

Natural Resources Wales permitting decisions

Variation

We have decided to issue the variation for the Waunarlwydd Works operated by Real Alloy UK Limited.

The variation number is EPR/EP3935UC/V004.

We consider in reaching that decision we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the permit will ensure that the appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

Purpose of this document

This decision document:

- explains how the application has been determined
- provides a record of the decision-making process
- shows how all relevant factors have been taken into account
- justifies the specific conditions in the permit other than those in our generic permit template.

Unless the decision document specifies otherwise we have accepted the applicant's proposals.

Structure of this document

- Key issues
- Annex 1 the decision checklist

Key issues of the decision

Background

This variation allows the extension of the installation boundary to increase scrap aluminium storage capacity. Scrap aluminium will be stored inside an existing building located within the extension area. The variation also allows the operation of a 1.5 tonne rotary furnace, which will be used to melt batches of scrap so that the aluminium content can be tested in the on-site laboratory. Fume from this furnace will be captured by the site's extraction system (which is used to capture emissions from the two main melting furnaces) and routed to the site's bag filtration plant, where it will be filtered before being emitted to atmosphere.

Site Condition Report

The applicant has submitted a baseline site condition report for the area of land included in the installation boundary extension. We have reviewed this site condition report and consider that the sampling and testing methodology that was implemented is appropriate. We are therefore satisfied that the information provided in this report adequately represents the baseline condition of this area of land.

Operating Techniques

We have included an updated version of the raw materials and wastes storage and handling section of the original permit application supporting report within the operating techniques table. This document incorporates changes that have occurred at the site since the permit was issued in 2003. We are satisfied that this document demonstrates that the operator has in place the necessary controls to provide adequate protection of the environment.

We have specified areas of land within the installation boundary where the operator is permitted to store scrap aluminium materials and waste products from the smelting process. We are satisfied that these areas of land have in place the controls necessary to prevent release of pollutants associated with the scrap materials and wastes from entering land, groundwater and surface water.

Annex 1: decision checklist

This document should be read in conjunction with the application and supporting information and permit/ notice.

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met
European Directives		
Applicable directives	All applicable European directives have been considered in the determination of the application.	✓
The site		
Extent of the site of the facility	<p>The operator has provided a plan which we consider is satisfactory, showing the extent of the site of the facility.</p> <p>A plan is included in the permit and the operator is required to carry on the permitted activities within the site boundary.</p>	✓
Site condition report	<p>The operator has provided a description of the condition of the site.</p> <p>We consider this description is satisfactory. The decision was taken in accordance with our guidance on site condition reports – guidance and templates (H5).</p> <p>See Key Issues section.</p>	✓
Environmental Risk Assessment and operating techniques		
Environmental risk	<p>We have reviewed the operator's assessment of the environmental risk from the facility.</p> <p>The operator's risk assessment is satisfactory.</p>	✓
Operating techniques	<p>We have reviewed the techniques used by the operator and compared these with the relevant guidance notes.</p> <p>The proposed techniques/ emission levels for priorities for control are in line with the benchmark levels contained in the TGN and we consider them to represent appropriate techniques for the facility.</p> <p>We consider that the emission limits included in the permit reflect the BAT for the installation.</p> <p>See Key Issues section.</p>	✓
The permit conditions		
Incorporating the application	We have specified that the applicant must operate the permit in accordance with descriptions in the application, including all additional information received as part of the determination process.	✓

Aspect considered	Justification / Detail	Criteria met
		Yes
	These descriptions are specified in the Operating Techniques table in the permit.	
Operator Competence		
Environment management system	There is no known reason to consider that the operator will not have the management systems to enable it to comply with the permit conditions. The decision was taken in accordance with RGN 5 on Operator Competence.	✓