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Guidance for the Gasification, Liquefaction and Refining Sector



Commissioning Organisation

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Version	Date	Change	Template version
01	Jan-Mar 2005	Internal development of guidance	6.1
02	April-June 2005	Further development with consultation within Environment Agency and with SEPA. Limited external consultation with UKPIA and Energy Institute	6.1
03	29 July 2005	Draft for public consultation.	6.1

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Executive summary

Status of this Guidance

This draft guidance has been produced by the Environment Agency, along with the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and the Northern Ireland Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) - each referred to as “the Regulator” throughout this document. Its release for public consultation follows internal consultation with agency officers from March to June and some initial consultation with UKPIA during June. When published this IPPC Sector Guidance Note will supersede the following IPC Technical Guidance Notes: S2 1.08, S2 1.09, S2 1.10, S2 1.11 and the Supplementary Note S3 1.02.

What is IPPC

Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) is a regulatory system that employs an integrated approach to control all environmental impacts of certain listed industrial activities. In the UK, the IPPC Directive is implemented through the English and Welsh, the Scottish, and the Northern Irish versions of the Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) Regulations. It involves determination by the Regulator of the appropriate controls for those industries to protect all environmental media, through a single permitting process. To gain a PPC Permit, an Operator has to demonstrate in its Application, in a systematic way, that the techniques it is using or is proposing to use, both represent the use of Best Available Techniques (BAT), taking account of relevant local factors, and meet other relevant statutory requirements.

This Guidance and the BREF

Much UK Technical Guidance on what is BAT is based on the “BAT Reference documents” (“BREFs”) produced by the European Commission. The BREF covering the Mineral Oil and Gas Refineries Sector was published in February 2003. Sector BREFs are the result of exchanges of information between member states and industry, with most covering individual industrial sectors, and some (“horizontal” BREFs) covering cross-sectoral subjects. UK Technical Guidance Notes are designed to complement BREFs, and take into account information contained in relevant BREFs in setting out indicative BAT standards and expectations for England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

The aims of this Guidance

The aim of the Guidance is to provide Operators and officers of the Regulator with advice on indicative standards of operation and environmental performance, relevant to the Gasification, Liquefaction and Refining Sector. It also aims (through linkage with the Permit Application Form template) to provide a clear structure and methodology for Operators to follow to demonstrate they have addressed adequately all aspects of the PPC Regulations and relevant aspects of other environmental Regulations. Also, by expressing BAT techniques as clear indicative standards wherever possible, it aims to minimise the effort involved for both Operator and Regulator in the permitting of an installation.

To further assist Operators and officers, separate horizontal guidance is available on a range of topics such as noise, odour, waste minimisation, monitoring, calculating stack heights and so on. Most of this guidance is available free through the Environment Agency, SEPA or EHS (Northern Ireland) websites.

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