

Medium Combustion Plant and Specified Generator Regulation

Background

The 2018 amendments to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations transposed the requirements of the Medium Combustion Plant Directive and incorporated new UK regulation of specified generators.

As such, most new combustion plant or generators rated ≥ 1 MW and up to 50 MW must now have an Environmental Permit prior to their operation. Although only combustion plant with a capacity of at least 1 MW are impacted by the regulations, specified generators less than 1 MW capacity may be aggregated to determine whether or not they must comply.

Existing combustion plant, and generators that were in operation when the controls were announced will be subject to a transitional timetable for Permit applications, although some existing plant deadlines still fall within 2019.

Regulated combustion plant and generators must be Permitted and comply with the terms of their Permit. They must have their emissions tested within a specific timeframe and must meet strict emission limit values and operational requirements. More strict rules and emission limits can be enforced where local conditions deem this necessary.

Although some Standard Rules Permits are available, these are not relevant to all types of plant, and either Simple or Complex Bespoke Permits are otherwise required.

What does it all mean?

Quite simply, hundreds and perhaps thousands of combustion units and generators that have previously gone unregulated will now need to apply for an Environmental Permit to operate. New installations need to apply before they can operate. Existing operations get a little longer, but an application will still be required in due course.

That's where Environmental Visage can help. We are environmental consultants well versed in all manner of Environmental Permits, and with decades of air quality expertise within our ranks, we're well placed to prepare your Environmental Permit application, the associated risk assessment, and any necessary air dispersion modelling that may be required.

Additionally, we can undertake a Best Available Techniques assessment and can assist in preparing an effective, written management system that identifies and reduces the risk of pollution from your installation, both of which are required to demonstrate the suitability of your operations. We're also experienced in preparing Fire Prevention Plans, should one be required to support an application for combustion units firing waste.

So, if you are operating or plan to install a medium combustion plant or specified generator and need assistance with your Permit application, why not call us on 01453 752731 to see how we can help you.



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