

**P-WAT-J3**

**The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)**

**Water Permit Activity:**

**The construction, extension or operation of any borehole more than 200 metres in depth**

Version 1.0

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How to use this activity form

Use this form to apply for:

* A **new permit** to carry out the water activity: ‘The construction, extension or operation, including the decommissioning, of any borehole with a depth of more than 200m’.
* A **variation of an existing permit** that authorises the water activity: ‘The construction, extension or operation, including the decommissioning, of any borehole with a depth of more than 200m’.
* A **variation of an existing permit** to add the water activity: ‘The construction, extension or operation, including the decommissioning, of any borehole with a depth of more than 200m’.

#### Multiple boreholes

You can use this form to apply for multiple boreholes, but they will only be considered a single permit level activity, if they meet all of the following criteria:

1. If all boreholes are **temporarily open**, each borehole must be within 850m of another borehole; or

If all boreholes are **not** **temporarily open**, each borehole must be within 150m of another borehole; and

1. There are no lateral wells.

“**Temporarily open**” means that the boreholes:

* are fully backfilled and de-commissioned within 28 days of construction being completed;

or

* are part of a closed loop geothermal systems, and the pipework is quickly cemented in place within 28 days of construction being completed.

**Important:** If the boreholes do not meet all of these criteria, you must submit a separate activity form.

## Before you apply

* Read the guidance for the water activity you are applying for on the relevant activity specific page on our [website](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr).
* Where you see the term ‘document reference’, enter the document reference(s) for the information you have provided. These must be submitted along with the completed form.
* For applications made with insufficient or inadequate information; we will return these to the applicant with an explanation of what additional information is required and may retain part of the application fee in accordance with our published charging scheme.

## Multiple activities under a single permit

We may authorise multiple activities under a single permit, but only if the activities are connected. Activities may be considered connected if they are:

* located at the same geographical location,
* part of the same project, or
* operationally linked.

If the activities are connected, you may submit a single application for multiple activitiesunder one permit.

If the activities are not connected, you must submit a separate application for each activity.

## How to apply

**Digital application service:**

The quickest and easiest way to [apply is via our digital application service](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr) on our website.

You will need to upload:

1. Completed activity form(s)
2. Any required supporting information

**Email/Post application:**

If you cannot apply using our digital application service, you can complete and submit an application via email or by post.

* For **a new permit**, your application must include:
1. A completed APP-GEN1 form
2. Completed activity form(s)
3. Any required supporting information
* For **a variation of a permit**, your application must include:
1. A completed APP-GEN1 form
2. Completed variation form(s)
3. Completed activity form(s) if required
4. Any required supporting information

Email and postal addresses for submitting your application are included in the APP-GEN1 form.

You can download [APP-GEN1, activity forms and variation forms](https://www.sepa.org.uk/easr) from our website.

## Section 1 - Location of the activity

### 1.1 Location description

Please provide the following information about the location.

**Table 1: Location description**

| **Question** | **Answer** |
| --- | --- |
| **Location description** (e.g. Alba whisky distillery, coal mine de-watering) |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Postcode** |  |
| **National Grid Reference (NGR)**(At least 2 letters followed by 8 digits, e.g. AB 1234 6789. You can use our [SEPA NGR Tool](https://map.sepa.org.uk/ngrtool/) to find your NGR.) |  |

### 1.2 Activity location

#### 1.2.1 Single borehole

Please provide a National Grid Reference (NGR) for the borehole location. You can use our [SEPA NGR Tool](https://map.sepa.org.uk/ngrtool/) to find the NGR.

The NGR should be in one of these formats:

* 2 letters followed by 10 digits (e.g. AB 12345 67890)
* 2 letters followed by 8 digits (e.g. AB 1234 6789)

| **Borehole NGR** (e.g. AB 12345 67890, AB 1234 6789) |
| --- |
|  |

#### 1.2.2 Multiple boreholes

**Important:** You can only apply for multiple boreholes if they meet all of the criteria listed in the ‘How to use this activity form’ section. If the criteria are not met, you must submit a separate activity form.

Please provide a location plan showing the boundary of the area where all the boreholes will be located. The location plan must:

1. Clearly outline and identify the boundary of the area where boreholes will be located. This area once authorised, will be known as the authorised place.
2. Be based on an Ordnance Survey (OS) map.
3. Be clear and easy to read on an A4 page, avoiding unnecessary details.
4. Include a defined scale, the date it was created, and a north direction indicator.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

## Section 2 - About your proposed activities

### 2.1 Non-technical summary

Please provide a non-technical summary of your application, including a brief overview of the proposed activity.

This summary may be published on our website as part of the public consultation process.

Ensure it is written in simple and plain language so that all members of the public can clearly understand the details of your application.

| **Document reference** |
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|  |

### 2.2 Water activity

Tick only one box below to confirm the type of borehole you are applying for.

1. The construction and operation of borehole(s) which are greater than 200m [ ]  in depth, which are:
* Temporary (fully backfilled and de-commissioned within 28 days of construction being completed); or
* Part of a closed loop geothermal system and thepipework is quickly cemented in place within 28 days of being constructed.
1. The construction and operation of borehole(s) which are greater than 200m [ ]  in depth, which are:
* Not temporary (not fully backfilled and de-commissioned within 28 days of construction being completed); or
* Part of a closed loop geothermal system and thepipework is not quickly cemented in place within 28 days of construction being completed.

## Section 3 – Construction and risk assessment

Your application for a deep borehole must include all the information required in the sections below. This information can be included in one document.

### 3.1 Construction details

Please provide the following construction details for the proposed borehole(s):

1. Maximum borehole depth in metres (m)
2. Borehole diameter
3. Depth, direction, and distance of any horizontal drilling (if applicable)
4. Drilling methodology
5. Casing and cement details
6. A drawing of the borehole (this includes the depth, diameter, casing and cement details)
7. Measures for:
* Minimising and managing fluid loss
* Managing artesian flow
* Addressing any variance from anticipated grout volumes
* Handling any methane encountered.

| **Document reference**  |
| --- |
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### 3.2 Hydrogeology

#### 3.2.1 Strata Details

Provide details and a schematic of the strata through which the borehole(s) will be drilled.

| **Document reference**  |
| --- |
|  |

#### 3.2.2 Borehole Pathways and Standoff Distances

Identify any relevant pathways, such as nearby faults, mine workings, or other deep boreholes. Outline proposals for appropriate standoff distances from these features.

| **Document reference** |
| --- |
|  |

#### 3.2.3 Water Features Survey (WFS)

A Water Features Survey (WFS) is required. Please refer to our guidance on ‘The construction, extension or operation of any borehole more than 200 metres in depth’ for instructions on completing a WFS.

Please complete and submit a WFS with its associated map.

| **Document reference**  |
| --- |
|  |

#### 3.2.4 Hydrogeological risk assessment

Provide a hydrogeological risk assessment outlining the risks posed to the water environment.

| **Document reference**  |
| --- |
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### 3.3 Proposals for monitoring

Monitoring will only be required where a borehole is in close proximity to a sensitive receptor as identified in the WFS.

When monitoring is required, please provide details of the proposed monitoring. This may include:

* Location and type of monitoring points (e.g. groundwater or other receptors)
* Monitoring frequency
* Parameters to be monitored
* Location and construction details of any monitoring boreholes
* Monitoring of any flows or levels

| **Document reference**  |
| --- |
|  |

### 3.4 Decommissioning and sealing

Please provide the following details regarding the decommissioning and sealing of the borehole(s):

* Lifespan of the borehole
* Decommissioning plans, including methods for sealing and backfilling

| **Document reference**  |
| --- |
|  |