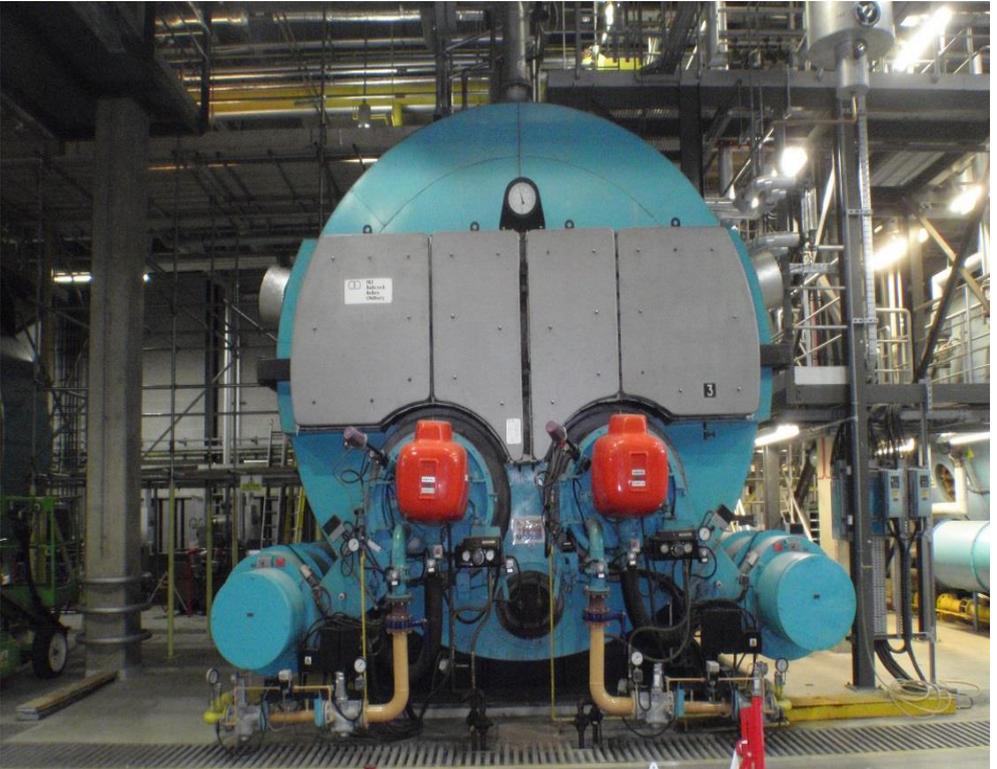


Medium Combustion Plant and Specified Generators in England



We are the Environment Agency. We protect and improve the environment.

We help people and wildlife adapt to climate change and reduce its impacts, including flooding, drought, sea level rise and coastal erosion.

We improve the quality of our water, land and air by tackling pollution. We work with businesses to help them comply with environmental regulations. A healthy and diverse environment enhances people's lives and contributes to economic growth.

We can't do this alone. We work as part of the Defra group (Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs), with the rest of government, local councils, businesses, civil society groups and local communities to create a better place for people and wildlife.

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Medium Combustion Plant & Specified Generator controls in England

Medium Combustion Plant (MCP) and Specified Generators (SG) emit polluting exhaust gases including oxides of nitrogen, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide and particulates which contribute to reduced air quality that can cause harm to human health, the environment and economy.

To control these emissions and improve air quality across the European Union the Medium Combustion Plant Directive (MCPD) EU/2015/2193 was published in 2015.

In 2018 the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) (Amendment) Regulations (EPR) was published by DEFRA to transpose the requirements of the directive into regulations, it also brought in specific domestic controls to reduce emissions from the operation of specified generators.

This leaflet intends to raise awareness of the regulatory requirements with operators of medium combustion plant and specified generators.

At the end of the leaflet there is a link to a survey for operators to tell us about their activities in advance of the requirements and join our mailing list.



Medium Combustion Plant (MCP)

An MCP is a combustion unit such as an engine, boiler or turbine with a capacity more than or equal to 1 megawatt thermal (MWth) and less than 50MWth burning any type of fuel.

MCP is either classed as new or existing:

- new – if it was put into operation on or after 20 December 2018
- existing – if it was put into operation before 20 December 2018.

In scope MCP must apply and have a permit in place by:

- 20th December 2018 or before it is commissioned for new MCP
- 1st January 2024 if it's an existing MCP and the capacity is between 5MWth and 50MWth
- 1st January 2029 if it's an existing MCP and the capacity is between 1MWth and less than 5MWth

The MCP permit conditions will set emission limit values (ELV's). Operators must ensure plant can meet the ELV's by:

- 20th December 2018 or from date of issue it's a new MCP
- 1st January 2025 if it's an existing MCP with a capacity between 5MWth and 50MWth
- 1st January 2030 if it's an existing MCP and the capacity is between 1MWth and less than 5MWth.

For detailed guidance on the MCP regulations you should visit our [website](#)



Specified Generators (SG)

A generator is a combustion plant that generates electricity and includes engines, gas engines and boilers that operate as a combined heat and power.

The regulations apply to all generators with a capacity up to 50MWth burning any fuel.

The term 'specified generator' covers an individual generator or number of generators on the same site, with the same operator being used for the same purpose.

In most cases the MCP and SG regulations will apply to generators. In these cases

the regulation requiring the stricter emission controls will apply and you must get your permit by the earliest date set in the regulations.

Generators are classed as either Tranche A or B. This is determined by factors such as:

- when you had a contract to provide services to the national grid known as a capacity agreement, contract or feed in tariff (FIT)
- It's rated thermal input
- Its emissions
- The number of hours it operates each year.

Read the guidance [specified generator: when you need a permit](#) for more information.



Preparing to meet the requirements

After reading our guidance if you think that your operations require a permit now then you can apply on our website:

- [Specified Generators](#)
- [Medium Combustion Plant](#)

Before you apply you can get [pre-application advice](#)

If you think you will require a permit in the future to meet the regulatory deadlines then you can keep informed about when and how to apply and contribute to any consultations by completing this [survey](#) which will give you the option to join our mailing list. You could also set an alert for updates from our website guidance pages – look for the button “get emails about this page” at the bottom of each page you are interested in.

The exact timing and process of making permit applications for existing MCP and tranche A SG's is currently being developed by the Environment Agency. To help us prepare we would like to invite all operators to complete this [survey](#).

Sharing your data through the survey will enable the EA to:

- resource ourselves
- decide how to spread the load of applications and compliance activities
- create standard rule sets for common operations which will be cheaper and easier to apply for
- produce habitats screening tools for bespoke permits

Completing the survey and reading our guidance will also help you to prepare for future permit applications and compliance activities and allow you to make strategic and financial business decisions about your existing plant.

**Would you like to find out more about us
or about your environment?**

Then call us on

03708 506 506 (Monday to Friday 8am to 6pm)

Email

enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Or visit our website

www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Incident hotline 0800 807060 (24 hours)

Floodline 0345 988 1188 (24 hours)

Find out about call charges

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