

# **Standard Rules SR2 (2013) – Unloading of Petrol into Storage at Service Stations from Mobile Containers and Motor Vehicle Refuelling Activities (Petrol Vapour Recovery Stages I & II)**

## **Introductory note**

This introductory note does not form part of these standard rules

When referred to in a permit, these rules will allow the operator to operate an installation undertaking the specified activities, at the specified location, provided that the permitted activities are not carried out within a European Site, Ramsar site or a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

These standard rules cover the unloading of petrol from mobile containers, such as road tankers, into stationary storage tanks at a service station (Stage I), and the refuelling of motor vehicles at service stations (Stage II). Deliveries of petrol can occur at any time and may occur outside normal operating hours.

The Rules have been developed with reference to Process Guidance Note 1/14(06) Unloading of Petrol into Storage at Petrol Stations. The Rules must be read in conjunction with the latest version of this guidance note as it provides the full details of the operating requirements. The Rules may be found on SEPA's website at [www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/pollution-prevention-and-control/ppc-part-b-activities/petrol-stations/](http://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/pollution-prevention-and-control/ppc-part-b-activities/petrol-stations/)

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**End of introductory note**

## Standard Rules

### 1. Permitted Activities

- 1.1 The operator is permitted to carry out the activities specified in Table 1 below ("the activities").

**Table 1 – Activities**

Description of activities
<p>The activities fall within Schedule 1 Chapter 1 Section 1.2 of the Regulations, namely:</p> <p>Part B (b)(ii) – the unloading of petrol into stationary storage tanks at a service station where the total quantity of petrol unloaded into such tanks at the service station in any 12 month period is likely to be equal or greater than 500 m<sup>3</sup> (500 000 litres).</p> <p><b>And one of the following activities:</b></p> <p>Part B (c) – motor vehicle refuelling activities at an existing service station after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012, if the petrol refuelling throughput at that station in any 12 month period is more than 3500 m<sup>3</sup> (3 500 000 litres);</p> <p><b>or</b></p> <p>Part B (d) – motor vehicle refuelling activities at a new service station, if the petrol refuelling throughput at that station in any 12 month period is, or is intended to be, 500 m<sup>3</sup> (500 000 litres) or more;</p> <p><b>or</b></p> <p>Part B (e) – motor vehicle refuelling activities at a new service station, if the petrol refuelling throughput at that station in any 12 month period is, or is intended to be, 100 m<sup>3</sup> (100 000 litres) or <u>more and it is situated under permanent living quarters or working areas.</u></p>

### 2. The Site

- 2.1 The activities shall not extend beyond the site, as specified in the permit.

### 3. Petrol Delivery

- 3.1 Vapours displaced by the delivery of petrol into storage tanks shall be returned through a vapour-tight connection line to either the mobile container delivering the petrol, or a container on the site.
- 3.2 Petrol delivery shall only be carried out using the Stage I petrol vapour recovery system and deliveries shall only be made when the system is fully operational.

### 4. Motor Vehicle Refuelling

- 4.1 Motor vehicle refuelling with petrol shall only take place when the Stage II petrol vapour recovery system is fully operational and operating in accordance with the requirements of Rule 4.2.
- 4.2 The petrol vapour capture efficiency of the Stage II petrol vapour recovery system shall be equal to or greater than 85% as certified by the manufacturer in accordance with relevant European technical standards or type approval procedures.

- 4.3 Where the recovered petrol vapour is transferred to a storage tank, the vapour/petrol ratio shall be equal to or greater than 0.95 but less than or equal to 1.05.
- 4.4 The in-service petrol vapour capture efficiency of the Stage II petrol vapour recovery systems shall be tested at least once a year by checking that the vapour/petrol ratio under simulated petrol flow conditions, or by any other appropriate methodology, meets the requirements of Rule 4.2.
- 4.5 Where an automatic monitoring system has been installed, the petrol vapour capture efficiency shall be tested at least once every three years. Any such automatic monitoring system shall automatically detect faults in the proper functioning of the Stage II petrol vapour recovery system and in the automatic monitoring system itself, indicate faults to the operator and automatically stop the flow of petrol from any faulty dispenser if the fault is not rectified within seven days.
- 4.6 A sign, sticker or other notification shall be displayed on, or in the vicinity of, the petrol dispenser, informing consumers that a Stage II petrol vapour recovery system is in use.

## **5. Incident Reporting**

- 5.1 In the event of any incident at the site, the operator shall notify SEPA by telephone without delay on 0800 80 70 60 (24 hour service).

## **6. Interpretation**

- 6.1 In these standard rules, the expressions listed below shall have the meaning given.

*“European Site”* means a Special Area of Conservation or Special Protection Area as defined in the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994.

*“incident”* means any of the following situations:

- where an accident occurs which has caused or may have the potential to cause pollution;
- where any malfunction, breakdown or failure of plant or techniques is detected which has caused or may have the potential to cause pollution;
- where an emission of any pollutant not authorised to be released under any condition of the permit is detected.

*“new service station”* means a service station which is put into operation on or after 31 December 2011, other than an existing service station.

*“SSSI”* means Site of Special Scientific Interest as defined in the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

*“Stage I petrol vapour recovery system”* means equipment aimed at recovering the petrol vapour displaced from the delivery of petrol into storage tanks at service stations.

*“Stage II petrol vapour recovery system”* means equipment aimed at recovering the petrol vapour displaced from the fuel tank of a motor vehicle during refuelling at a service station and which transfers that petrol vapour to a storage tank at the service station or back to the petrol dispenser for resale.

*“the Regulations”* means the Pollution Prevention and Control (Scotland) Regulations 2012 SSI 2012/360, and any words and expressions used in this permit which are also used in the Regulations have the same meanings as in those Regulations.

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**End of standard rules**

## Explanatory notes for standard rules

These notes are intended to help you understand the key regulatory requirements and criteria that support the use of standard rules to regulate your petrol vapour recovery activity and may be found at this web address

<http://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/pollution-prevention-and-control/ppc-part-b-activities/petrol-stations/>. We have provided regulation references to show you where the requirement appears in the Pollution Prevention & Control (Scotland) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations).

### 1. Best Available Techniques

There is an implied condition in this PPC standard rules permit that requires the activities to be carried out using the best available techniques (BAT) for preventing or, where that is not practicable, reducing emissions from the installation. Regulation 22(1).

It is important to note that the implied condition does not apply to any aspect that is regulated by a specific condition in the permit. Regulation 22(1).

For the purposes of installations operating under these standard rules, the relevant Process Guidance Note(s) set out what SEPA will generally consider to be BAT.

In considering BAT, we would expect the operator to have regard to all relevant Process Guidance Notes for their activity.

You can find the latest copy of the relevant [Process Guidance Note](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20141106091809/http://www.defra.gov.uk/industrial-emissions/files/PG-1_14-Unloading-Petrol-at-Petrol-Stations.pdf) at this web address [http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20141106091809/http://www.defra.gov.uk/industrial-emissions/files/PG-1\\_14-Unloading-Petrol-at-Petrol-Stations.pdf](http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20141106091809/http://www.defra.gov.uk/industrial-emissions/files/PG-1_14-Unloading-Petrol-at-Petrol-Stations.pdf)

### 2. Subsistence charges

You will have to pay an annual subsistence charge for your permit. Further details can be obtained from our [website](#).

### 3. Review of standard rules

The standard rules of this permit will be periodically reviewed by us. If the standard rules are to be altered, we will formally consult with you before the changes are implemented.

### 4. Proposed change in operation of the installation

If you propose to make a change in the operation of the installation, you must notify SEPA at least 14 days beforehand, unless you have already made an application for a variation of the permit conditions. Regulation 45

“*A change in operation*” is defined in Regulation 2 of the Regulations but in essence this means a change to the installation which may have consequences for the environment, e.g. larger volume of emissions.

You may also apply for a variation of the permit in respect of proposed changes or substantial variation in operation. You would apply for a variation if you wished to vary the actual conditions attached to that permit. Regulation 46 and Schedule 7.

## 5. Offences and enforcement

It is an offence:

- to operate an installation covered by the Regulations without a permit;
- to operate in breach of the permit conditions;
- to intentionally make a false entry in any record required to be kept under a permit condition;
- to fail to comply with an Enforcement or Suspension Notice.

### Regulation 67

If SEPA believe you have contravened, are contravening or are likely to contravene a condition of the permit, we may serve an Enforcement Notice on you. This will require you to remedy the situation and detail the steps to be taken within a specified timeframe.

Remember that a condition of the permit also includes the implied condition explained at the beginning of these explanatory notes, i.e. that the operator shall use BAT for preventing, or where that is not practicable, reducing emissions from the installation or mobile plant. Regulation 55.

If SEPA think the breach poses a significant risk of serious pollution, we may serve a Suspension Notice which will prevent you carrying out some or all of your permitted activities. Regulation 56.

It is important to note that directors, managers and other individuals within a company may be held personally liable for offences under the Regulations.

## 6. Surrender of Permit

You must notify SEPA when you no longer carry out the permitted activities using the surrender notification forms on the [website](#). Regulation 49.

## 7. Transfer of Permit

You and the proposed transferee must jointly apply for a transfer of permit when a new operator takes over the activities. Regulation 47.

## 8. Environmental Management Requirements

SEPA considers the management of your activities to be crucial in protecting the environment. Appropriate and effective management systems must be in place to ensure the activities are operated efficiently and effectively. You should refer to the latest [Process Guidance Note](#) to ascertain BAT for this element of permit compliance.

## 9. Contact Details

If this Explanatory Note does not help you to answer any query you may have, please contact your SEPA local office. Their contact details can be found on the SEPA website <http://www.sepa.org.uk/contact/>. Alternatively you can use our 24 hour emergency phone line on 0800 80 70 60.