone Number : 02030253898 (9am to 4pm)

Regulated Industry Team Email : [PSC@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:PSC@environment-agency.gov.uk)

Incident response

National duty communications officer (24/7) | 0800 023 2522

National duty communications manager | 0800 028 2411



**Do you operate a medium combustion plant or specified generator?**  
**[Click here to find out if you need to meet the regulations](#)**



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