

Environmental Regulations (Scotland) Charging Scheme EASR Variations & Surrenders Definitions Guidance

Paragraph 8 and Table 1 of the Environmental Regulation (Scotland) Charging Scheme 2018 (the Charging Scheme) sets out a graded approach to application fees for variations and surrenders of authorisations which includes the categories of “substantial”, “standard” and “administrative”. The purpose of this document is to define what these categories mean in relation to applications for permits for radioactive substances activities under the Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR).

The full application fee and the appropriate percentage for the different categories are set out fully in the Charging Scheme; however, for ease of reference, the suite of fees has been reproduced in the Information Note, available from the SEPA website. All applications relating to nuclear sites will continue to be directly charged.

It is strongly recommended that the applicant discusses the proposed application with SEPA at the earliest opportunity and that the category of variation or surrender is determined prior to making the application.

The presumption is that applications for surrenders, including partial surrenders, are “substantial”. Every application for variation will also be assumed to be “substantial” unless it appears on the list for “standard” or “administrative”. The list provided for “substantial” is indicative only. Should an application fall into more than one category, the higher category will take precedence.

Substantial Variation

For all types of permit:

- Increasing the geographical extent of the authorised place.
- Any change to a bespoke condition.

For HASS permits:

- Any change to the table of authorised HASS (activity, radionuclides).

For Non HASS permits:

- The addition of a HASS source (i.e. becoming a HASS permit).

For Non-Nuclear permits:

- The addition of either or both of the following to the authorised activities:
 - the production of radionuclides
 - the manufacture of radioactive sources
- Any addition or increase to the contents of a table of authorised limits (holdings, disposals, etc.).

Standard Variation

For HASS permits:

- The removal of all HASS from the permit (i.e. becoming a Non HASS permit).

For Non-Nuclear permits:

- Any removal of or decrease in the contents of a table of authorised limits (holdings, disposals, etc.) that does not require technical assessment.

Administrative Variation

- Correct an error made by SEPA.
- Changing the name or address of the authorised person where there has been no change in legal entity.