

Notice of variation with introductory note

The Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations 2016

Thames Water Utilities Limited
Reading Sludge Treatment Centre
Reading Sewage Treatment Works
Island Road
Reading, Berkshire
RG2 0RP

Variation application number

EPR/MP3338LU/V004

Permit number

EPR/MP3338LU

Reading Sludge Treatment Centre

Permit number EPR/MP3338LU

Introductory note

This introductory note does not form a part of the permit

The Industrial Emissions Directive (IED) came into force on 7 January 2014 with the requirement to implement all relevant Best Available Techniques (BAT) Conclusions as described in the Commission Implementing Decision. The schedule of waste management activities includes the recovery of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 75 tonnes per day (or 100 tonnes per day if the only waste treatment activity is anaerobic digestion) involving biological treatment, but excludes activities covered by the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD). However, UK environmental regulators concluded that the biological treatment of waste sewage sludge is not an activity covered by the UWWTD and is therefore within the scope of the IED. The BAT Conclusions for Waste Treatment (the BREF) was published on 17 August 2018 following a European Union wide review of BAT, implementing decision (EU) 2018/1147 of 10 August 2018. BAT applies to new waste sewage sludge treatment not covered by the UWWTD. The operations at Reading sewage treatment works are existing but will be brought into environmental regulation for the first time and are required to operate using BAT.

Brief description of the process

Reading Sludge Treatment Centre (STC) is located south of Reading, close to the A33. The facility is in the grounds of the wider Reading Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW). The central point of the site is NGR SU 70724 70623.

The site will accept up to 915,000 tonnes per annum of indigenous and imported waste sludge. Sewage sludge produced at Reading WwTW (indigenous sludge), and sewage sludge produced at Thames Water satellite sites (imported sludge) is received at the two primary sludge tanks where it is transferred to two primary belt thickeners. Polymer is added to the two primary belt thickeners and liquor produced in the thickening process is discharged to the WwTW (which does not form part of the permit boundary) by emission point T3 and sampled at point S3.

Indigenous surplus activated sludge (SAS) is received at the SAS belt thickeners where polymer is added. Liquor produced in the thickening process is discharged to the WwTW (which does not form part of the permit boundary) by emission point T2 and sampled at point S2.

Once waste has been thickened and excess liquor removed, the thickened sludge is transferred into one of two sludge blending tanks before being transferred into two small and two large pasteurisation tanks which operate 24/7. Following pasteurisation, sludge is fed into one of four primary digesters where it then undergoes biological treatment in the form of mesophilic anaerobic digestion (AD). Digesters are capable of treating up to 600 tonnes per day. Digested sludge is then transferred to two digested sludge buffer tanks. The treatment of sludge in a biological AD process is a Section 5.4 Part A (1)(b)(i) scheduled activity of the above regulations. This variation adds the section 5.4 activity to the permit and consolidates the combustion activities which now form directly associated activities (DAA) to the installation.

Biogas produced as part of the AD process is stored in one of two double membraned gas holders prior to being used for combustion in two combined heat and power (CHP) engines (with a thermal input of 1.344 MWth each), and three dual fuel boilers (with a thermal input of 0.837MWth each). The electrical energy and heat produced, is used to power on-site processes and provide heat to pre digestion pasteurisation processes.

In the event of emergency, biogas is flared in a waste gas burner.

Biogas condensate produced from the CHP and boilers is discharged to sewer and returned to the Reading WwTW via emission point T1 and sampled at point S1.

Following AD treatment, the sludge is transferred to two dewatering centrifuges to produce a cake. Cake is stored in three cake silo's prior to being exported offsite for land spreading under the Sludge use in agriculture

regulations (SuiAR) and undergoes quality assurance under the Biosolids Assurance Scheme (BAS). Liquor produced from the dewatering of sludge is discharged to the WwTW (which does not form part of the permit boundary) by emission point T1 and sampled at point S1.

The site operates one odour control unit (OCU) at emission point A15 on the site plan in schedule 7, this unit uses a single wet scrubber to treat malodorous air before emitting it via a stack. The OCU also has one standby carbon filter if required.

This permit also allows a waste operation relating to the import of wastes sludge and liquid wastes to the head of works. Tankered wastes are discharged into the waste water treatment works directly and is subsequently mixed within the incoming sewer delivered urban waste water directive (UWWTD) main flow, and at this point and cease to be covered by this permit.

The head of works effluents in the form of sludge and liquid will be delivered by tanker to the head if the works import point. This activity involves a discharge to the main WwTW which is classed as an indirect emissions to water at emission point T5. We have imposed improvement conditions in the permit to determine the impact on the River Kennet from the tankered wastes imported and subsequently discharged to the WwTW.

There one special protection area (SPA), Thames Basin Heaths situated within 8,500m of the site and eight local wildlife sites within relevant screening distances of the installation.

The status log of the permit sets out the permitting history, including any changes to the permit reference number.

Status log of the permit		
Description	Date	Comments
Application EPR/MP3338LU/A001	Duly made 29/03/2006	Application for inert and excavation waste transfer station and composting facility (EAWML 400034)
Additional information received	03/07/2006	Received 13/07/2006
Request to extend determination period	14/08/2006	Responded 15/08/2006
Request to extend determination period	01/11/2006	Responded 03/11/2006
Permit determined	19/12/2006	--
Application EPR/MP3338LU/V003 (variation and consolidation)	Application Withdrawn 09/05/2022	Application to vary the permit to installation activity from a waste activity
Application EPR/MP3338LU/V004 (variation and consolidation)	Duly made 30/01/2023	Application to vary the permit to installation activity from a waste activity
Additional Information received	31/03/2023	Response to Schedule 5 Notice dated 02/03/2023.
Additional Information received	18/05/2023	Response to requested for further information dated 26/04/2023.
Additional Information received	30/05/2023	Response to requested for further information dated 23/05/2023.
Additional Information received	05/06/2023	Response to requested for further information dated 31/05/2023.
Additional Information received	12/06/2023	Response to requested for further information dated 02/06/2023.
Variation determined EPR/MP3338LU/V004 (Billing Ref: LP3649QA)	25/07/2023	Notice of variation issued

End of introductory note

Notice of variation

The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

The Environment Agency in exercise of its powers under regulation 20 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 varies

Permit number

EPR/MP3338LU

Issued to

Thames Water Utilities Limited ("the operator")

whose registered office is

Clearwater Court

Vastern Road

Reading

Berkshire

RG1 8DB

company registration number 02366661

to operate a regulated facility at

Reading Sludge Treatment Centre

Reading Sewage Treatment Works

Island Road

Reading, Berkshire

RG2 0RP

to the extent set out in the schedules.

The notice shall take effect from 25/07/2023

Name	Date
Peter Maksymiw	25/07/2023

Authorised on behalf of the Environment Agency

Schedule 1

All conditions have been varied by the consolidated permit as a result of the application made by the operator.

Schedule 2 – consolidated permit

Consolidated permit issued as a separate document.

Permit

The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

Permit number

EPR/MP3338LU

The Environment Agency hereby authorises, under regulation 13 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016

Thames Water Utilities Limited ("the operator"),

whose registered office is

Clearwater Court

Vastern Road

Reading

Berkshire

RG1 8DB

company registration number 02366661

to operate an installation and waste operations at

Reading Sludge Treatment Centre

Reading Sewage Treatment Works

Island Road

Reading, Berkshire

RG2 0RP

to the extent authorised by and subject to the conditions of this permit.

Name	Date
Peter Maksymiw	25/07/2023

Authorised on behalf of the Environment Agency

Conditions

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, including those 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 condition 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 this permit shall have convenient access to a copy of it 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 Energy efficiency

- 1.2.1 For the following activities referenced in schedule 1, table S1.1, AR1 to AR10, the operator shall:
- (a) take appropriate measures to ensure that energy is used efficiently in the activities;
 - (b) review and record at least every four years whether there are suitable opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of the activities; and
 - (c) take any further appropriate measures identified by a review.

1.3 Efficient use of raw materials

- 1.3.1 For the following activities referenced in schedule 1, table S1.1, AR1 to AR10, the operator shall:
- (a) take appropriate measures to ensure that raw materials and water are used efficiently in the activities;
 - (b) maintain records of raw materials and water used in the activities;
 - (c) review and record at least every four years whether there are suitable alternative materials that could reduce environmental impact or opportunities to improve the efficiency of raw material and water use; and
 - (d) take any further appropriate measures identified by a review.

1.4 Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities

- 1.4.1 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.

- 1.4.2 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.

Operations

2.1 Permitted activities

- 2.1.1 The operator is only authorised to carry out the activities specified in schedule 1 table S1.1 (the “activities”).
- 2.1.2 For the following activities referenced in schedule 1, table S1.1, AR1 to AR10, the activities shall be undertaken in accordance with best available techniques.
- 2.1.3 All process plant and equipment shall be commissioned, operated and maintained and shall be fully documented and recorded in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations.
- 2.1.4 For the following activities referenced in schedule 1, table S1.1, AR1 to AR10, waste authorised by this permit shall be clearly distinguished from any other waste on the site.

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 at schedule 7 to this permit.

2.3 Operating techniques

- 2.3.1 The activities shall, subject to the conditions of this permit, be operated using the techniques and in the manner described in the documentation specified in schedule 1, table S1.2, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
- 2.3.2 If notified by the Environment Agency that the activities are giving rise to pollution, the operator shall submit to the Environment Agency for approval within the period specified, a revision of any plan or other documentation (“plan”) specified in schedule 1, table S1.2 or otherwise required under this permit which identifies and minimises the risks of pollution relevant to that plan, and shall implement the approved revised plan in place of the original from the date of approval, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
- 2.3.3 Any raw materials or fuels listed in schedule 2 table S2.1 shall conform to the specifications set out in that table.
- 2.3.4 Waste shall only be accepted if:
- (a) it is of a type and quantity listed in schedule 2 tables S2.2 and S2.3; 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.
- 2.3.5 The operator shall ensure that where waste produced by the activities is sent to a relevant waste operation, that operation is provided with the following information, prior to the receipt of the waste:
- (a) the nature of the process producing the waste;
 - (b) the composition of the waste;
 - (c) the handling requirements of the waste;
 - (d) the hazardous property associated with the waste, if applicable; and
 - (e) the waste code of the waste.

- 2.3.6 The operator shall ensure that where waste produced by the activities is sent to a landfill site, it meets the waste acceptance criteria for that landfill.
- 2.3.7 For the following activities referenced in schedule 1, table S1.1, AR1 to AR10, waste pre-acceptance and acceptance procedures shall be undertaken in accordance with best available techniques.
- 2.3.8 For the following activities referenced in schedule 1, table S1.1 (AR4):
- (a) each MCP must be operated in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and records must be made and retained to demonstrate this.
 - (b) the operator must keep periods of start-up and shut-down of each MCP as short as possible.
 - (c) there must be no persistent emission of 'dark smoke' as defined in section 3(1) of the Clean Air Act 1993.

2.4 Improvement programme

- 2.4.1 The operator shall complete the improvements specified in schedule 1 table S1.3 by the date specified in that table unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
- 2.4.2 Except in the case of an improvement which consists only of a submission to the Environment Agency, the operator shall notify the Environment Agency within 14 days of completion of each improvement.

Emissions and monitoring

3.1 Emissions to water, air or land

- 3.1.1 There shall be no point source emissions to water, air or land except from the sources and emission points listed in schedule 3 tables S3.1 and S3.2.
- 3.1.2 The limits given in schedule 3 shall not be exceeded.
- 3.1.3 Periodic monitoring shall be carried out at least once every 5 years for groundwater and 10 years for soil, unless such monitoring is based on a systematic appraisal of the risk of contamination.

3.2 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits

- 3.2.1 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits (excluding odour, but including ammonia) shall not cause pollution. The operator shall not be taken to have breached this condition 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 which identifies and minimises the risks of pollution from emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits;
 - (b) implement the approved emissions management plan, from the date of approval, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
- 3.2.3 Subject to condition 3.2.4, below, all liquids in containers, whose emission to water or land could cause pollution, shall be provided with secondary containment, unless other appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, leakage and spillage from the primary container have been agreed in writing with the Environment Agency.
- 3.2.4 Condition 3.2.3, above, shall apply unless the operator strictly complies in full with IC9 below.

- 3.2.5 The operator shall implement a leak detection and repair (LDAR) programme to detect and mitigate the release of volatile organic compounds, including methane from diffuse sources.

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.

3.4 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 which identifies and minimises the risks of pollution from noise and vibration;
 - (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 by the Environment Agency, undertake the monitoring specified in the following tables in schedule 3 to this permit:
- (a) point source emissions specified in tables S3.1 and S3.2;
 - (b) process monitoring specified in table S3.3;
 - (c) bioaerosols monitoring specified in tables S3.5.
- 3.5.2 The operator shall maintain records of all monitoring required by this permit including records of the taking and analysis of samples, instrument measurements (periodic and continual), calibrations, examinations, tests and surveys and any assessment or evaluation made on the basis of such data.
- 3.5.3 Monitoring equipment, techniques, personnel and organisations employed for the emissions monitoring programme and the environmental or other monitoring specified in condition 3.5.1 shall have either MCERTS certification or MCERTS accreditation (as appropriate), where available, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
- 3.5.4 Permanent means of access shall be provided to enable sampling/monitoring to be carried out in relation to the emission points specified in schedule 3 tables S3.1, S3.2, S3.3, S3.4, S3.5 and S3.6 unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
- 3.5.5 Monitoring shall not take place during periods of start up or shut down.

3.6 Bioaerosols

- 3.6.1 The operator shall take all appropriate measures, to prevent or where that is not practicable to minimise the release of bioaerosols. Emissions of bioaerosols from the operational activities shall not exceed the emission action levels specified in tables S3.5.
- 3.6.2 The operator shall where the emission action levels are exceeded:

- (a) notify the Environment Agency and investigate and take remedial action;
- (b) submit to the Environment Agency for approval within the period specified, a bioaerosols management plan which identifies and minimises the risks of pollution from bioaerosols; and
- (c) implement the bioaerosols management plan from the date of approval and revise the plan periodically, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.

3.7 Pests

- 3.7.1 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.
- 3.7.2 The operator shall:
- (a) only use approved products for pest control;
 - (b) treat pest infestations promptly;
 - (c) reject pest-infected 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.

3.8 Fire prevention

- 3.8.1 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 any approved fire prevention plan.
- 3.8.2 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.
- 3.8.3 The operator shall undertake a DSEAR assessment and maintain an accident management plan.

Information

4.1 Records

- 4.1.1 All records required to be made by this permit 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 in writing 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 the land and groundwater.

4.1.2 The operator shall keep on site all records, plans and the management system required to be maintained by this permit, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.

4.1.3 The operator shall maintain a record of the type and quantity of fuel used and the total annual hours of operation of each MCP.

4.2 Reporting

4.2.1 The operator shall send all reports and notifications required by the permit to the Environment Agency using the contact details supplied in writing by the Environment Agency.

4.2.2 For the following activities referenced in schedule 1, table S1.1, AR1 to AR10, a report or reports on the performance of the activities over the previous year shall be submitted to the Environment Agency by 31 January (or other date agreed in writing by the Environment Agency) each year. The report(s) shall include as a minimum:

- (a) a review of the results of the monitoring and assessment carried out in accordance with the permit including an interpretive review of that data;
- (b) the annual production/treatment data set out in schedule 4 table S4.2; and
- (c) the performance parameters set out in schedule 4 table S4.3 using the forms specified in table S4.4 of that schedule.

4.2.3 Within 28 days of the end of the reporting period the operator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency, submit reports of the monitoring and assessment carried out in accordance with the conditions of this permit, as follows:

- (a) in respect of the parameters and emission points specified in schedule 4 table S4.1;
- (b) for the reporting periods specified in schedule 4 table S4.1 and using the forms specified in schedule 4 table S4.4; and
- (c) giving the information from such results and assessments as may be required by the forms specified in those tables.

4.2.4 The operator shall, unless notice under this condition has been served within the preceding four years, submit to the Environment Agency, within six months of receipt of a written notice, a report assessing whether there are other appropriate measures that could be taken to prevent, or where that is not practicable, to minimise pollution.

4.2.5 Within 1 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.

4.2.6 The operator shall 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 maintained for at least 2 years.

4.2.7 The operator shall submit an annual report detailing the efficiency of removal of non-digestible materials from feedstock prior to processing and the level of contamination in the final recovered digestate.

4.3 Notifications

4.3.1 In the event:

- (a) that the operation of the activities gives rise to an incident or accident which significantly affects or may significantly affect the environment, the operator must immediately—
 - (i) inform the Environment Agency,
 - (ii) take the measures necessary to limit the environmental consequences of such an incident or accident, and
 - (iii) take the measures necessary to prevent further possible incidents or accidents;
- (b) of a breach of any permit condition the operator must immediately—
 - (i) inform the Environment Agency, and
 - (ii) take the measures necessary to ensure that compliance is restored within the shortest possible time;
- (c) of a breach of permit condition which poses an immediate danger to human health or threatens to cause an immediate significant adverse effect on the environment, the operator must immediately suspend the operation of the activities or the relevant part of it until compliance with the permit conditions has been restored.

4.3.2 Any information provided under condition 4.3.1 (a)(i), or 4.3.1 (b)(i) where the information relates to the breach of a limit specified in the permit, shall be confirmed by sending the information listed in schedule 5 to this permit within the time period specified in that schedule.

4.3.3 Following the detection of an issue listed in condition 4.3.1, the operator shall review and revise the management system and implement any changes as necessary to minimise the risk of re-occurrence 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:

Where the operator is a registered company:

- (a) any change in the operator's trading name, registered name or registered office address; and
- (b) any steps taken with a view to the operator going into administration, entering into a company voluntary arrangement or being wound up.

Where the operator is a corporate body other than a registered company:

- (a) any change in the operator's name or address; and
- (b) any steps taken with a view to the dissolution of the operator.

In any other case:

- (a) the death of any of the named operators (where the operator consists of more than one named individual);
- (b) any change in the operator's name(s) or address(es); and
- (c) 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 of them being in a partnership, dissolving the partnership.

- 4.3.6 Where the operator proposes to make a change in the nature or functioning, or an extension of the activities, which may have consequences for the environment and the change is not otherwise the subject of an application for approval under the Regulations or this permit:
- (a) the Environment Agency shall be notified at least 14 days before making the change; and
 - (b) the notification shall contain a description of the proposed change in operation.
- 4.3.7 The Environment Agency shall be given at least 14 days' notice before implementation of any part of the site closure plan.
- 4.3.8 The operator shall notify the Environment Agency as soon as is practicable, in writing of any change of medium combustion plant.

4.4 Interpretation

- 4.4.1 In this permit the expressions listed in schedule 6 shall have the meaning given in that schedule.
- 4.4.2 In this permit references to reports and notifications mean written reports and notifications, except where reference is made to notification being made "immediately", in which case it may be provided by telephone.

Schedule 1 – Operations

Table S1.1 activities			
Activity reference	Activity listed in Schedule 1 of the EP Regulations	Description of specified activity and WFD Annex I and II operations	Limits of specified activity and waste types
AR1	S5.4 A(1) (b) (i) Recovery or a mix of recovery and disposal of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 75 tonnes per day (or 100 tonnes per day if the only waste treatment activity is anaerobic digestion) involving biological treatment	R3: Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents	From receipt of waste through to digestion and recovery of by-products (waste treated by digestate). Anaerobic digestion of waste in four tanks followed by burning of biogas produced from the process. Anaerobic digestion shall be limited to 600m³/day. Waste types suitable for acceptance are limited to those specified in Table S2.2.
Directly Associated Activity			
AR2	Storage of waste pending recovery or disposal	R13: Storage of waste pending the operations numbered R1 and R3 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced)	Undertaken in relation to Activity AR1. From the receipt of permitted waste to pre-treatment and despatch for anaerobic digestion on site. Storage of residual wastes from pre-treatment to despatch off-site for recovery. Storage of waste in an enclosed building fitted with appropriate odour abatement and on an impermeable surface with a sealed drainage system. Waste types suitable for acceptance are limited to those specified in Table S2.2.
AR3	Physical treatment for the purpose of recycling	R3: Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents	Undertaken in relation to Activity AR1. From the receipt of waste to despatch for anaerobic digestion or despatch off site for recovery. Pre-treatment of waste in enclosed building fitted with appropriate odour abatement and on an impermeable surface with a sealed drainage system, including shredding, sorting, screening, compaction, baling, mixing and maceration.

Table S1.1 activities			
Activity reference	Activity listed in Schedule 1 of the EP Regulations	Description of specified activity and WFD Annex I and II operations	Limits of specified activity and waste types
			Post-treatment of digestate in an enclosed building fitted with appropriate odour abatement and on an impermeable surface with a sealed drainage system, including separation, screening to remove contraries, centrifuge or pressing and addition of thickening agents (polymers) or drying for use as a fertiliser or soil conditioner (drying for the purpose of use as a fuel is not permitted). Heat treatment (pasteurisation) of waste in four tanks for the purpose of recovery. Gas cleaning by biological or physical (carbon filtration) or chemical scrubbing. Waste types suitable for acceptance are limited to those specified in Table S2.2.
AR4	Steam and electrical power supply	R1: Use principally as a fuel to generate energy	Undertaken in relation to Activity AR1. From the receipt of biogas produced at the on-site anaerobic digestion process to combustion with the release of combustion gases. Combustion of biogas in two combined heat and power (CHP) engines with an aggregated thermal input of 2.688 MWth. Combustion of biogas in three auxiliary boilers with an aggregated thermal input of 2.511 MWth.
AR5	Emergency flare operation	D10: Incineration on land	Undertaken in relation to Activity AR1. From the receipt of biogas produced at the on-site anaerobic digestion process to incineration with the release of combustion gases. There shall be no venting or flaring of gas for disposal.

Table S1.1 activities			
Activity reference	Activity listed in Schedule 1 of the EP Regulations	Description of specified activity and WFD Annex I and II operations	Limits of specified activity and waste types
			Use of one auxiliary flare required only during periods of breakdown or maintenance of the CHP engines, and/or auxiliary boilers.
AR6	Raw material storage	Storage of raw materials including lubrication oil, antifreeze, ferric chloride, activated carbon, diesel.	From the receipt of raw materials to despatch for use within the facility.
AR7	Gas storage	R13: Storage of waste pending any of the operations numbered R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced)	Undertaken in relation to Activity AR1. Storage of biogas produced from on-site anaerobic digestion of permitted waste in two stand-alone tanks or roof space of digesters. From the receipt of biogas produced at the on-site anaerobic digestion process to despatch for use within the facility. Emissions of unburnt biogas shall be minimised.
AR8	Digestate storage	R13: Storage of waste pending any of the operations numbered R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced)	Undertaken in relation to Activity AR1. From the receipt of processed uncertified digestate produced from the on-site anaerobic digestion process to despatch for use off-site. Storage of processed uncertified liquid digestate in two digested sludge buffer tanks. Storage of processed uncertified solid digestate in three cake silos and on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage system.
AR9	Surface water collection and storage	Collection and storage of uncontaminated roof and site surface water	From the collection of uncontaminated roof and site surface water from non-operational areas only to re-use within the facility or discharge off-site.
AR10	Air abatement	Collection and treatment of air from the buildings or plant using abatement system [carbon filter, and wet scrubber]	From the collection of air from site processes to treatment and release of treated air to atmosphere.

Table S1.1 activities			
Activity reference	Activity listed in Schedule 1 of the EP Regulations	Description of specified activity and WFD Annex I and II operations	Limits of specified activity and waste types
		prior to release to atmosphere.	Collection and treatment of air from the buildings, tanks or plant using abatement system – [1x wet scrubber and one standby carbon filter]
Activity reference	Description of activities for waste operations		Limits of activities
A11 – Acceptance of waste at the head of works prior to discharge to the WwTW.	D13: D 13 Blending or mixing prior to submission to any of the operations numbered D 1 to D 12		Operations shall be limited to the import of tankered liquid and sludge waste discharged directly into the head of works. There shall be no treatment of incoming wastes. Discharge of tankered liquid and sludge waste shall take place on an impermeable surface with a sealed drainage system. Waste types as specified in Table 2.3

Table S1.2 Operating techniques		
Description	Parts	Date Received
Application EPR/MP3338LU/V004	Appendix H - Leak Detection and Repair Plan (LDAR) dated 1/7/2022	11/07/2022
Application EPR/MP3338LU/V004 Response to request for further information dated 04/01/2023	Response to section 3a – technical standards, Part C3 of the application form. Best available techniques as described in the BAT Reference Document for Waste Treatment (the BREF) and BAT conclusions. Reading Sludge Treatment Facility Environmental Permit Site Condition Report, dated January 2023.	18/01/2023
Response to request for further information dated 20/01/2023	Reading STC Bioaerosol Risk Assessment date 27/01/2023.	30/01/2023
Response to Schedule 5 Notice dated 02/03/2023	Response to question 8 'Waste water emissions during storm conditions at the WwTW'. Application Variation OMP Reading STW RA. Application Variation OMP Reading STW-OIP.	31/03/2023
Response to request for further information dated 26/04/2023	Figure 2 Installation boundary and air emissions points.	18/05/2023
Response to request for further information dated 23/05/2023	Process flow diagram. Asset Management Asset Standard Odour Management Plan, dated March 2023. Reading STC – Containment Options Report, dated May 2023.	30/05/2023
Response to request for further information dated 02/06/2023	Acceptance of Third-Party Waste Imports, dated 12/06/2023. Acceptance of TWUL Inter-site Sludge, Cake and Sludge Liquors, dated 12/06/2023.	12/06/2023

Table S1.3 Improvement programme requirements		
Reference	Requirement	Date
IC1	The operator shall develop a monitoring plan to be submitted to the Agency in writing, that shall detail the proposed methodology's to be used within the installation to carry out the monitoring of air emissions and performance measure identified within Tables S3.1, S4.1 and S4.4. The methodology for the monitoring of the emissions to air from emission points A1-A5 shall comply with the requirements of Agency monitoring guidance documents: • M1 – Sampling Requirements For Stack Emission Monitoring; • M2 – Monitoring Of Stack Emissions To Air; and • Section 2.10 of Agency Combustion Technical Guidance Note. The plan shall be implemented by the operator from the date of approval in writing by the Agency.	Completed
IC2	A written report shall be submitted to the Agency for approval, detailing the measures to be taken to ensure that the containment for the storage of all liquids, in the tanks detailed below, used at the installation (including drums and IBCs) meet the requirements given in Box 5 of Agency Technical Guidance Note IPPC H7: • Lubrication oil storage tank • Waste lubrication oil storage tank • Gas oil storage tank Special note should be taken of the requirements for fill points and outlets. The plan shall be implemented by the operator from the date of approval in writing by the Agency.	Completed
IC3	A written plan shall be submitted to the Agency for approval detailing the installation of oil/water interceptors or any other pollution prevention measures at the fuel delivery area to prevent contamination of surface water. The operator shall use the guidelines within the Agency Combustion Technical Guidance Note and the Agency PPG03 Guidance Note. The plan shall be implemented by the operator from the date of approval in writing by the Agency.	Completed
IC4	The Operator shall review the level of NOx and SO2 emissions following completion of the monitoring exercise carried out in accordance with IC1 above to determine actual values for the releases to air. The Operator shall use this detailed release data to establish the actual impact on air quality through the use of an appropriate air dispersion model. The results of the review and modelling shall be submitted to the Agency in a written report.	Completed

IC5	A revised Accident Management Plan shall be submitted to the Agency for approval, and the measures to comply with the requirements set out in Section 2.8 of the Agency Combustion Technical Guidance Note, such that environmental accidents are adequately addressed. Where appropriate the plan shall contain dates for the implementation of individual measures. The plan shall be implemented by the operator from the date of approval in writing by the Agency.	Completed
IC6	A written training plan shall be submitted to the Agency for approval, and the measures to comply with the requirements set out in Section 2.3 of the Agency Combustion Technical Guidance Note. The plan shall be implemented by the operator from the date of approval in writing by the Agency.	Completed
IC7	The Operator shall undertake a review to identify all options for reducing the emissions to air to the benchmark standards in the Agency Technical Guidance Note for Combustion and to ensure that the releases to air do not result in a significant contribution to an exceedance of an air quality standard, objective or European Union Limit Value. Where an exceedance of an EU limit Value is predicted and the operations would provide a significant contribution to the exceedance, then the review shall assess whether it is necessary to implement measures beyond indicative BAT in order to ensure that the contribution is minimised. The review shall include, but not be limited to, the primary and secondary measures for the reduction of the relevant pollutants listed in the Agency Technical Guidance Note for Combustion identification of the most appropriate stack height for dispersion of the waste gases and either pre-treatment of fuel or abatement of releases to air post combustion as appropriate. Where measures can be undertaken to limit the impact on air quality in the short term whilst long term solutions are implemented then the report should include proposals for both short term and long term measures as appropriate. The operator shall submit a written report detailing the elements of the review and its conclusions and shall include a programme for implementation of the appropriate measures, including a timetable for their implementation. The programme shall be implemented by the operator from the date of approval in writing by the Agency.	Completed
IC8	A written Site Closure Plan shall be submitted to the Agency for approval, and the measures to comply with the requirements set out in Section 2.11 of the Agency Combustion Technical Guidance Note. The plan shall be implemented by the operator from the date of approval in writing by the Agency.	Completed
Improvement condition for secondary containment design		
IC9	The operator shall submit a written 'secondary containment implementation plan' and shall obtain the Environment Agency's written approval to it. The plan shall contain the finalised designs and an implementation schedule for the identified secondary containment systems proposed in the document, <i>Reading STC – Containment Options Report</i>, dated May 2023. The finalised design(s) and specifications shall be produced by appropriate competent individuals	6 months of permit issue or such other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency

	(qualified civil or structural engineer), in accordance with the risk assessment methodology detailed within CIRIA C736 (2014) guidance. The plan should include but not be limited to the following components: • An updated BAT assessment with specific regard to BAT 19 of the Waste Treatment BREF. • An assessment of the suitability for providing containment when subjected to the dynamic and static loads caused by catastrophic tank failure. • Finalised designs and specifications of the proposed secondary containment proposal completed by appropriate competent individuals. • A program of works with timescales for the commissioning of the secondary containment systems to comply with CIRIA C736 (2014) guidance, or equivalent. • An updated site and infrastructure plan. • A preventative maintenance and inspection regime. The plan shall be implemented in accordance with the Environment Agency's prior written approval.	Implementation of all required and approved containment improvements must be completed by 31/12/2024
Improvement conditions for primary containment tanks		
IC10	The operator shall submit a written 'primary containment plan' and shall obtain the Environment Agency's written approval to it. The plan shall contain the results of an inspection and program of works undertaken by an appropriately qualified engineer and shall assess the extent, design specification and condition of primary containment systems (including associated pipework) where polluting liquids and solids are being stored, treated, and/or handled. The plan shall include: • An assessment of the physical condition of all primary containment systems (storage and treatment vessels and associated pipework) using a Written Scheme of Examination and their suitability for providing primary containment when subjected to dynamic and static loads. • A program of works with timescales for the implementation of individual improvement measures necessary to demonstrate that the primary containment is fit for purpose or alternative appropriate measures to ensure all polluting materials will be contained on site. • A preventative maintenance and inspection regime. The plan shall be implemented in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval.	12 months of permit issue or such other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency.
Improvement conditions for establishing an inventory of liquid waste water discharged from anaerobic digestion and associated activities (AR1 – AR10)		
IC11a	The operator shall submit a sampling programme in relation to waste water streams and shall obtain the Environment Agency's written approval to it. The sampling programme shall be designed to fully characterise the waste water emissions discharged to Reading	A sampling programme shall be submitted within 6

	wastewater treatment works (WwTW) from sampling points S1, S2, and S3 in (table S3.2 of this permit). The programme should include but not be limited to a methodology for a minimum of one 24-hour flow proportional sample a month, for each emission point, for a period of 12 months. The programme shall detail the sampling methods/standards used. Sampling methods shall be in line with BAT conclusion 20 of the Waste Treatment BREF. The programme shall include the National Grid Reference (NGR) of the sampling point(s) location(s). The programme shall establish the characteristics of the liquid waste water streams and shall include as a minimum for each emission point: • Average values and variability of flow, pH, temperature and conductivity. • Average concentration and load values of all relevant substances and their variability. • Data on bioeliminability. The programme shall sample for all relevant substances which must include: • Hydrocarbon oil index (HOI) (mg/l) • Free cyanide (CN⁻) (mg/l) • Adsorbable organically bound halogens (AOX) (mg/l) • Metals and metalloids; arsenic (expressed as As), cadmium (expressed as Cd), chromium (expressed as Cr), hexavalent chromium (expressed as Cr(VI)), copper (expressed as Cu), lead (expressed as Pb), nickel (expressed as Ni), mercury (expressed as Hg), zinc (expressed as Zn) (µg/l) The operator shall submit the collected monitoring data in writing to the Environment Agency according to agreed reporting periods. The sampling programme shall be produced in line with Environment Agency guidance: • Specific substances and priority hazardous substances – <i>Surface water pollution risk for your environmental permit</i> <u>Surface water pollution risk assessment for your environmental permit - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>. • <i>Monitoring discharges to water: guidance on selecting a monitoring approach</i> <u>Monitoring discharges to water: guidance on selecting a monitoring approach - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> The programme must be carried out as approved or agreed in advance in writing by the Environment Agency. The monitoring programme shall be carried out and the monitoring data submitted in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval.	months of issue of this permit
Improvement conditions for indirect discharges to water discharged from anaerobic digestion and associated activities (AR1 – AR10)		
IC11b	The operator shall submit a report for approval by the Environment Agency, following completion of the sampling programme referred to in IC11a. The report shall include but not be limited to; a summary of the	Within 12 months of the Environment Agency's

	sample results, a completed H1 risk assessment(s) and modelling outputs where appropriate. The operator shall provide conclusions on whether the waste waters discharged from S1, S2 and S3 will have any adverse impact on the receiving waters once discharged from Reading WwTW. An assessment shall be made against the parameters specified in the relevant environmental standards as specified within our guidance as follows: • Specific substances and priority hazardous substances – <i>Surface water pollution risk for your environmental permit</i> <u>Surface water pollution risk assessment for your environmental permit - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>. • Sanitary substances – <i>H1 annex D2: assessment of sanitary and other pollutants in surface water discharges 1076_14 H1 Annex D2 - Assessment of sanitary and other pollutants within Surface Water Discharges (publishing.service.gov.uk)</i> The report shall include any proposals and/or additional measures required to prevent or minimise any significant emissions from the installation along with timescales for implementation.	written approval of the sampling programme submitted under IC11a or such other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency
IC11c	The operator shall implement any improvements identified within the report approved under IC11b in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval and provide written confirmation to the Environment Agency that the improvements have been completed.	Within 12 months of the report in relation to IC11b being submitted to the Environment Agency or such other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency
Improvement condition to address methane slip emissions from gas engines burning biogas		
IC12	The operator shall establish the methane emissions in the exhaust gas from engines burning biogas and compare these to the manufacturer's specification agreed in writing with the Environment Agency. The operator shall, as part of the methane leak detection and repair (LDAR) programme, develop proposals to assess the potential for methane slip and take corrective actions where emissions above the manufacturer's specification are identified.	Within 12 months of the permit issue or such other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency
Improvement condition for review of effectiveness of abatement plant		
IC13	The operator shall carry out a review of the abatement plant at emission point A15 on the site plan in schedule 7, to determine whether the measures have been effective and adequate to prevent and where not possible minimise emissions released to air including but not limited to odour and ammonia. The operator shall submit a written report to the Environment Agency following this review for assessment and approval.	6 months of permit issue or such other date as agreed in writing with the Environment Agency

	The report shall include but not be limited to the following aspects: • Full investigation and characterisation of the waste gas streams. • Evidence that the pollutants of the waste gas stream will be controlled and/or abated either by the abatement plant or by the proposed abatement systems. • Abatement stack monitoring results (including but not limited to odour and ammonia). • Abatement process monitoring results (including but not limited to odour and ammonia). • Details of air quality quantitative impact assessment including modelling and a proposal for site-specific “action levels” (not limited to odour concentration, hydrogen sulphide and ammonia). • Odour monitoring results at the site boundary. • Records of odour complaints and odour related incidents. • Recommendations for improvement including the replacement or upgrading of the abatement plant. • Timescales for implementation of improvements to the abatement plant. The operator shall implement the improvements in line with the timescales as approved by the Environment Agency.	
Improvement condition for establishing an inventory of liquid waste water discharged from the Head of works waste operation (AR11)		
IC14a	The operator shall submit a sampling programme in relation to waste water streams and shall obtain the Environment Agency’s written approval to it. The sampling programme shall be designed to fully characterise the waste waters discharged to Reading wastewater treatment works (WwTW) from emission point T5 in (table S3.2 of the permit). The programme should include but not be limited to a methodology for a minimum of one 24-hour flow proportional sample a month, for the emission point, for a period of 12 months. The programme shall detail the sampling methods/standards used. Sampling methods shall be in line with Non-hazardous and inert waste: appropriate measures for permitted facilities (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/non-hazardous-and-inert-waste-appropriate-measures-for-permitted-facilities). The programme shall include the National Grid Reference (NGR) of the sampling point(s) location(s). The programme shall establish the characteristics of the liquid waste water streams and shall include as a minimum for each emission point: • Average values and variability of flow, pH, temperature and conductivity. • Average concentration and load values of all relevant substances and their variability. • Data on bioeliminability.	Within 6 months of issue of the permit

	The operator shall submit the collected monitoring data in writing to the Environment Agency according to agreed reporting periods. The sampling programme shall be produced in line with Environment Agency guidance: • Specific substances and priority hazardous substances – <i>Surface water pollution risk for your environmental permit</i> <u>Surface water pollution risk assessment for your environmental permit - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>. • <i>Monitoring discharges to water: guidance on selecting a monitoring approach</i> <u>Monitoring discharges to water: guidance on selecting a monitoring approach - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u> The monitoring programme shall be carried out and the monitoring data submitted in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval.	
Improvement conditions for indirect discharges to water discharged from the Head of works waste operation (AR11)		
IC14b	The operator shall submit a report for audit and approval by the Environment Agency, following completion of the sampling programme referred to in IC14a. The report shall include but not be limited to; a summary of the sample results, a completed H1 risk assessment(s) and modelling outputs where appropriate. The operator shall provide conclusions on whether the waste waters discharged to T5 will have any adverse impact on the receiving waters once discharged from Reading WwTW. An assessment shall be made against the parameters specified in the relevant environmental standards as specified within our guidance as follows: • Specific substances and priority hazardous substances – <i>Surface water pollution risk for your environmental permit</i> <u>Surface water pollution risk assessment for your environmental permit - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</u>. • Sanitary substances – <i>H1 annex D2: assessment of sanitary and other pollutants in surface water discharges</i> <u>1076 14 H1 Annex D2 - Assessment of sanitary and other pollutants within Surface Water Discharges (publishing.service.gov.uk)</u> The report shall include any proposals and/or additional measures required to prevent or minimise any significant emissions from the installation along with timescales for implementation.	Within 12 months of the Environment Agency's written approval of the sampling programme submitted under IC14a or such other date as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency
IC14c	The operator shall implement the improvements identified within the report approved under IC14b in accordance with the Environment Agency's written approval and provide written confirmation to the Environment Agency that the improvements have been completed.	Within 6 months of the report in relation to IC14b being submitted to the Environment Agency or such other date as agreed

		in writing with the Environment Agency
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Schedule 2 – Waste types, raw materials and fuels

Table S2.1 Raw materials and fuels	
Raw materials and fuel description	Specification
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Table S2.2 Permitted waste types and quantities for anaerobic digestion (AR1 – AR10)	
Maximum quantity	Annual throughput shall not exceed 915,000 tonnes
Exclusions	Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted: • Biodegradable wastes that is significantly contaminated with non-compostable or digestible contaminants, in particular plastic and litter shall be no more than 5% w/w and shall be as low as reasonably practicable by 31 December 2025. • Wastes containing wood-preserving agents or other biocides and post-consumer wood. • Wastes containing persistent organic pollutants. • Wastes containing Japanese Knotweed or other invasive plant species listed in the Invasive Species (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. • Manures, slurries and spoiled bedding and straw from farms where animals have notifiable diseases as stipulated in the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013. • Pest infested waste.
Waste code	Description
19	Wastes 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 physico/chemical treatments of waste (including dechromatation, decyanidation, neutralisation)
19 02 06	sludges from physico/chemical treatment other than those mentioned in 19 02 05 (sewage sludge only)
19 06	wastes from anaerobic treatment of waste
19 06 06	digestate from anaerobic treatment of animal and vegetable waste (digested sewage sludge only)
19 08	wastes from waste water treatment plants not otherwise specified
19 08 05	sludges from the treatment of urban waste water
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 (sewage sludge only) subjected to mechanical treatment only from a process that treats waste which are listed in this table, Table S2.3

Table S2.3 Permitted waste types and quantities for Non-Hazardous Waste Storage and Treatment (AR11)

Maximum quantity	Annual throughput shall not exceed 100,000 tonnes per annum
Exclusions	Wastes having any of the following characteristics shall not be accepted: • Wastes containing persistent organic pollutants. • Wastes containing Japanese Knotweed or other invasive plant species listed in the Invasive Species (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. • Manures, slurries and spoiled bedding and straw from farms where animals have notifiable diseases as stipulated in the Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations 2013. • Pest infested waste. • Hazardous waste • Solid wastes (only wastes of liquid free flowing form shall be accepted)
Waste code	Description
16	Wastes not otherwise specified in the list
16 10	aqueous liquid wastes destined for off-site treatment
16 10 02	Aqueous liquid wastes other than those mentioned in 16 10 01

Schedule 3 – Emissions and monitoring

Table S3.1 Point source emissions to air – emission limits and monitoring requirements						
Emission point ref. & location	Source	Parameter	Limit (including unit)	Reference period	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method
Point A1 on site plan in Schedule 7	CHP engine 1 stack [note 1]	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO ₂ expressed as NO ₂)	1,033 mg/m ³ [Note 2]	--	Annual	BS EN 14792
Point A2 on site plan in Schedule 7	CHP engine 2 stack [note 1]	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO ₂ expressed as NO ₂)	1,033 mg/m ³ [Note 2]	--	Annual	BS EN 14792
Point A1 on site plan in Schedule 7	CHP engine 1 stack [note 1]	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO ₂ expressed as NO ₂)	500 mg/m ³ [note 3]	Average over sample period	Annual	BS EN 14792
		Sulphur dioxide	162 mg/m ³ [note 3]			BS EN 14791 or CEN TS 17021 or by calculation based on fuel sulphur
		Carbon monoxide	1400 mg/m ³ [note 3]			BS EN 15058
		Total VOCs	No limit set [note 3]	--	--	BS EN 12619
Point A2 on site plan in Schedule 7	CHP engine 2 stack [note 1]	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO ₂ expressed as NO ₂)	500 mg/m ³ [note 3]	Average over sample period	Annual	BS EN 14792
		Sulphur dioxide	162 mg/m ³ [note 3]			BS EN 14791 or CEN TS 17021 or by calculation based on fuel sulphur
		Carbon monoxide	1400 mg/m ³ [note 3]			BS EN 15058
		Total VOCs	No limit set [note 3]	--	--	BS EN 12619

Table S3.1 Point source emissions to air – emission limits and monitoring requirements						
Emission point ref. & location	Source	Parameter	Limit (including unit)	Reference period	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method
Point A3 on site plan in Schedule 7	Boiler 2a stack [burning biogas or gas oil] [note 1]	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO ₂ expressed as NO ₂)	150 mg/m ³	--	Annual	BS EN 14792
Point A4 on site plan in Schedule 7	Boiler 2b stack [burning biogas or gas oil] [note 1]	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO ₂ expressed as NO ₂)	150 mg/m ³	--	Annual	BS EN 14792
Point A5 on site plan in Schedule 7	Boiler 2c stack [burning biogas or gas oil] [note 1]	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO ₂ expressed as NO ₂)	150 mg/m ³	--	Annual	BS EN 14792
Point A6 on site plan in schedule 7	Emergency flare stack [note 1]	Oxides of Nitrogen (NO and NO ₂ expressed as NO ₂)	150 mg/m ³	Average over sample period	[note 4]	BS EN 14792
		Carbon monoxide	50 mg/m ³			BS EN 15058
		Total VOCs	10 mg/m ³			BS EN 12619
Point A15 on site plan in schedule 7	Channelled emissions such as odour abatement stack [note 6]	Hydrogen sulphide	No limit set	Average over sample period	Once every 6 months	CEN TS 13649 for sampling NIOSH 6013 for analysis
		Ammonia	20 mg/m ³	Average over sample period	Once every 6 months	EN ISO 21877
		Odour concentration	No limit set	--	Once every 6 months	BS EN 13725
Point A15 on site plan in schedule 7	Channelled emissions to air from treatment of water-based liquid waste	Hydrogen chloride (HCl) [note 5]	5 mg/m ³ [note 5]	Average over sample period	Once every 6 months	EN 1911
		TVOC	20 mg/m ³ [note 5]	Average over sample period	Once every 6 months	EN 12619
Pressure relief valves [Point A11 – A14 on site plan in schedule 7]	Digesters	Biogas release and operational events	No limit set	Recorded duration and frequency	Daily inspection	--
Pressure relief valves [Point A9 & A10 on site]	Biogas holder	Biogas release and operational events	No limit set	Recorded duration and frequency	Daily inspection	--

Table S3.1 Point source emissions to air – emission limits and monitoring requirements						
Emission point ref. & location	Source	Parameter	Limit (including unit)	Reference period	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method
plan in schedule 7						
Vents from tanks	Oil/Fuel Storage tank	No parameter set	No limit set	--	--	--
Note 1 – These emission limits are based on normal operating conditions and load - temperature 0°C (273 K); pressure 101.3 kPa and oxygen 5% (for gas engines burning biogas) and oxygen 3% (for emergency flares and medium combustion plants other than engines and gas turbines burning biogas or gas oil such as boilers). Note 2 – This emission limit applies until 31 December 2029, unless the gas engine is replaced. Note 3 – This emission limit applies from 1 January 2030, unless otherwise advised by the Environment Agency. Note 4 – Monitoring to be undertaken in the event the emergency flare has been operational for more than 10 per cent of a year (876 hours). Record of operating hours to be submitted annually to the Environment Agency. Note 5 – Monitoring and limits only apply where the substance concerned is identified as relevant in the waste gas inventory IC13. Note 6 -The monitoring of NH3 and H2S can be used as an alternative to the monitoring of the odour concentration.						

Table S3.2 Point source emissions to sewer, effluent treatment plant or other transfers off-site – emission limits and monitoring requirements						
Emission point ref. & location	Source	Parameter [Note 1]	Limit (incl. unit) [Note 1]	Reference Period	Monitoring frequency [Note 2]	Monitoring standard or method
S1, S2 and S3 on site plan in schedule 7 emission to River Kennet via Reading WwTW	Post digestion liquors, SAS thickener liquors and sludge dewatering centrifuge liquors	Oil and grease	No visible oil or grease	--	Weekly	Visual assessment
		Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene (BTEX)	--	Spot sample or flow-proportional composite sample	Once every month	EN ISO 15680
		Hydrocarbon oil index (HOI)	10 mg/l		Once every day	EN ISO 9377-2
		Free cyanide (CN ⁻)	0.1 mg/l			EN ISO 14403-1 or EN ISO 14403-2
		Adsorbable organically bound halogens (AOX)	1 mg/l			EN ISO 9562
		Arsenic (As)	0.1 mg/l	Spot sample or flow-proportional composite sample	Once every day	EN ISO 11885, EN ISO 17294-2 or EN ISO 15586
		Cadmium (Cd)	0.1 mg/l			
		Chromium (Cr)	0.3 mg/l			

Table S3.2 Point source emissions to sewer, effluent treatment plant or other transfers off-site – emission limits and monitoring requirements						
Emission point ref. & location	Source	Parameter [Note 1]	Limit (incl. unit) [Note 1]	Reference Period	Monitoring frequency [Note 2]	Monitoring standard or method
		Copper (Cu)	0.5 mg/l			
		Lead (Pb)	0.3 mg/l			
		Nickel (Ni)	1 mg/l			
		Zinc (Zn)	2 mg/l			
		Mercury (Hg)	10 µg/l	Spot sample or flow-proportional composite sample	Once every day	EN ISO 17852 or EN ISO 12846
		Manganese (Mn)	--			EN ISO 11885, EN ISO 17294-2 or EN ISO 15586
		Hexavalent chromium (Cr(VI))	0.1 mg/l			EN ISO 10304-3 or EN ISO 23913
		PFOA and PFOS	--		Once every six months	--
T4 on site plan in schedule 7 emission to River [Reading WwTW]	Uncontaminated site surface water from roofs and non-operational areas	Oil and grease	No visible oil or grease	--	Weekly	Visual assessment
T5 on site plan in schedule 7 emission to River [Reading WwTW]	Discharge of tankered effluent to the head of works	-- [Note 3]	-- [Note 3]	-- [Note 3]	-- [Note 3]	-- [Note 3]
Note 1 – Monitoring and limits only apply where the substance concerned is identified as relevant in the waste water inventory as determined by improvement condition IC11b Note 2 – Monitoring frequency as specified unless the Environment Agency has agreed in writing other alternative appropriate monitoring frequencies. Note 3 – Emission limits and monitoring requirements to be set following the completion of IC14a, IC14b and IC14c.						

Table S3.3 Process monitoring requirements				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
Digester feed (digestion process)	pH	As described in site operating techniques	As described in site operating techniques	Process monitoring to be recorded using a SCADA system where relevant.
	Alkalinity			
	Temperature			
	Hydraulic loading rate			
	Organic loading rate			
	Volatile fatty acids concentration			
	Ammonia			
	Liquid /foam level			
Biogas in digester & Biogas storage holders	Flow	Continuous	In accordance with EU weights and measures Regulations	Process monitoring to be recorded using a SCADA system where relevant.
	Methane	Continuous	None specified	Gas monitors to be calibrated every 6 months or in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
	CO ₂	Continuous	None specified	
	O ₂	Continuous	None specified	
	Hydrogen sulphide	Daily	None specified	
	Pressure	Continuous	None specified	
Digestate batch	Volatile fatty acids concentration	One sample at the end of each batch (hydraulic retention time) cycle.	As described in site operating techniques	--
	Ammonia			
Digesters and storage tanks	Integrity checks	Weekly	Visual assessment	In accordance with design specification and tank integrity checks.
Digesters	Agitation /mixing	Continuous	Systems controls	Records maintained in daily operational records.
	Tank capacity and sediment assessment	Once every 5 years from date of commission	Non-destructive pressure testing integrity assessment every 5 years or as specified	In accordance with design specification and tank integrity checks.

Table S3.3 Process monitoring requirements				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
			by manufacturers technical specification.	
Waste reception building or area; Digesters and storage tanks	Odour	Daily	Olfactory monitoring	Odour detection at the site boundary.
Diffuse emissions from all sources identified in the Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) programme	VOCs including methane	Every 6 months or otherwise agreed in accordance with the LDAR programme	BS EN 15446 In accordance with the LDAR programme	Monitoring points as specified in a DSEAR risk assessment and LDAR programme. Limit as agreed with the Environment Agency as a percentage of the overall gas production.
CHP engine stacks	VOCs including methane	Annually	BS EN 12619	Total annual VOCs emissions from the CHP engine(s) to be calculated and submitted to the Environment Agency.
	Exhaust gas temperature		Traceable to National Standards	--
	Exhaust gas pressure		Traceable to National Standards	--
	Exhaust gas water vapour content		BS EN 14790-1	Unless gas is dried before analysis of emissions.
	Exhaust gas oxygen		BS EN 14789	--
	Exhaust gas flow		BS EN 16911-1	--
Meteorological conditions	Wind speed, air temperature, wind direction	Continuous	Method as specified in management system	Conditions to be recorded in operational diary and records. Equipment shall be calibrated on a 4 monthly basis,

Table S3.3 Process monitoring requirements				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
				in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
Emergency flare	Operating hours	Continuous	Recorded duration and frequency. Recording using a SCADA system or similar system	Date, time and duration of use of auxiliary flare shall be recorded.
	Quantity of gas sent to emergency flare			Quantity can be estimated from gas flow composition, heat content, ratio of assistance, velocity, purge gas flow rate, pollutant emissions.
Pressure relief valves and vacuum systems	Gas pressure	Continuous	Recording using a SCADA system	Continuous gas pressure shall be monitored.
	Re-seating	Weekly inspection	Visual	Operator must ensure that valves are re-seated after release in accordance with the manufacturer's design.
	Inspection, maintenance, calibration, repair and validation	Following foaming or overtopping or at 3 yearly intervals whichever is sooner	Written scheme of examination in accordance with condition 1.1.1	After a foaming event or sticking, build-up of debris, obstructions or damage, operator must ensure that pressure relief valve function remains within designed gas pressure in accordance with the manufacturer's design by suitably trained and qualified personnel.

Table S3.3 Process monitoring requirements				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
	Inspection, calibration and validation report	In accordance with design and construction specifications or after over topping or foaming event	Written scheme of examination in accordance with condition 1.1.1	Operator must ensure that valves are re-seated after release, after a foaming event or sticking, build-up of debris, obstructions or damage. Operator must ensure that PRV function remains within designed operation gas pressure in accordance with the manufacturer's design by suitably trained/qualified personnel. Inspection, calibration and validation report. In accordance with industry Approved Code of Practice
Storage tanks	Volume	Daily	Visual or flow meter measurement	.Records of volume must be maintained.

Table S3.4 Process monitoring requirements – odour abatement				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
Odour abatement plant				
Scrubbers (water/chemical/dry)				
Scrubber 1 (A15 on site plan in schedule 7)	Gas temperature – inlet and outlet	Continuous	Temperature probe / Traceable to national standards	Odour abatement plant shall be regularly checked and maintained to ensure appropriate temperature and moisture content.
	Gas flow rate – inlet and outlet	Continuous	Gas flow meter / EN 16911-1 and MID for EN 16911-1	

Table S3.4 Process monitoring requirements – odour abatement				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
	Moisture content or humidity – inlet and outlet (for dry scrubbers only)	Daily	Moisture meter	Odour abatement plant shall be managed in accordance with permit condition 3.3, the odour management plan and manufacturer's recommendations. Equipment shall be calibrated on a 4 monthly basis, or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
	Moisture content or humidity – outlet (for wet scrubbers if used before other abatement systems)	Daily	Moisture meter	
	Back pressure	Weekly	Pressure differential using sensors	
	Efficiency assessment	Annual	Emission removal efficiency (BS EN 13725 for odour removal)	
	pH scrubber solution (pre-abatement)	Continuous	pH meter	
	pH scrubber solution (post-abatement)	Continuous	pH meter	
	Hydrogen sulphide – inlet and outlet gas stream	Every 6 months or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.	CEN TS 13649 for sampling NIOSH 6013 for analysis	
	Ammonia – inlet	Every 6 months or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.	EN ISO 21877	Action levels to be agreed on completion of IC13 as approved in writing by the Environment Agency. Action levels to be achieved in accordance with permit condition 3.2 and the odour management plan.
	Ammonia – inlet	Every 6 months or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.	EN ISO 21877	Action levels to be agreed on completion of IC13 as approved

Table S3.4 Process monitoring requirements – odour abatement				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
				in writing by the Environment Agency. Action levels to be achieved in accordance with permit condition 3.2 and the odour management plan.
Carbon filters				
Carbon filter (A15 on site plan in schedule 7)	Carbon bed temperature – inlet and outlet	Continuous	Temperature probe	Odour abatement plant shall be managed in accordance with permit condition 3.3, the odour management plan and manufacturer's recommendations.
	Gas flow rate – inlet and outlet	Continuous	Gas flow meter	
	Moisture or humidity	Daily	Moisture meter	
	Back pressure	Weekly	Recognised industry method	
	Efficiency assessment	Annual	Emission removal efficiency (BS EN 13725 for odour removal)	Carbon filter to be replaced in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Equipment shall be calibrated on a 4 monthly basis, or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
	Hydrogen sulphide – inlet and outlet gas stream	Every 6 months or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.	CEN TS 13649 for sampling NIOSH 6013 for analysis	Action levels to be agreed on completion of ICX13 as approved in writing by the Environment Agency. Action levels to be achieved in accordance with permit condition 3.2 and the odour management plan

Table S3.4 Process monitoring requirements – odour abatement				
Emission point reference or source or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
	Ammonia – inlet	Every 6 months or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.	EN ISO 21877	Action levels to be agreed on completion of IC13 as approved in writing by the Environment Agency. Action levels to be achieved in accordance with permit condition 3.2 and the odour management plan.
	Odour concentration – inlet and outlet gas stream	Every 6 months or as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.	BS EN 13725	Action levels to be agreed on completion of IC13 as approved in writing by the Environment Agency. Action levels to be achieved in accordance with permit condition 3.2 and the odour management plan.

Table S3.5 Bioaerosols monitoring requirements – ambient monitoring					
Location or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Bioaerosols action levels (CFU m ⁻³)	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
Upwind of the operational area, as described in the Technical	Total bacteria	1000 ^{Note 1}	Quarterly for the first year of operation and twice a year thereafter, unless another frequency is agreed	In accordance with Technical Guidance Note M9 – Environmental monitoring of	As described in the Technical Guidance Note M9, including all the

Table S3.5 Bioaerosols monitoring requirements – ambient monitoring					
Location or description of point of measurement	Parameter	Bioaerosols action levels (CFU m ⁻³)	Monitoring frequency	Monitoring standard or method	Other specifications
Guidance Note M9 Downwind of the operational area, as described in the Technical Guidance Note M9	Aspergillus Fumigatus	500 ^{Note 1}	in writing by the Environment Agency ^{Note 2}	bioaerosols at regulated facilities.	additional data requirements specified therein.
Note 1 – The bioaerosols action levels are only applicable at downwind sampling locations equivalent to the distance of the nearest sensitive receptor. Where these action levels are elevated, the operator must take action to mitigate the impact on sensitive receptors. Assessment of compliance will be based on risk and in line with guidance. Note 2. Where the bioaerosols action levels are exceeded, then monitoring remain quarterly until such time that it is demonstrated that the site has adequate mitigation for a 12 month period.					

Table S3.6 Emissions to sewer, effluent treatment plant or other transfers off-site – Monitoring points			
Effluent(s) and discharge point(s)	Monitoring type	Monitoring point NGR	Monitoring point reference
T1 on site plan in schedule 7 emission to River Kennet [Reading WwTW]	Effluent monitoring	SU 70715 70637	Point S1 [Discharge to WwTW] in Schedule 7
T2 on site plan in schedule 7 emission to River Kennet [Reading WwTW]	Effluent monitoring	SU 70685 70588	Point S2 [Discharge to WwTW] in Schedule 7
T3 on site plan in schedule 7 emission to River Kennet [Reading WwTW]	Effluent monitoring	SU 70692 70585	Point S3 [Discharge to WwTW] in Schedule 7
T4 on site plan in schedule 7 emission to River Kennet [Reading WwTW]	Effluent monitoring	SU 70768 70652	Point T4 [Discharge to WwTW] in Schedule 7
T5 on site plan in schedule 7 emission to River Kennet [Reading WwTW]	Effluent monitoring	SU 70893 70751	Point T5 [Discharge to WwTW] in Schedule 7

Schedule 4 – Reporting

Parameters, for which reports shall be made, in accordance with conditions of this permit, are listed below.

Table S4.1 Reporting of monitoring data			
Parameter	Emission or monitoring point/reference	Reporting period	Period begins
Emissions to air from CHP engines and boilers Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1.	A1, A2, A3, A4 and A5	Every 12 months	1 January
Emissions to air from odour abatement plant Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1.	A15	Every 6 months	1 January, 1 July
IC13 for effectiveness of air abatement systems for waste water treatment plant. Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1.	A15	Every 6 months	1 January, 1 July
Emissions to sewer Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1	S1, S2, S3 and T5	Upon completion of IC11 and IC 14	Upon completion of IC11 and IC14
Process monitoring – digester tank integrity Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1	As specified in schedule 3 table S3.3	Every 5 years from the date of commissioning or as per the manufacturer's recommendation, whichever is sooner	1 January
Process monitoring – under and over pressure relief systems Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1	As specified in schedule 3 table S3.3	Every 12 months Yearly summary report of over-pressure and under-pressure events detailing mass balance release	1 January
Process monitoring – leak detection and repair (inspection, calibration and maintenance) Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1	As specified in schedule 3 table S3.3	Every 3 years	1 January
Process monitoring – use of emergency flare Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1	As specified in schedule 3 table S3.3	Every 12 months	1 January
Total annual VOCs emissions from gas engines (calculated)	As specified in schedule 3 table S3.3	Every 12 months	1 January
Bioaerosols monitoring Parameters as required by condition 3.5.1	As specified in schedule 3 table S3.5	Every 3 months or as agreed in writing by the	1 January, 1 April, 1 July, 1 October

Table S4.1 Reporting of monitoring data			
Parameter	Emission or monitoring point/reference	Reporting period	Period begins
		Environment Agency	

Table S4.2 Annual production/treatment	
Parameter	Units
Electricity generated	MWh
Liquid digestate	m ³
Solid digestate	tonnes
Recovered outputs	tonnes or m ³

Table S4.3 Performance parameters		
Parameter	Frequency of assessment	Units
Water usage	Annually	tonnes or m ³
Energy usage	Annually	MWh
Raw material usage	Annually	tonnes or m ³
Emergency flare operation	Annually	hours
Electricity exported	Annually	MWh
CHP engine usage	Annually	hours
CHP engine efficiency	Annually	%
Auxiliary boiler usage	Annually	hours

Table S4.4 Reporting forms		
Media/parameter	Reporting format	Date of form
Air	Form air 1 or other form as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency	25/07/2023
Bioaerosols	As specified in the Technical Guidance Note M9 or other form as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency	--
Process monitoring	Form process 1 or other form as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency	25/07/2023
Sewer	Form sewer 1 or other form as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency	25/07/2023
Energy usage	Form energy 1 or other form as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency	25/07/2023
Other performance indicators	Form performance 1 or other form as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency	25/07/2023
Waste returns	E-waste Return Form or other form as agreed in writing by the Environment Agency	--

Schedule 5 – Notification

These pages outline the information that the operator must provide.

Units of measurement used in information supplied under Part A and B requirements shall be appropriate to the circumstances of the emission. Where appropriate, a comparison should be made of actual emissions and authorised emission limits.

If any information is considered commercially confidential, it should be separated from non-confidential information, supplied on a separate sheet and accompanied by an application for commercial confidentiality under the provisions of the EP Regulations.

Part A

Permit Number	
Name of operator	
Location of Facility	
Time and date of the detection	

(a) Notification requirements for 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	
To be notified within 24 hours of detection	
Date and time of the event	
Reference or description of the location of the event	
Description of where any release into the environment took place	
Substances(s) potentially released	
Best estimate of the quantity or rate of release of substances	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to stop any emission	
Description of the failure or accident.	

(b) Notification requirements for the breach of a limit	
To be notified within 24 hours of detection unless otherwise specified below	
Emission point reference/ source	
Parameter(s)	
Limit	
Measured value and uncertainty	
Date and time of monitoring	

(b) Notification requirements for the breach of a limit	
To be notified within 24 hours of detection unless otherwise specified below	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to stop the emission	

Time periods for notification following detection of a breach of a limit	
Parameter	Notification period

(c) Notification requirements for the detection of any significant adverse environmental effect	
To be notified within 24 hours of detection	
Description of where the effect on the environment was detected	
Substances(s) detected	
Concentrations of substances detected	
Date of monitoring/sampling	

Part B – to be submitted as soon as practicable

Any more accurate information on the matters for notification under Part A.	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to prevent a recurrence of the incident	
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to rectify, limit or prevent any pollution of the environment which has been or may be caused by the emission	
The dates of any unauthorised emissions from the facility in the preceding 24 months.	

Name*	
Post	
Signature	
Date	

* authorised to sign on behalf of the operator

Schedule 6 – Interpretation

“accident” means an accident that may result in pollution.

“anaerobic digestion” means a process of controlled decomposition of biodegradable materials under managed conditions where free oxygen is absent, at temperatures suitable for naturally occurring mesophilic or thermophilic anaerobes and facultative anaerobe bacteria species, which convert the inputs to a methane-rich biogas and whole digestate.

“animal waste” means any waste consisting of animal matter that has not been processed into food for human consumption.

“application” means the application for this permit, together with any additional information supplied by the operator as part of the application and any response to a notice served under Schedule 5 to the EP Regulations.

“appropriate abatement system” means the appropriate treatment technique for channelled emissions to air defined in 6.6.1 ‘Channelled emissions to air’ from the ‘Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document for Waste Treatment’.

“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.

“Best available techniques” means the most effective and advanced stage in the development of activities and their methods of operation which indicates the practical suitability of particular techniques for providing the basis for emission limit values and other permit conditions designed to prevent and, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions and the impact on the environment as a whole:

(a) ‘techniques’ includes both the technology used and the way in which the installation is designed, built, maintained, operated and decommissioned;

(b) ‘available techniques’ means those developed on a scale which allows implementation in the relevant industrial sector, under economically and technically viable conditions, taking into consideration the costs and advantages, whether or not the techniques are used or produced inside the Member State in question, as long as they are reasonably accessible to the operator;

(c) ‘best’ means most effective in achieving a high general level of protection of the environment as a whole.

“bioaerosols action levels” mean the acceptable bioaerosols concentrations at the nearest sensitive receptor, or at an equivalent distance downwind of the biowaste treatment operations, which are attributable to the biowaste treatment operations. The acceptable concentrations are respectively 1000 and 500 CFU m⁻³ for total bacteria and *Aspergillus fumigatus*. Where these action levels are elevated, the operator must take action to mitigate the impact on sensitive receptors.

“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.

“building” means a construction that has the objective of providing sheltering cover and minimising emissions of noise, particulate matter, odour and litter.

“BREF” means Best Available Techniques (BAT) Reference Document.

“Capacity” means the potential capacity and not historical or actual production levels or throughput. This means that the designed capacity is the maximum rate at which the site can operate. 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. For in-vessel composting, the residence time for sanitisation should be calculated separately and then aggregated to the complete composting time. Further guidance [‘RGN2: Understanding the meaning of regulated facility Definition of regulated facility’](#) is available.

“channelled emissions” means the emissions of pollutants into the environment through any kind of duct, pipe, stack, etc. This also includes emissions from open top biofilters.

“combined heat and power” (CHP) or Cogeneration means the simultaneous generation in one process of thermal energy and electrical or mechanical energy.

“competent persons and resources” means that a technically competent person accredited to a relevant scheme must attend site and record their attendance, and that all roles and responsibilities are clearly stated in the management systems along with records of operatives’ training. See the guidance on the [level of competence and duration of attendance](#)

“compost” means 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 waste containing packaging or non-packaging items (or both) with a valid certificate of conformity to EN 13432 or an equivalent standard for compostable and digestible items, the certificate issued by an independent certification body capable of fully biodegrading by a biological process to create compost or digest.

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

“direct discharge” means discharge to a receiving water body.

“diffuse emissions” mean non-channelled emissions (e.g. of dust, organic compounds, odour) which can result in ‘area’ sources (e.g. tanks) or ‘point’ sources (e.g. pipe flanges). This also includes emissions from open-air windrow composting.

“digestate” means material resulting from an anaerobic digestion process.

“disposal” means any of the operations provided for in Annex I to Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste.

“DSEAR” means the Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002.

“emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits” means emissions of substances to air, water or land from the activities, either from the emission points specified in schedule 3 or from other localised or diffuse sources, which are not controlled by an emission limit.

“emissions to land” includes emissions to groundwater.

“EP Regulations” means The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations SI 2016 No.1154 and words and expressions used in this permit which are also used in the Regulations have the same meanings as in those Regulations.

“existing medium combustion plant” means an MCP which was put into operation before 20 December 2018.

“generator” means any combustion plant which is used to generate electricity, excluding mobile, unless it is connected to the national grid.

“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.

“head of works” means the discharge location where imported wastes are discharged into the WwTW. The waste operations associated with the head of works is either via the direct discharge of tankered waste into the WwTW or the temporary storage of waste in a storage tank before discharge of waste into the WwTW. The waste water treatment works are operated under the requirements of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive.

“impermeable surface” means a surface or pavement constructed and maintained to a standard sufficient to prevent the transmission of liquids beyond the pavement surface.

“Indirect discharge” means a discharge to a sewer or off-site waste water treatment plant.

“Industrial Emissions Directive” and/or “IED” means DIRECTIVE 2010/75/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 24 November 2010 on industrial emissions, as read in accordance with Schedule 1A to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

“Leak detection and repair (LDAR) programme” means a structured approach to reduce fugitive emissions of organic compounds by detection and subsequent repair or replacement of leaking components. Currently, sniffing (described by EN 15446) and optical gas imaging methods are available for the identification of leaks as set out in BAT 14 and section 6.6.2 of the Waste Treatment BAT Conclusions.

“maturation” means optional period of treatment or storage of separated fibre digestate under predominantly aerobic conditions.

“MCERTS” means the Environment Agency’s Monitoring Certification Scheme.

“medium combustion plant” or “MCP” means a combustion plant with a rated thermal input equal to or greater than 1 MW but less than 50 MW.

“Medium Combustion Plant Directive” or “MCPD” means Directive 2015/2193/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council on the limitation of emissions of certain pollutants into the air from medium combustion plants, as read in accordance with Schedule 1A to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

“new medium combustion plant” means an MCP which was put into operation after 20 December 2018. This includes replacement MCP and Generators.

“operational area” means any part of a facility used for the handling, storing and treatment of waste.

“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.

“PFOA” means Perfluorooctanoic acid.

“PFOS” means Perfluorooctanesulphonic acid.

“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.

“quarter” means a calendar year quarter commencing on 1 January, 1 April, 1 July or 1 October.

“recovery” means any of the operations provided for in Annex II to Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste.

“sanitisation” means the actively managed and intensive stage of composting, lasting for at least 5 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. The operator also needs to meet ABPR requirements.

“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:

- no liquids will run off the surface otherwise than via the system
- all liquids entering the system are collected in a sealed sump, except where liquids may be lawfully discharged to foul sewer.

“specified generator” means a group of generators other than excluded between 1 and 50 megawatts or less than 50 megawatts as defined in Schedule 25B(2) of SI 2018 No.110 of the EPR.

“stable” and/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.

“VOC” means Volatile organic compounds as defined in Article 3(45) of Directive 2010/75/EU – ‘volatile organic compound’ means any organic compound as well as the fraction of creosote, having at 293.15K a vapour pressure of 0.01 kPa or more, or having a corresponding volatility under the particular conditions of use.

“Waste code” means the six-digit code referable to a type of waste in accordance with the List of Wastes (England) Regulations 2005, or List of Wastes (Wales) Regulations 2005, as appropriate, and in relation to hazardous waste, includes the asterisk.

“Waste Framework Directive” and/or “WFD” means Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste, as read in accordance with Schedule 1A to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

Where a minimum limit is set for any emission parameter, for example pH, reference to exceeding the limit shall mean that the parameter shall not be less than that limit.

Unless otherwise stated, any references in this permit to concentrations of substances in emissions into air means:

- in relation to emissions from combustion processes, the concentration in dry air at a temperature of 273K, at a pressure of 101.3 kPa and with an oxygen content of 3% dry for liquid fuels and gaseous fuels, 6% dry for solid fuels; and/or
- in relation to emissions from non-combustion sources, the concentration at a temperature of 273K and at a pressure of 101.3 kPa, with no correction for water vapour content.

“year” means a calendar year ending on 31 December.

Annex 1 of MCP

1. Rated thermal input (MW) of the medium combustion plant.	CHP 1- 1.344 MWth CHP 2 - 1.344 MWth
2. Type of the medium combustion plant (diesel engine, gas turbine, dual fuel engine, other engine or other medium combustion plant).	2 x CHP engines on Biogas
3. Type and share of fuels used according to the fuel categories laid down in Annex II.	Gaseous fuels other than natural gas
4. Date of the start of the operation of the medium combustion plant or, where the exact date of the start of the operation is unknown, proof of the fact that the operation started before 20 December 2018.	CHP 1 - 2006 CHP 2 - 2006
5. Sector of activity of the medium combustion plant or the facility in which it is applied (NACE code).	37.00
6. Expected number of annual operating hours of the medium combustion plant and average load in use.	CHP 1- 8,760 hours per year CHP 2 - 8,760 hours per year
7. Where the option of exemption under Article 6(3) or Article 6(8) is used, a declaration signed by the operator that the medium combustion plant will not be operated more than the number of hours referred to in those paragraphs.	N/A
8. Name and registered office of the operator and, in the case of stationary medium combustion plants, the address where the plant is located.	Company name and registered office: Thames Water Utilities Limited, Clearwater Court, Vastern Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG1 8DB Address where the plant is located: Thames Water Utilities Limited Reading Sludge Treatment Centre, Reading Sewage Treatment Works, Island Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 0RP

END OF PERMIT